

# Romeo and Juliet

by William Shakespeare

Directed by  
Jacq Ainsworth

Produced by  
Diane Gendron



태권도

Presented by

**Bard** in the Valley   
*One Goal, One Passion, Shakespeare for All*

16 Performances

3 Venues

June 29 to July 29

[www.bardinthevalley.com](http://www.bardinthevalley.com)

**Free Admission**

**Donations Welcome**



Diane Gendron  
President, Bard in the Valley  
Producer, Romeo and Juliet

## President's Message

On behalf of Bard in the Valley I am delighted to welcome you to our ninth season. Since our first production in 2010, 20,000 people have come to enjoy this live theatrical experience. It is a thrill to see familiar faces in the audience year after year and to know we are attracting more people to our productions every season.

It has been my pleasure to work on this play with director, Jacq Ainsworth, and to see her vision take shape on the stage. Her passion for theatre, experience with martial arts and deep understanding of Romeo and Juliet, is apparent in every scene.

The appreciation of live theatre requires an engagement that is totally different from the instant gratification provided by other aspects of our lives. As an attendee at this performance, you acknowledge how important a strong cultural life that includes live theatre, is to our society. Bard in the Valley is happy to be part of the cultural fabric in Langley and the Lower Mainland.

We wouldn't be here if it weren't for all the wonderful people who are with us: our sponsors, patrons, board members, production team and crew, actors, and you, our audience. Enjoy the journey into our world of forbidden love, unbounded rage, endless heartbreak and eternal hope.

### Bard in the Valley Board of Directors

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## Our Vision

Bard in the Valley is a registered not-for-profit society with a goal to stage the works of William Shakespeare with integrity and professionalism.

The Bard in the Valley Society is dedicated to the concept of making these performances both affordable and available to a wide audience, and to nurture and promote an enthusiasm for the works of Shakespeare and other playwrights.

*We believe in One Goal – One Passion – Shakespeare For All.*



Jacq Ainsworth  
Director,  
Romeo and Juliet

## Director's Notes

Three hundred years in the future, the polar ice caps have melted, the climate has changed dramatically and the supercontinent of Eurasia no longer contains the flooded out coastal countries. Many wars and territorial skirmishes over the centuries have reduced the population to a near-feudal state again. Multicultural communities have been forced to live together and work together to survive. Verona, has been placed under strict martial law with curfews and patrols to keep the citizens from open warfare in the street.

And I! I am surrounded by the most enthusiastic and supportive team I could ever imagine! From grueling physical workouts, to mindful meditative practice, from soul-wrenching physical and emotional violence to playful silliness, my cast has shown their love and support for each other and for this production at every rehearsal. Our fight choreographers, designers and technical team signed on early and committed HUGE!

Working on this production has been one of the most life-affirming experiences in my theatre career! How strange that we have six deaths by the end of the show.

Thank you, Bard in the Valley, for bringing us all together!



 **JOHN ALDAG**  
Member of Parliament | Cloverdale - Langley City

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# Romeo and Juliet

and  
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## Cast

Ahnika Barber	<i>Juliet</i>	Veda Maharaj	<i>Balthasar</i>
Angel Duran	<i>Benvolio</i>	Emily MacKinnon	<i>Petra</i>
Reilly Ellis	<i>Romeo</i>	Shawn McGrory	<i>Watchman/Merchant</i>
Emily Eggert-Botkin	<i>Dame Montague</i>	James McIntosh	<i>Prince/Brother Philip</i>
Miranda Croft	<i>Alison Capulet</i>	Matthew Strauss	<i>Tybalt</i>
Diane Gendron	<i>Lady Capulet</i>	Karen Street	<i>Nurse</i>
Carson Gervais	<i>Paris</i>	Luke Street	<i>Gregory</i>
Henry Lee	<i>Sensei Lawrence</i>	Brittany Vesterback	<i>Mercutio</i>
Josh Levesque	<i>Capulet</i>	Emily Zheng	<i>Page</i>

## Dancers

Emily Zheng ( <i>Dance Captain</i> )	Sasha Telychko
Cherry Hsu	Emily Thoeny
Hannasofia Jyringi	Sara Thoeny
Amy Kirby	

There will be one 15-minute intermission



## Behind The Scenes...



### Phay Gagnon – Violence and Intimacy Choreographer

Phay Gagnon is an internationally-certified Actor Combatant and professional actor, specializing in physical and Indigenous theatre. Her previous credits include Mariam in Wunderdog Theatre's I Am For You and Axis Theatre Company's Th:owxiya. Phay's goal is to teach performers how to take care of themselves and others emotionally and physically at all times through fight and intimacy direction and protocols. She advocates for empowerment and consent within our theatrical spaces. In her "spare" time, she is a fighter with Affair of Honour, a freelance violence/intimacy choreographer, makeup designer, and researcher.



### Jordan Plaster - Taekwondo/Weapons Coach

Jordan has 14 years of Martial Arts knowledge and training and he is delighted to transition his talents to theatre. He has trained in Martial Arts since the age of 9, and has a 3rd degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do and years of boxing, kickboxing, and weapons training. Jordan is very excited to be showing the Romeo and Juliet actors proper technique and fundamentals to ensure that the actions audiences see on stage are based in authentic Tae Kwon Do principles.



