



FROM THE PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Welcome to the San Diego premiere of **EQUIVOCATION**. Bill Cain's thrilling historical whodunit has received acclaimed productions around the country, and we are excited to present its local debut.

Set in 1606 London, Cain's imaginatively theatrical, contemporary language play weaves together two fascinating events of that time – The Gunpowder Plot to blow up Parliament and kill James I of England, and the development by the Globe Theatre's acting company of Shakespeare's play Macbeth, which by tradition is referred to inside a theatre as "The Scottish Play."

Director Deborah Gilmour Smyth cast company members Caitie Grady and myself last year, then completed the cast with four terrific actors. We are delighted to have back former Lamb's ensemble member Paul Eggington (last seen here in ART), and to be working again with Fran Gercke (FREUD'S LAST SESSION) & Brian Mackey (DINNER WITH MARLENE), and with Ross Hellwig who Deborah and I had the pleasure of being in the cast with for Intrepid Theatre's WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF? earlier this year. And she has added an onstage musician into the mix with Lamb's Associate Artist, Diana Elledge on cello, playing music composed by Deborah.

Bill Cain has given us all an intriguing wild ride, that at its heart is a love letter to the way theatre works.

Thank you for coming along on the adventure with us!

- Robert

@LambsPlayers



LAMBSPLAYERS.ORG

Kerry Meads
Associate Artistic Director

Robert Smyth
Producing Artistic Director

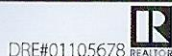
Deborah Gilmour Smyth
Associate Artistic Director

COVERING CORONADO from the BAY to the BEACH

AILEEN OYA
GRI

BIGBLOCK
REALTY

(619) 454-0036 • www.AileenOyaREALTOR.com



Costume Design
JEANNE REITH ●

Scenic Design
SEAN FANNING ❖

Lighting Design
NATHAN PEIRSON ■

Sound Design
DEBORAH GILMOUR SMYTH ■ ▲

Properties Design
RACHEL HENGST ■

Audio Design
PATRICK DUFFY ■

Stage Manager
RYAN HEATH ▲

PRODUCTION STAFF
Director of Production
Nathan Peirson

Shop Foreman **Josh Longfellow**
Scenic Painter **René Nielson**
Technicians **Steven Longfellow,**
Josh Eastman, Michelle Miles, Heather
Longfellow, Patrick Duffy, Lafras le Roux
Master Electrician **Michelle Miles**
Production Assistant **Lafras le Roux**
Assistant to the Fight Choreographer,
Kellen Gold

Make Up Consultant, **Brenna Peirson**
Costume Crew
Costume Foreman/Patternmaker
Jemima Dutra

Cutter/Pattern Maker **Aurora Osuna**
Stitchers **JoClare Longfellow,**
Melissa Jellyman
Crafts/Wardrobe
Virginia Longfellow
Patron Services Director
Deborah Gilmour Smyth
Box Office Manager
Caitie Grady
Usher Coordinator
Cynthia Gerber
Group Sales Coordinator
Elise McClellan

October 21 - November 20

EQUIVOCATION

written by **Bill Cain**

directed by **Deborah Gilmour Smyth** ■ ▲

fight choreography by **Jordan Miller** ■ ▲

ENSEMBLE
(In Order of Appearance)

JUDITH Caitie Grady ■ ▲

SHAG Robert Smyth ■

NATE/ Francis Gercke ● ▲
ROBERT CECIL & OTHERS

SHARPE/ Ross Hellwig ❖ ▲
TOM WINTOUR/JAMES I
& OTHERS

RICHARD/ Paul Eggington ● ▲
GARNET & OTHERS

ARMIN/ Brian Mackey ● ▲
CATESBY/COKE & OTHERS

Diana Elledge, Cellist
Original music by Deborah Gilmour Smyth

Setting
1606
The Globe Theatre and other locations around London

INTERMISSION
There is a fifteen minute intermission with refreshments
available in the lobby or in Encore Café

Understudies: Lafras le Roux, Jordan Miller

■ Lamb's Players Staff Member ▲ Appearing courtesy of Actors' Equity Association ● Associate Artist ❖ LPT Debut

© June 2016 • Lamb's Players Theatre, P.O. Box 182229, Coronado, CA 92178
lambsplayers.org • 619.437.6000

GUY FAWKES



An illustration of the Gunpowder Plot conspirators.

