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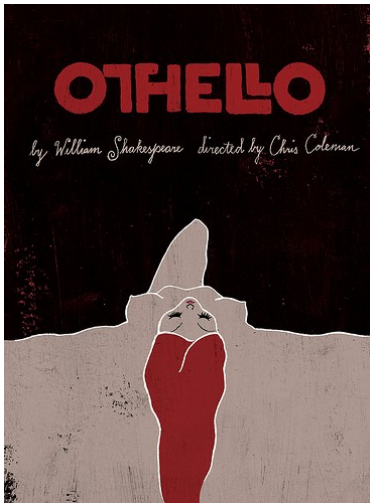
M E D I A R E L E A S E

Love, Jealousy, Betrayal and Regret

Shakespeare's Tragic *Othello* Opens on April 11

Daver Morrison makes his debut as Othello

Previews begin April 5



March 13, 2014 – PORTLAND, ORE. Shakespeare's tragic tale of the esteemed General destroyed by jealousy and betrayal opens on April 11, starring **Daver Morrison** in his Portland Center Stage debut and directed by **Chris Coleman**. *Othello* begins **previews April 5, opens on April 11**, and runs through May 11 on the Main Stage.

Regular tickets start at \$38. Preview tickets start at \$34. Rush tickets are \$20. Showtimes are 7:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and select Sundays (excluding Tuesday April 29 and May 6); 2 p.m. matinees on select Saturdays and Sundays; matinees at noon on select Thursdays and Friday May 9. Tickets can be purchased at pcs.org or by calling 503.445.3700.

Free events surrounding *Othello* include a presentation of PCS's new, all ages touring program, ***All's Fair in Love and Shakespeare***, at **Director Park on April 11 at noon**, along with a "Shop Talk" discussion with members of the creative team on **April 15 at 6:30 p.m.** *Othello* is the first production to kick off **The Complete Works Project**, a collaboration of Portland's cultural institutions to produce all of Shakespeare's works in a two year period. **The launch party is on April 26 at 4 p.m.**

In *Othello*, a highly esteemed general serving the state of Venice secretly marries Desdemona, the daughter of a senator. As their marriage is revealed, jealousies around their love match and Othello's rise to

prominence are unleashed, marking destructive rifts in a tale that piles secret upon secret, and betrayal upon betrayal.

“Othello’s journey is a symphony of all the nuances of torture that jealousy invokes,” says director Chris Coleman. “The plot is so focused, like a heat-seeking missile racing towards its target. The language is clean and direct, like a screenplay.” Set in Venice and Cyprus in the early 1600s, this classically staged production features stunning period costumes and a two-story, castle-like set that will revolve on stage as the plot twists in this tragic love story.

This production marks the **premiere of *Othello* at PCS**. *Othello* stands among *King Lear*, *Macbeth* and *Hamlet* as one of Shakespeare’s great tragedies. With themes that still reverberate today, it continues to be regularly produced on stage, and has also been presented in six feature films, surpassed only by *Hamlet*. The story is based loosely on Giovanni Battista Giraldi’s tale of the Moor of Venice, published in 1566 in the collection *Hecatommithi*. The first performance of *Othello* on record was in 1604 at Whitehall Palace, three years after Queen Elizabeth ordered a deportation of Moors from England.

The cast of 16 includes exciting debuts and a host of celebrated local performers. Othello, the tragic hero of the story, will be played by **Daver Morrison** (debut). **Nikki Coble** (Cecily, *The Importance of Being Earnest*) takes on the role of his virtuous and loving wife **Desdemona**. One of Shakespeare’s greatest villains, **Iago**, will be played by **Gavin Hoffman** (Karl/Steve, *Clybourne Park*), and **Dana Green** (Titania, *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*) plays his wife, the handmaiden **Emilia**. Othello’s loyal lieutenant **Cassio** is Timothy Sekk (debut). The courtesan, Bianca, will be played by Marianna McClellan (debut) and Leif Norby (most recently *Sunset Boulevard*) takes on Roderigo, the gulled admirer of Desdemona. Her father Brabantio will be played by Bill Christ (Nixon in *Frost/Nixon*).

Bringing the wealth and power of the Venetian Republic to life is Scenic Designer Scott Fyfe (debut), Costume Designer Susan E. Mickey (*Batboy*, *The Cripple of Inishman*), Lighting Designer Peter Maradudin (most recently *The Imaginary Invalid*), Sound Designer Casi Pacilio (most recently *A Small Fire*), Composer Randall Tico (most recently *Anna Karenina* and *Shakespeare’s Amazing Cymbeline*), Violence Director Kendall Wells (debut), Dialect Coach Mary McDonald-Lewis (her 20th PCS production), Stage Manager Emily N. Wells and Production Assistant Stephen Kriz Gardner.