### Elizabeth Lisa - AzestA Ballet

For 38 years, Elizabeth has trained dancers of all levels, ages & ability in dance, ballet in particular. Before teaching, she danced professionally for 5 years in collaboration with the National Theatre Dance Company (NTDC) - Singapore. As a dance educator, Elizabeth believes in the artistic potential of every student, and emphasizes creative expression as well as movement efficiency in her choreography. Above all, Elizabeth believes that dance should be fun, and accessible to all.

## Synopsis

### Act I

#### — Scene One —

Tensions run high in the streets as two families of warriors and merchants vie for supremacy. After stopping yet another brawl, the Prince has proclaimed that any further fighting will be punished by death. Romeo is sad because the girl he loves, Rosaline, wants to become a nun.

#### — Scene Two —

Capulet, the largest landowner in the community, hosts a sparring tournament for his extensive relations and local dignitaries as a display of his benevolent leadership and to show off his daughter to a visiting merchant Count Paris, who he expects to marry Juliet to as part of a new trading alliance. Meanwhile, his chief adversaries, the Montagues, who are friends with the Prince's cousin Mercutio, roam the streets looking for fun. Benvolio convinces Romeo to attend the sparring tournament in disguise in order to convince him to get over his crush on Rosaline.

#### — Scene Three —

Juliet's mother tells Juliet she'll meet her father-approved potential fiancé at the tournament.

#### — Scene Four —

Romeo, his cousin Benvolio, and Mercutio, the Prince's cousin, get ready to go to the tournament.

#### — Scene Five —

Capulet welcomes the sparring pairs. While there, Romeo sees Capulet's heir, Juliet, who defeats all opponents and performs her signature weapons form. Romeo is drawn into the ring with her. Once the tournament is over, Juliet realizes she's falling in love with the heir of her enemies, Romeo Montague. Romeo similarly realizes he's in love with a Capulet.

### Act II

#### — Scene One —

Benvolio and Mercutio look in vain for Romeo.



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#### — Scene Two —

Romeo knows he's in the enemy's gardens, but he cannot stay away, and woos Juliet in her gardens, even though, at any minute, guards could find him and kill him for his presumption.

#### — Scene Three —

Sensei Lawrence discovers Romeo has changed in his affections and now loves a Capulet. He decides that for the benefit of the community, he will marry the two heirs of rival houses in hopes that it will bring peace to them all.

#### — Scene Four —

Benvolio and Mercutio are worried that Romeo is missing. Capulet's nephew, Tybalt, is highly offended that Romeo has been allowed into their house and he seeks to kill Romeo for attending the tournament. Tybalt issues a challenge to fight Romeo to the death, which Mercutio wants to accept on his behalf. Benvolio defends Romeo's right as an honourable warrior to answer the challenge himself. They meet up with Romeo and tease Juliet's Nurse, who has come to tell Romeo that Juliet will marry him if he has honourable intentions.

#### — Scene Five —

Juliet pries the news out of the Nurse that Romeo does intend to marry her immediately.

#### — Scene Five —

Sensei Lawrence warns the lovers not to act so hastily, but marries them anyway.

### Act III

#### — Scene One —

Tybalt finds Romeo's friends in the streets and demands to know where Romeo is. The Prince's cousin Mercutio challenges Tybalt to fight her instead of duelling Romeo, and in the scuffle Mercutio is fatally wounded. Romeo demands revenge and slays Tybalt, then flees, afraid that he will be sentenced to death for fighting in the streets.

## Synopsis

## Intermission

The Prince decides that because Tybalt killed his cousin, Romeo was in his rights to kill Tybalt, but that Romeo will be banished for his crime.

### — Scene Two —

The Nurse comes to tell Juliet that Romeo has killed Tybalt. Juliet thinks she will die from hearing this news, but the Nurse promises to bring Romeo to comfort her.

## Act III cont'd

### — Scene Three —

Romeo, wounded, comes to seek help from Sensei Lawrence. After convincing Romeo that banishment is not worse than death, Sensei Lawrence sends Romeo to Juliet to comfort her and warns Romeo to be gone before the morning, because if he's found in Verona the next day, he will be sentenced to death.

### — Scene Four —

Meanwhile, Capulet has come to agreeable terms with Paris, and warns him that he will be able to marry Juliet only once her grief over Tybalt's death has run its course: so in a day or two at most.

### — Scene Five —

Juliet, after having just said goodbye to her new husband Romeo, is then faced with the impending marriage to another man. She argues with her father, who threatens to throw her out of the house. Juliet asks her Nurse for advice on how to get out of marrying two men, and the Nurse argues that Romeo is as good as dead, being banished from Verona, and so Juliet is safe to remarry. Juliet decides to seek better advice from Sensei Lawrence.

