



the Arabian Nights

written by **MARY ZIMMERMAN** | directed by **STEPHANIE SHROYER**

FEBRUARY 28 - MARCH 3, 2013 | McCLINTOCK THEATRE

USC School
of Dramatic Arts

SPRING 2013 SCHEDULE

M.F.A. ACTING SPRING REPERTORY*

Feb. 9 – Mar. 10 / Scene Dock Theatre
SUMMERTIME

by Charles L. Mee
Directed by Andrei Belgrader
ARE YOU FALLING?
by David Bridel and
the M.F.A. Acting Class of 2013
Directed by David Bridel
'TIS PITY SHE'S A WHORE
by John Ford
Directed by Andrew J. Robinson

THE ARABIAN NIGHTS

By Mary Zimmerman
Directed by Stephanie Shroyer
Feb. 28 - Mar. 3 / McClintock Theatre

THE TAMING OF THE SHREW

By William Shakespeare
Directed by Lisa Wolpe
Mar. 7 – 10 / Bing Theatre

BROKEN EGGS

By Eduardo Machado
Directed by Laurie Woolery
Apr. 4 – 7 / Scene Dock Theatre

SPRING MUSICAL

THE MOST HAPPY FELLA
Book, Music, and Lyrics by Frank Loesser
Based on the play *They Knew What They
Wanted* by Sidney Howard
Directed by John Rubinstein
Apr. 4 – 14 / Bing Theatre

MRS. PACKARD

By Emily Mann
Directed by Casey Stangl
Apr. 11 – 14 / McClintock Theatre

NEW WORKS FESTIVAL YEAR TWO

THE M.F.A. IN DRAMATIC WRITING
PLAYWRIGHTS WORKSHOP*

Apr. 12 – 28 / Massman Theatre

MORNING VIEW
By Jesse Mu-En Shao
Directed by Sabina Ptasznik
TALES FROM TENT CITY
By Brian James Polak
Directed by Larissa Kokernot
MY DEAR HUSSEIN
By Nahal Navidar
Directed by Shishir Kurup

MUSEUM

By Tina Howe
Directed by Jack Rowe
Apr. 25 – 28 / McClintock Theatre

GETTING MARRIED

By George Bernard Shaw
Directed by Robert Shampain
Apr. 25 – 28 / Scene Dock Theatre

DANCE CONCERT

THE UNITED KINGDOM OF DANCE
May 2 & 3 / Bing Theatre

NEW WORKS FESTIVAL YEAR THREE

THE MASTER OF FINE ARTS PLAY PROJECT*
May 28 – June 1 / McClintock Theatre



Ticket Information

SHOWTIMES (except where noted otherwise)
Thu. & Fri. at 7pm • Sat. at 2:30 & 8pm • Sun. at 2:30pm
*Please see website below for performance schedule

TICKET PRICES

PLAYS: General Admission \$10 • Seniors or USC Faculty/Staff with ID \$8 • USC Students with ID \$5

MUSICALS: General Admission \$15 • Seniors or USC Faculty/Staff with ID \$10 • USC Students with ID \$6

NEW WORKS FESTIVAL YEAR TWO: All tickets \$5

NEW WORKS FESTIVAL YEAR THREE: Admission is free and will be available at the door on a first-come, first-served basis.

For tickets and information: www.usc.edu/spectrum • arts@usc.edu • 213-740-2167

THE USC SCHOOL OF DRAMATIC ARTS

presents

the Arabian Nights

By Mary Zimmerman

with

Reed Alvarado • Roland Buck III • Peter Cameron • Amber Coney • Andrew Connick
Synnove Eriksen • Briana Henry • Grace Hinson • Ellis Greer • Emma Lawrence
Gabriel Leung • Vance Lovett • Virginia Ma • Sara Mardam-Bey • Shane McGhie
Devon Near-Hill • Austin Nimnicht • Emily Rowan • Isabella Schloss
Sarah Schodrof • Sohina Sidhu • Colin Woodell

SCENIC DESIGN

Hazel Ko

COSTUME DESIGN

Hannah Kim

LIGHTING DESIGN

Ryan Liu

SOUND DESIGN

Kelsi Halverson

STAGE MANAGER

Ricky Moreno

DIRECTED BY

Stephanie Shroyer

February 28 – March 3, 2013

McClintock Theatre

Produced by special arrangement with Bret Adams Limited Artists Agency.