Context leading up to Bill Cain's EQUIVOCATION

1485 – Henry VII defeats Richard III at the Battle of Bosworth Field, and the English Monarchy moves from the House of York to the House of Tudor.

1509 – 18-year old Henry VIII is crowned King. He will go through 6 wives (mainly trying to get a male heir).

1516 – Henry's first wife Catherine of Aragon has a daughter, Mary.

1517 – Martin Luther nails his "Ninety-five Theses" on the door of a church in Wittenberg, which begins the Protestant Reformation.

1533 – Henry VIII has his marriage to Catherine annulled, marries Anne Boleyn (who will give him a daughter, Elizabeth) and is excommunicated by the Pope. Henry becomes Head of the new Church of England.

1547 – When Henry dies, his son (from third wife Jane Seymour who dies from complications of the birth) becomes Edward VI at the age of 9, and dies at 15. Protestant reforms continued.

1553 – Mary I becomes Queen and reinstates Catholicism as the State religion.

1558 – Mary dies of cancer and her half-sister Elizabeth I is crowned, reinstating Protestantism. William Cecil is her Secretary of State and chief advisor. He has Elizabeth's cousin, Mary Queen of Scots and mother of James, executed to prevent a Catholic rising. His son, Robert Cecil succeeds him in the position.

1603 – Elizabeth dies without children. Cecil assures that the Protestant James VI of Scotland, becomes James I of England.

1605 – The Gunpowder Plot to blow up Parliament and kill James is thwarted.

1606 – The time of our play. The Globe Theatre is London's most popular. It's resident company, The King's Men, include Richard Burbage, England's first great leading actor, and "William Shagspear", it's most popular playwright.

The trial and execution of the Powder Plot conspirators takes place.

"Remember, Remember the 5th of November"

THE GUNPOWDER PLOT

In the Spring of 1605 a group of 13 fervent Catholic young men begin discussing a plan to kill James I and return a Catholic to the English throne.

In the early morning of November 5th, 1605, Guy Fawkes is caught with 36 barrels of gunpowder in a vaulted room under Parliament.

The plot is thwarted, and the lives of King James, his family and his court are saved.

Bonfires are lit across England in celebration. This becomes an annual event (still celebrated each November 5th) known as Guy Fawkes Day and Bonfire Night.

The government uses this event, and the following trials and executions of the conspirators to unify the country around James I and to drive out Catholics, and destroy the Jesuits.

Much remains murky about the true details surround the Gunpowder Plot, especially the participation of the Jesuits.

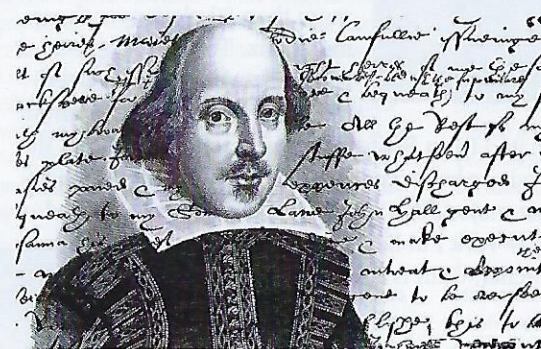
Bill Cain explores the inconsistencies and gives a reasoned and insightful alternative to the "official" story.

EQUIVOCATION?

Today the word "Equivocation" most often means the use of words or phrases that have multiple meanings in order to deceive or mislead. However, in the early 1600's it had a different meaning. Playwright Bill Cain says that Equivocation in its purest form is "a desperate search in impossible times to tell the real truth."

Cain quotes Miep Gies, who helped hide Anne Frank and her family from the Nazis during WWII, to illustrate equivocation. If asked, Gies would say, "We are hiding no one." This was the literal truth - they were indeed hiding not one, but many. Her equivocation - speaking the truth in dangerous times - would protect both the Frank family and Gies' own soul and conscience.

SHAGSPEAR?



The man we know today as William Shakespeare actually had multiple different spellings associated with his last name. Among them, Shaxpere (on his marriage license) and Shagspear (in court records). Bill Cain chooses to call his character "Shagspear" to move him away from our normal expectations.