## Act IV

### — Scene One —

Paris tells Sensei Lawrence he's to marry Juliet the next day, so get ready. Sensei Lawrence sends him away, then advises Juliet to fake her own death and then reunite with Romeo, to whom he will send a letter, telling Romeo to find Juliet awakening from a sleeping draught in the tomb of the Capulets.

### — Scene Two —

Juliet tells her family she is sorry for being so difficult and tells them she will marry Paris, but it should be immediately. Capulet seizes the opportunity, and leaves Juliet, who takes the sleeping potion.

### — Scene Four/Five —

The Capulets discover Juliet's seemingly lifeless body and arrange to give her a funeral.

## Act V

### — Scene Five —

Romeo hears of Juliet's death and decides to buy a poison for himself.

### — Scene Two —

Sensei Lawrence finds out his messenger wasn't able to meet Romeo to give him the letter with the plan for him to find Juliet waking up in the tomb. He rushes off to meet Juliet so she isn't alone and trapped in the graveyard.

### — Scene Three —

Romeo rushes back to the graveyard in Verona to discover Paris there, who threatens to arrest him. Romeo slays Paris and then takes his life. Juliet wakes up to find Romeo dead and kills herself. The whole town comes to see what the disturbance in the graveyard is all about and then the Prince declares the feud between the Capulets and the Montagues to be finally over.



**Rich Coleman, MLA**

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## Production Team / Crew / Support Staff

Thanks to all the talented people who volunteer to put this show on the stage

### Producer

Diane Gendron

### Assistant Producer

Shawn McGrory

### Director

Jacq Ainsworth

### Stage Manager

Amber Schneider

### Assistant Stage Manager

Xee Wayward

### Violence and Intimacy Choreographer

Phay Gagnon

### Taekwondo/Weapons Coach

Jordan Plaster

### Fight Captain

Emily MacKinnon

### Dance Choreographer

Elizabeth Lisa AzestA Ballet

### Production Design

June Ainsworth

### Site Manager

Shawn McGrory

### Costume Creators

Sara Lohnes, Mollie Lohnes,  
June Ainsworth, Sarah Barber

### Wardrobe Mistresses

Sara Lohnes, Mollie Lohnes

### Props

Shawn McGrory, Amber Schneider

### Graphic Design

Jim Garnett

### Set Design

June Ainsworth

### Set Construction

Bob Purcell

### Set Painting

Leigh Burton, Shawn McGrory,  
June Ainsworth,  
Jacq Ainsworth

### Set Decoration

June Ainsworth

### Sound Design

June Ainsworth

### Stage Set-up

Bob Purcell, Shawn McGrory,  
Joe Tenta, Josh Levesque,  
Ted Lightfoot

### Set Transportation

Shawn McGrory, Bob Purcell,  
Amber Schneider

### Back Stage Crew

Emily Jenkins

### Sound Technicians & Operators

Jim Garnett, Brady Archibald,  
June Ainsworth

### Lighting Technicians

Alysia Luethje, Ron Williams,  
James McIntosh, Jeff Hacker

### Program Design

Jim Garnett

### Make Up Consultant

Gail Ruginis

### Front of House Coordinator

Leslie Gaudette

### Front of House Team

Leslie Gaudette, Vicki Nelson,  
Karen McTavish, Betty McGregor,  
Vera Ward, Sylvia Anderson,  
Bev Genge, Mary-Jane Garnett,  
Tamara Johnston, Joe Tenta,  
Grant Ward, Shelley Moore

### Concession

Pearl Wong

### Photography

Graham Bryan

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Tamara Johnston

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Soggy Dog Productions

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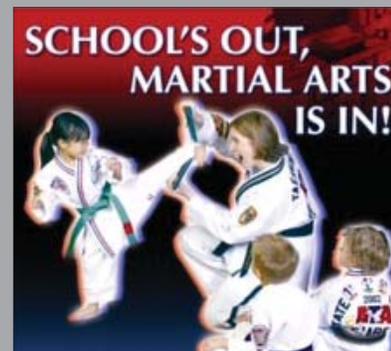
Diane Gendron

**Bard in the Valley**   
One Goal, One Passion, Shakespeare for All



Photo courtesy of Graham Bryan

Members of Bard in the Valley's company of 60 artists – the talented and dedicated cast, crew and production team responsible for creating this exciting, theatrical experience.



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Heartfelt thanks to Alpha Martial Arts for giving our fight choreography a home to practice in!

# Performance Dates

**On the lawn in front of  
Fort Langley's historic Community Hall  
Admission is Free!**

- June 29 & 30
- July 1 – during Fort Langley's Canada Day Celebrations.

All performances begin at 7 p.m.

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**At the Township 7 Winery  
Tickets \$20  
604.532.1766**

- July 6, 7 & 8
- July 13 & 14

The Sunday performance is a matinée and begins at 2 p.m.  
Evening performances begin at 7:15 p.m.

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**On the Spirit Square Stage in  
Douglas Park in Langley City  
Admission is Free!**

- July 19, 20, 21 & 22
- July 26, 27, 28 & 29

The Sunday performances are matinées only, and begin at 2 p.m.  
Evening performances begin at 7 p.m.

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## Many Thanks To Our 2017/2018 Special Patrons

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