THE ARABIAN NIGHTS was originally written and directed by
Mary Zimmerman for the Lookingglass Theatre Company.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(In Order of Appearance, Men, then Women)

Shahryar; Mock Khalifah/Aziz (<i>The Mock Khalifah</i>).....	Colin Woodell
Harun al-Rashid; Sheikh al-Islam (<i>The Madman's Tale</i>); King (<i>The Confusion of Stories</i>).....	Reed Alvarado
Wazir to Shahryar; Fool (<i>The Madman's Tale</i>); Clarinetist (<i>The Perfidy of Wives</i>); Old Boatman (<i>The Mock Khalifah</i>); Friend, Desert Thief, and Farmer (<i>The Confusion of Stories</i>).....	Gabriel Leung
Camel (<i>Opening</i>); Fool (<i>The Madman's Tale</i>); Greengrocer (<i>The Perfidy of Wives</i>); Desert Thief (<i>The Contest of Generosity</i>); Farmer and Genie (<i>The Confusion of Stories</i>); Donkey (<i>The Forgotten Melody</i>).....	Roland Buck III
Prince of Fools (<i>The Madman's Tale</i>); Jester (<i>The Perfidy of Wives</i>); Sympathy's Brother (<i>Sympathy the Learned</i>); Hard Head and First Genie (<i>The Confusion of Stories</i>); Farmer, Friend, Desert Thief (<i>The Confusion of Stories</i>); Sheikh al-Fadl (<i>The Forgotten Melody</i>).....	Shane McGhie
Fool (<i>The Madman's Tale</i>); Pastrycook (<i>The Perfidy of Wives</i>); Sheikh (<i>The Contest of Generosity</i>); Third Sage (<i>Sympathy the Learned</i>); Bilateral (<i>The Confusion of Stories</i>); Ishak of Mosul (<i>The Forgotten Melody</i>).....	Drew Connick
Shop Assistant (<i>The Madman's Tale</i>); Poor Man (<i>The Dream</i>); Boy (<i>The Contest of Generosity</i>); Ala al-din abu Shamat (<i>The Confusion of Stories</i>).....	Vance Lovett
Chief of Keys (<i>The Madman's Tale</i>); Man in the Dream (<i>The Dream</i>); Abu al-Hasan (<i>Abu al-Hasan's Historic Indiscretion</i>); First Sage (<i>Sympathy the Learned</i>); Masur (<i>The Mock Khalifah</i>); Prince (<i>The Confusion of Stories</i>).....	Peter Cameron
Camel (<i>Opening</i>); Madman (<i>The Madman's Tale</i>); Chief of Police (<i>The Dream</i>); Second Sage (<i>Sympathy the Learned</i>); Sleeper (<i>The Confusion of Stories</i>).....	Austin Nimnicht
Scheherazade; Aziz's Mother (<i>The Mock Khalifah</i>).....	Virginia Ma
Dunyazade; Fool (<i>The Madman's Tale</i>); Azizah, Little Foot, Second Genie (<i>The Confusion of Stories</i>).....	Emily Rowan & Grace Hinson
Perfect Love, Other Women (<i>Aziz & Azizah</i>); Harun's First Girl, Little Girl (<i>The Confusion of Stories</i>).....	Briana Henry & Amber Coney
Slave Girl (<i>The Madman's Tale</i>); Girl (<i>The Contest of Generosity</i>); Girl in the Garden (<i>Aziz & Azizah</i>); Sleeper (<i>The Confusion of Stories</i>); Kadi (<i>The Wonderful Bag</i>).....	Isabella Schloss & Sohina Sidhu
Fool (<i>The Madman's Tale</i>); Butcher (<i>The Perfidy of Wives</i>); Bride (<i>Abu al-Hasan's Historic Indiscretion</i>); Singer (<i>The Mock Khalifah</i>); Mother, Experienced Woman, and First Sister-in-Law (<i>The Confusion of Stories</i>); First Woman by the River (<i>The Forgotten Melody</i>).....	Emma Lawrence & Synnove Eriksen
Sympathy the Learned (<i>Sympathy the Learned</i>); Harun's Second Girl, Experienced Woman, Little Girl, and Second Sister-in-Law (<i>The Confusion of Stories</i>).....	Sarah Schodrof & Ellis Greer
Jester's Wife (<i>The Perfidy of Wives</i>); Tortoise (<i>The Confusion of Stories</i>).....	Devon Near-Hill & Sara Mardam-Bey