Continued on next page

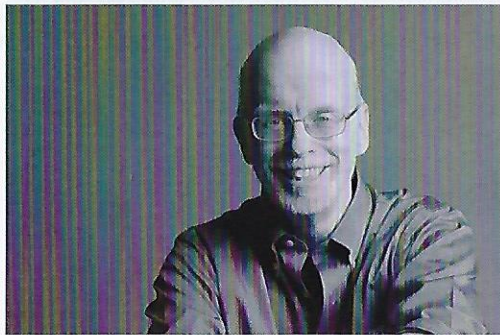
SHAKESPEARE'S PLAYS

A number of Shakespeare's works are mentioned in the play.

HAMLET: The character Hamlet is named for Shakespeare's son, Hamnet, who died at a young age. And the character Polonius is based on Sir Robert Cecil's father, William Cecil. This is a source of tension between Cecil and Shag in **EQUIVOCATION**.

KING LEAR: Lear goes mad after dividing his kingdom and giving it to his two evil daughters, while disowning his good daughter, out of pride. The storm scene (Act III, Scene 4) is seen in rehearsal in **EQUIVOCATION**, and individual lines from Lear are used throughout.

MACBETH ("The Scottish Play"): Macbeth murders Scottish King Duncan, thus fulfilling the Witches prophecy that he would become king. With the ascent of King James VI of Scotland to the English throne as James I of England in 1603, London culture became obsessed with all things Scottish. And James was fascinated by witches and the ways they enacted evil in the world. By tradition it is bad luck to say the name "Macbeth" in the theater if you are not performing the play. Instead it is referred to as "The Scottish Play." Macbeth is the play Shag writes to take down Robert Cecil. In **EQUIVOCATION** we see pieces of the play performed in front of James & Cecil.



BILL CAIN, Author

While going to high school in New York City, Bill Cain used to watch plays from the back row of theatres 2 or 3 dollars, and watch Shakespeare in Central Park for free. He estimates he saw more than 80 plays over those four years. Through the theater Cain discovered that he lived in a much wider world than he

had imagined. In 1970 he graduated from Boston College and helped found the Boston Shakespeare Company, where he served as its artistic director for seven seasons. As a playwright, his first major play, *Stand-Up Tragedy*, was inspired by his time spent teaching in New York Public Schools. In addition to being a playwright, screenwriter and teacher, Cain is a Jesuit priest.



PAUL EGGINGTON Richard/Father Henry Garnet and others

Regional Theatre/Off-Broadway: *Joyful Noise* (Lamb's Theatre, NY), *Private Lives* (Idaho Shakespeare), *A Little Night Music*, *Dandelion*, *Wine*, *Getting Out*, *The Rainmaker* (Colony Theatre, LA), *Turn Of The Century*, *Too True To Be Good* (Old Globe) San Diego/Orange County: *Hamlet*, *All My Sons*, *Taming of the Shrew*, *Othello*, *To Kill A Mockingbird* (American Coast Theatre, OC), *Art*, *Boomers*, *1776*, *Dr. Faustus*, *Busman's Honeymoon*, *The Secret Garden*, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, *Hunchback Of Notre Dame*, *She Loves Me* (Lamb's Players), *Hay Fever*, *The Vortex* (Cygnet), *The Wake Of Jamey Foster*, *Private Lives*, *The Foreigner*, *The Circle* (Hahn Cosmopolitan), *I Can't Get Started* (Ensemble Arts), *La Bete* (Fritz), *Hamlet* (Sledgehammer). An actor for over 40 years, Paul has numerous television, film, voiceover and audiobook credits. A former Resident Ensemble member of Lamb's Players Theatre in San Diego and LA's The Colony Theatre. He and his wife Vanda currently teach in the Theatre Arts Department at Vanguard University.



DIANA ELLEDGE Cellist

Diana is honored to return to Lamb's to be a part of this amazing premiere production! At Lamb's in 2015, she played cello in *OZ* and *West Side Story*. Other favorite LPT credits: *Les Miserables*, *The Light in the Piazza*, *The Servant of Two Masters*, *The Secret Garden*, *Into the Woods*, and *Enchanted April*. Diana has also performed with Cygnet Theatre, NCRT, San Diego REP, SD Starlight Theatre, and SD Junior Theatre. In 2014, she made her debut as music director at Francis Parker School for their production of *The Last Five Years*. When not playing cello, she is the string music editor for Kjos Music Company, an educational music publisher. Diana is an emerging professional photographer, having earned several awards at the Exhibition of Photography at the San Diego County Fair. Many thanks to Debbie, Robert, and the entire Lamb's family for including me in this special experience.