➤ **Next Page: Complete Cast List**

OTHELLO CAST & CREATIVE TEAM

Othello	Daver Morrison*
Desdemona	Nikki Coble
Iago	Gavin Hoffman†
Cassio	Timothy Sekk*
Emilia	Dana Green†
Bianca/Attendant	Marianna McClellan
Roderigo	Leif Norby†
Brabantio/Gentleman/Gratiano	Bill Christ
Duke/Reveler/Gentleman	Del Lewist†
Lodovico/Senator/Attendant	Jared Millert†
Montano/Servant/Officer/Attendant	Chris Hardert†
Senator/Officer/Herald	Douglas Mitchell*†
Senator/Gentleman/Servant/Attendant	Damon Kupper†
Servant/Officer/Sailor/Gentleman/Attendant	Matthew DiBiasio†
Soldier	Ricardy Charles Fabre*†
Soldier	Andrew Stark†

Director	Chris Coleman†
Scenic Designer	Scott Fyfe*
Costume Designer	Susan E. Mickey
Lighting Designer	Peter Maradudin
Sound Designer	Casi Pacilio†
Composer	Randall Tico†
Violence Director	Kendall Wells*
Dialect Coach	Mary McDonald-Lewis†
Stage Manager	Emily N. Wells†
Production Assistant	Stephen Kriz Gardner†

**Debut †Local*

➤ **Next Page: Related Events**

RELATED EVENTS – Calendar Editors Kindly Note:

All's Fair in Love and Shakespeare

April 11 | 12:00 p.m. | Free | Director Park

“The course of true love never did run smooth.” Four exciting young actors. Six famous scenes of romance and regrets. One hour-long program designed to take Shakespeare out to our community and explore the complex relationships of the bard’s most famous couples. Join Romeo and Juliet, Beatrice and Benedick, Hamlet and Ophelia and more, for a deeper look at love found, love lost, love forgotten and, most of all, to celebrate the master of the language of love. ***All's Fair in Love & Shakespeare*** seeks to help everyone in our community celebrate the literary legacy of Shakespeare and make his words more accessible by giving participants an intimate peek into the performance.

SHOP TALK: *Othello*

April 15 | 6:30-7:00 p.m. | Free

Gerding Theater at the Armory

Free and open to the public. No ticket required.

Join us pre-show in the lobby before the first Tuesday evening performance of every Main Stage production for Shop Talk, featuring PCS staff members giving away the secrets of stage magic. Expert designers, craftspeople and carpenters of our production department will join us as presenters.

The Complete Works Project Opening Gala

April 26 | 4:00-7:00 p.m. | Free

Gerding Theater at the Armory

An evening of performances, food and drink to celebrate the beginning of this city-wide two-year festival of Shakespeare's body of work. www.completeworksproject.org

***Othello* Prologues** offered on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays before the show. 6:55-7:10 p.m.

Q&As for *Othello* following every Thursday noon matinee performance during the regular run.

➤ **Next Page: Ticket Information**

***Othello* | Ticket and Performance Information**

When: April 5* – May 11, 2014

Preview Performances: April 5, 6, 8, 9, 10 at 7:30 p.m.

***Opening Night: Friday, April 11, 7:30 p.m.**

Showtimes: 7:30 p.m. Tuesday* through Saturday and select Sundays; 2 p.m. matinees on select Saturdays and Sundays; matinees at noon on select Thursdays and Friday May 9.

*No Tuesday night performances on April 29 and May 6.

Complete schedule: <http://www.pcs.org/othello/>

Where: On the Main Stage at the [Gerding Theater at the Armory](#)

Regular tickets start at \$38. Preview tickets start at \$34. Rush tickets are \$20

Discounts for students, those under 25 and groups.

Online: www.pcs.org

By Phone: 503.445.3700, 12–6 p.m.

In Person: PCS's box office is at 128 NW Eleventh Avenue
12 p.m.–curtain on performance days
12–6 p.m. on non-performance days

Groups: Discounts for groups of 10 or more.
Group tickets can purchased at 503.445.3794.

Please Note: *Recommended for ages 16+; mature content, language and sexuality.*

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#pcs_othello



Portland Center Stage's production of *Othello* is part of [Shakespeare for a New Generation](#), a national program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest.

Additional support for *Othello* is provided by production sponsors Madeline Nelson and Jim Lafky, Stoel Rives and Express Employment Professionals. Portland Center Stage's 2013-2014 season is funded in part by Season Superstars Tim and Mary Boyle and Lead Corporate Champion Umpqua Bank; Season Sponsors the Paul G. Allen Family Foundation, Oregon Arts Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts, the Regional Arts and Culture Council and Work for Art; and Season Supporting Sponsor KINK fm. Portland Center Stage's official hotel partner is the Mark Spencer Hotel. Portland Center Stage is a participant in the Audience (R)Evolution Program, funded by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and administered by Theatre Communications Group, the national organization for the professional not-for-profit American theater.

[PORTLAND CENTER STAGE](#) inspires our community by bringing stories to life in unexpected ways.

Established in 1988 as a branch of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, PCS became an independent theater in 1994 and has been under the leadership of Artistic Director Chris Coleman since May 2000. The company presents a blend of classic, contemporary and original productions in a conscious effort to appeal to the eclectic palate of theatergoers in Portland. PCS also offers a variety of education and outreach programs for curious minds from six to 106, including discussions, classes, workshops and partnerships with organizations throughout the Portland metro area.

[THE GERDING THEATER AT THE ARMORY](#) houses the 590-seat Main Stage and the 190-seat black box Ellyn Bye Studio. It was the first building on the National Register of Historic Places, and the first performing arts venue, to achieve a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Platinum certification. The Gerding Theater at the Armory opened to the public on Oct. 1, 2006. The capital campaign to fund the renovation of this hub for community artistic activity continues.

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