"Baghdad, in the heart of Islam, is the city of well-being; in it are the talents of which men speak, and elegance and courtesy. Its winds are balmy and its science penetrating. In it are to be found the best of everything and all that is beautiful. From it comes everything worthy of consideration, and every elegance is drawn toward it. All hearts belong to it, and all wars are against it."
– Muqadassi, ninth century

LIST OF TALES

ACT I:

Opening (Shahryar's Palace)
The Madman's Tale
The Perfidy of Wives
 The Dream (The Pastrycook's Tale)
 The Contest of Generosity (The Butcher's Tale)
 The Wonderful Bag (The Greengrocer's Tale)
 Abu al-Hasan's Historic Indiscretion (The Clarinetist's Tale)

ACT II:

Sympathy the Learned
The Mock Khalifah
 Aziz and Azizah
The Confusion of Stories
 The Prince and the Tortoise
 Harun al-Rashid Judges of Love
 Ala al-Din Abu Shamat and the Infamous Pederast Bilateral
 A Song for Two Experienced Women
 Princess Budur
 Hard Head and Little Foot
The Forgotten Melody
Closing

TIME

9th Century C.E.

PLACE

Baghdad.

There will be one 15-minute intermission.

WARNING

Please be advised that this production contains mature language and themes, and the use of strobe lights.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Music Director.....	Bradley Dutz
Assistant Music Director.....	Jimmy Mahlis
Dialect Coach.....	Kathy Dunn-Muzingo
Assistant Director.....	Sarah Becker
Choreography.....	Devon Near-Hill
Fight Choreography.....	Edgar Landa
Technical Director.....	Katelyn Fink
Properties Designer.....	Nick Farmer
Scenic Artist.....	Vika Teplinskaya
Assistant Stage Manager.....	Austin Hammer
Scenic Design Assistant.....	Nick Farmer
Costume Design Assistant.....	Meagan Smith
Lighting Design Assistant.....	Monalin Sutlapa
Musicians.....	Bradley Dutz, percussion; Jimmy Mahlis, strings; Chris Wabish, percussion (March 3 perf.)
Crew.....	Hajin Cho, Melina Nolen, Saba Saqhafi, Meagan Smith, Briana Tobin, J. Andres Trujillo

DIRECTOR'S BIO

Stephanie Shroyer has directed and/or choreographed at the American Conservatory Theatre, the Denver Center, the Getty, Malibu, the Pacific Conservatory of the Performing Arts and the Berkeley Shakespeare Festival — as well as locally at the Pasadena Playhouse, the Matrix, the Pacific Resident Theatre, Antaeus, A Noise Within, the Laguna Playhouse, the Odyssey, Stages, Alliance Rep. and Cal Arts. She is a two-time recipient of the Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award. Other directorial recognition includes Ovation and LA Weekly nominations, six Drama-Logue Awards and a Garland Award. She is the Associate Artistic Director and an Associate Professor of Theatre Practice at USC School of Dramatic Arts.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

We came together around Mary Zimmerman's *The Arabian Nights* to explore the essence of a most curious and oft used word in the theatre: *ensemble*. Toward that end we asked ourselves and whoever would venture into our rehearsal hall to watch, provoke, advise, coach or council to answer:

What is a story?

Most dictionaries define a story as *a narrative account of a real or imagined event or events*.

What is a telling?

It is the live, person-to-person oral and physical presentation of a story to an audience. "Telling" involves direct contact between teller and listener. The teller's role is to prepare and present the necessary language, vocalization, and physicality to effectively and efficiently communicate the images of a story. The listener's role is to actively create the vivid, multi-sensory images, actions, characters, and events – the reality – of the story in their mind based on the performance by the teller, and on their past experiences, beliefs, and understandings. The completed story happens in the mind of the listener, unique and personal for each individual.

We meet you, our audience, tonight with the the winds whistling the adverb usage of *ensemble* ...

All at once; together.

[1913 Webster]

Because with you here, our ensemble is complete, it's essence complete.

We have the story, we have the teller and we have the listener...Shhhh...

"What, what, what , is it?"

SPECIAL THANKS

Els Collins, Jack Rowe, Dean Madeline Puzo, Parmer Fuller, Angus Fletcher, James McHugh, Mary Joan Negro, Kathleen Dunn, Eric Trules, Brad Dutz, Ben Youcef, Tony Pretzello, Michel Nehme, Emad Borsian, Steve, David, Daniel and Dessa Decker, Allison Hartsock, Michael Nehme

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Madeline Puzo

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