FRANCIS GERCKE
Nate/Sir Robert Cecil and others
Francis Gercke is the artistic director of Backyard Renaissance Theatre Company. Recent roles include: *Freud's Last Session* (Lamb's Players);

PROFILES

The Glass Menagerie, *True West*, *Fool for Love* (Cygnet Theatre); *Parlour Song*, *The Elephant Man* (Backyard Renaissance); *The Behavior of Broadus* (Capital Stage Company); *In the Next Room*, *Honky* (San Diego Rep); *Accomplice*, *Suzette Who Set to Sea* (La Jolla Playhouse WOW and POP Tour); *A Life in the Theatre*, *Time Stands Still* (NCRT); *Hurlyburly*, *Grace*, *Shining City* (ion theatre); *The Pride* (Diversions Theatre); *Orphans*, *Playboy of the Western World* (New Village Arts); *Oleanna*, *Macbeth* (Intrepid Theatre Company). He is a resident artist with Cygnet Theatre and recipient of the San Diego Theatre Critics Circle Award as an actor and a director. A graduate of the Actors Studio Drama School, he has been a faculty member at Palomar College, University of San Diego, and California State University San Marcos and teaches privately through ActorsApproach.



CAITIE GRADY Judith

Caitie is a staff member at Lamb's Players, and has performed in over 25 Lamb's productions since 2010. LPT favorites include *American Rhythm*, *Twelfth Night*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Quilters*, *Wit*, *Oz*, *Les Miserables*, *Mixtape*, *Joseph...*, *The Book of the Dun Cow*, *The Glory Man*, and "100 Hours of Stories", the play reading marathon that won Lamb's Players Theatre a spot in the Guinness Book of World Records. Caitie has also appeared at Cygnet Theatre as Rose Fenny in *Dogfight*, and participated in Cygnet's staged readings of *Hair*, *Side by Side by Sondheim*, and *Evita*. Caitie received her BFA from The Boston Conservatory and is a proud member of Actors Equity. All my love to Charlie!



ROSS HELLWIG Sharpe/Tom Wintour/King James I and others

Ross Hellwig is honored to be making his Lamb's Players Theatre debut in *Equivocation*. SAN DIEGO: *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* (starring Robert and Deborah Gilmour Smyth at Intrepid Theatre Company), *Vincent in Brixton*, *Macbeth*, *Don Juan*, *Antony & Cleopatra*, *The Comedy of Errors*, *The Winter's Tale*, *As You Like It* (The Old Globe); *King o' the Moon* (North Coast Rep); *Edward II* (Diversions Theatre). EUROPE: *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (Vienna's English Theatre). NATIONAL TOUR: *RFK: The Journey to Justice* (LA Theatre Works). WEST COAST: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Henry V*, *Richard III*, *Measure for Measure*, *Twelfth Night*, *Antony & Cleopatra*, *Romeo & Juliet*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *The Comedy of Errors*, *The Winter's Tale*, *Macbeth*, *All's Well That Ends Well* (Kingsmen Shakespeare Company); *Abigail/1702* (International City

Theater); *The Liar*, *The Lion in Winter* (Ensemble Theatre Company of Santa Barbara); *Crimes of the Heart* (Rubicon Theatre Company); *The Rainmaker* (A Noise Within); *Photograph 51* (The Fountain Theatre). ELSEWHERE: Pittsburgh Public Theatre, B Street Theatre, Southwest Shakespeare Company, Pittsburgh Irish & Classical Theatre, Thin Air Theatre Company. FILM: *The Selling*. TELEVISION: *Numb3rs*, *Law & Order*: SVU, *Guiding Light*. EDUCATION: MFA – The Old Globe/USD Graduate Theatre Program; BFA – The University of Arizona.

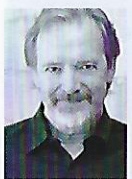


BRIAN MACKEY

**Armin/Robert Catesby/
Edward Coke and others**

Brian was last seen at Lamb's in *Dinner with Marlene*, as well as *The Nerd*, *An American Christmas* and *Twelfth Night*. Elsewhere: *The*

Importance of Being Earnest, *Travesties*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *History Boys*, *Christmas Carol* (Cygnet – Resident Artist); *All My Sons*, *Hamlet*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream: The Musical*, *An Enemy of the People* (Intrepid Theatre); *In the Heat of the Night*, *The Woolgatherer*, *Bash: Latter-Day Plays*, *Jack Goes Boating*, *All in the Timing*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *The Grapes of Wrath* (ion theatre); *In the Next Room or The Vibrator Play* (San Diego Rep); *The Pride*, *The Little Dog Laughed*, *Baby with the Bathwater*, *As Much As You Can*, *Corpus Christi* (Diversionsary – Associate Artist); *A Christmas Carol* ('07, '08, '09), *Little Women* (North Coast Rep); *Born Yesterday* (AVO Playhouse); *Night Sky* (Mo'olelo); *The Heidi Chronicles*, *Julius Caesar* (New Village Arts); *Side Man* (BANG!). Brian was awarded the 2011 Craig Noel Award for Actor of the Year.



ROBERT SMYTH Shag

is LAMB's Producing Artistic Director. He joined the staff of Lamb's Players Street Theatre as an actor and director in 1976.

Robert has directed more than

150 productions for LAMB'S, and performed in over 100, including favorite roles in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *1776*, *Cyrano De Bergerac*, *The Boys Next Door*, *The 39 Steps*, *Freud's Last Session*, and the one-man show *Damien*. He and his wife, director, actor, composer, Deborah Gilmour Smyth, make their home in Coronado.



LAFRAS LE ROUX

Understudy for Sharpe and Armin

Lafras is a singer/actor from the Sacramento area, he has been performing and singing since age eight and received formal training at the Pacific Conservatory of Performing Arts.

His favorite credits include Clyde Barrow in *Bonnie and Clyde the musical*, Prince Ferdinand in Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, Bobby Strong in *Urinetown*, Hamlet of Denmark in an original work entitled *And When Love Speaks*, Jesus in *Godspell*, Chad in *All Shook Up*, Rodrigo in *Little Women*, Enjolras in *Les Misérables*, and Austin in *I Love You Because*. He recently appeared in *American Rhythm* at Lamb's Players Theater and is looking forward to his time in the San Diego theater community.



JORDAN MILLER

**Understudy for Richard and Nate/
Fight Choreographer**

Jordan was last seen in Lamb's Players Theatre productions of *Festival of Christmas 2015*, *OZ*, *Joseph and the*

Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat and their critically acclaimed and award winning production of *Les Miserables* (Enjolras). He also served as fight choreographer for *West Side Story*. Other San Diego credits include Lyric Opera San Diego's *The Gondoliers* (Guiseppe), *Anything Goes* (Billy) and *A Little Night Music*; Cygnet Theatre's *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Algernon), *Travesties* (Henry Carr) and *Bed And Sofa* (Volodya). Regional credits include *Oklahoma!* (Curly), *Annie Get Your Gun* (Frank Butler) and *A Little Night Music* (Count Carl-Magnus). www.jordancmilller.com



DEBORAH GILMOUR SMYTH Director/ Sound Designer

Associate Artistic Director and director of Patron Services, Deborah has been a member of the Lamb's resident ensemble since 1979. Originally from the East Coast, she has lived all over the United

States and went to school at San Francisco State University where she studied music and theatre. One of San Diego's most active performers with over 200 productions to her credit, she is a six-time recipient of the San Diego Theatre Critics' Circle's Craig Noel Award including Outstanding Lead Performance in a Play for Lamb's 2013 production of *Wit* and Outstanding Female Performance in a Musical for her performance as Mother in *Ragtime* at Starlight Musical Theatre, for her role of Margaret Johnson in *The Light in the Piazza* at Lamb's Players, and for her role of Mrs. Lovett at Cygnet Theatre. She has been honored with Backstage West and numerous Pate awards for performance, original music, sound design. At Lamb's Players Deborah has performed in over 160 productions, directed over 70

productions, sound designed, written original music, or musically directed over 80 productions. Deborah enjoys the opportunity to be involved in an amazing ensemble that is the Lamb's Players family. Deborah and her husband, Producing Artistic Director Robert Smyth, make their home in Coronado.



SEAN FANNING

Scenic Designer

Sean is excited to be making his Lamb's debut with *Equivocation*. Recent San Diego credits include *Full Gallop* (Craig Noel Award Nomination), *A Doll's House*, *Kingdom*, *Plaid Tidings* (The Old Globe),

Manifest Destiny, *The Oldest Boy*, *Everybody's Talkin'*, *The Music of Harry Nilsson*, *Honky*, *In the Heights* (San Diego Repertory Theatre), *My Mañana Comes* (Marin Theatre Company); *Gypsy*, *Seven Guitars*, *King Hedley II*, *Hay Fever*, *The Vortex*, *Dogfight*, *The Whale*, *Sons of the Prophet* (Cygnet Theatre Company), *Brownsville Song* [b-side for tray] (Moxie Theatre); *Now or Later* and the World Premiere of *The Boy Who Danced on Air* (Diversionsary Theatre); *West Side Story* (San Diego Musical Theatre), *The Improv* at Harrah's and *Menopause The Musical* (Harrah's Las Vegas). In 2016 he had the privilege of designing the Old Globe/ SDPL's exhibit of Shakespeare's First Folio in honor of the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death. Sean holds an M.F.A. in Scene Design from San Diego State University. www.seanfanningdesigns.com



JEANNE REITH

Costume Designer

This year Jeanne celebrates her 25th year as a costume designer with Lamb's. She designed last year's production of *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, for which she was awarded the Critics Circle, Craig Noel

Award. Her work has achieved theater critics award for San Diego, Los Angeles, and Santa Barbara. Other productions awarded for costume design include her original designs for *A Servant Of Two Masters*, *The Light in the Piazza*, *Little Foxes*, *Joyful Noise*, *Metamorphosis*, and two dozen other productions. Besides her service and collaborative work at Lamb's, she currently teaches Fashion History at San Diego Mesa College.



NATHAN PEIRSON

Lighting Designer

A graduate of Biola University, Nate is Lamb's Director of Production. He has been with Lamb's since 1982 working as photographer, set construction, lighting designer and performer.



PATRICK DUFFY

Audio Engineer

Patrick was last seen as Bernado in *West Side Story* here, and his other favorite roles have been MacDuff in *Macbeth* at Intrepid, and Hyde in *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* at Ion. Other

stage credits here at Lamb's include *Pete N Keely*, *The Book of the Dun Cow*, *Smoke on the Mountain* '04 & '10, *Festival of Christmas* '08, *The Voysey Inheritance*, *An Ideal Husband*, *Cold Comfort Farm*, *South Pacific*, and *Rehearsal for Murder* (which he also stage managed and sound designed). He recently won the Craig Noel "Outstanding Sound Design" award for *Les Misérables*, and his other sound credits here are *MIXTAPE*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Pump Boys & Dinettes*, *Godspell*, *Boomers*, *The Fantasticks*, *The Light in the Piazza*, *Joseph* '07 and '15, *American Rhythm* '06 at the Lyceum, *The Secret Garden*, and *Enchanted April*. When not on stage or designing, he can be found building sets or as Lamb's Audio Master. Patrick is thankful for all His blessings in his life, and wishes you the same. Thanks for coming by, enjoy!



RACHEL HENGST

Property Master

Rachel has worked with Lamb's Players Theater since 2013. She made her professional theater debut in *Mixtape* as the Assistant Stage Manager and has learned so much since then. Her Prop

Design credits include Lamb's Players productions of *You Can't Take it With You*, *West Side Story*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, the latest incarnation of *Mixtape*, *The Nerd*, and *Miracle Worker*. She thanks her family for their endless support and for God's guidance in her life.



RYAN JAMES HEATH

Stage Manager

RECENT CREDITS INCLUDE: *Dinner with Marlene* (Lamb's Players), *Gypsy*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Hay Fever*, *The Vortex*, *Dogfight*, *The Whale*, *Sons of the Prophet*, *The Motherf***er*

with the Hat, *Maple and Vine* (Cygnet Theatre), *Alice Chan POP Tour*, *Kingdom City*, *Side Show* (La Jolla Playhouse), *Pericles*, *Reckless*, *Antigone* (Old Globe/ USD MFA Acting), *Marry Me a Little*, *The Divine Sister*, *Birds of a Feather*, *The Pride* (Diversionsary Theatre), *References to Salvador Dali Make Me Hot*, *Freedom of Speech* (MOXIE), *Merry Wives of Windsor* (Livermore Shakespeare Festival), *I Hate Hamlet* (The Western Stage). Ryan earned his Bachelor of Arts in Theatre from San Diego State University.