



**Rehearsals
and
setbuilding**



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HAMLET

by William Shakespeare



Directed by Steve Gagen
Moreland Theatre Company
Mechanics Institute Performing Arts Centre
6 – 15 July 2006



The action of the play takes place in the mouldering and gothic Elsinore Castle in the gloomiest part of war-ravaged Denmark. In this post-apocalyptic world, it is always night.

Act 1, Scene 1: A platform before the castle.
Act 1, Scene 2: A room of state in the castle.
Act 1, Scene 3: A room in Polonius' house.
Act 1, Scene 4: The platform.
Act 1, Scene 5: Another part of the platform.
Act 2, Scene 1: A room in Polonius' house.
Act 2, Scene 2: A room in the castle.
Act 3, Scene 1: A room in the castle.
Act 3, Scene 2: A hall in the castle.
Act 3, Scene 3: A room in the castle.
Act 3, Scene 4: The Queen's closet.
Act 4, Scene 1: A room in the castle.
Act 4, Scene 2: Another room in the castle.
Act 4, Scene 3: Another room in the castle.
Act 4, Scene 4: A plain in Denmark.
Act 4, Scene 5: A room in the castle.
Act 4, Scene 6: Another room in the castle.
Act 4, Scene 7: Another room in the castle.
Act 5, Scene 1: A churchyard.
Act 5, Scene 2: A hall in the castle.

There will be an interval of 20 minutes between Acts III and IV

Cast List:

Guy Anand plays Fortinbras and Bernardo. This is Guy's second stage appearance for Moreland – he appeared in our recent production of *Amore*. Guy took these roles on at very short notice, following the illness of a cast-member.

Dee Bellen plays Osric, a Messenger, a Player, a Pallbearer, a Gentlewoman and an Attendant. Dee really is a renaissance woman when it comes to theatre – she has skills in makeup, costumes, lighting, sound, acting ... the list just goes on and on! Dee studied at Victoria and RMIT Universities, and has acted both at university and for Boiler House Theatre Company.

Lucas Black plays Hamlet. Lucas studied drama at Charles Sturt University, and has appeared in a number of plays over the years, including *Richard III* and our recent production of *Baby X*. He is an all-round theatre person, and is very much enjoying playing the greatest stage role there is.

Rebecca Bone plays Rosencrantz. Rebecca is at high school, and is studying year-12 drama and instrumental voice at Northcote High School. This is her first non-school production.

Patrick Boyle plays King Claudius and the Ghost. Patrick is a Melbourne Performance Poet, running a gig at Barbukka on Smith Street, Fitzroy. He has a great love of Shakespeare, which drew him to take part in this, his greatest play.

Helen Dwan plays Guildenstern. Helen is studying at Northcote High School. She has been in a number of school plays – most notably as a whale! This is her first Shakespearean role.

Steve Gagen has directed a number of plays for Moreland, the most recent being his own adaptation of *Mulga Bill's Bicycle*, in which he also appeared in the band wearing his trademark yellow braces! Steve loves Shakespeare, and has been wanting to direct *Hamlet* for many years. He makes a Hitchcock-like cameo appearance in this production in the voiceover in Act IV!

Kate Green plays Ophelia, and a Player. Kate has directed a number of musicals, has studied music, and has performed with Glen Eira City Choir. She is finding getting back into creative mode great fun, and in sharp contrast to her work as a scientist.

Kath Harper plays Polonius, a Gravedigger, an Attendant and a Pallbearer. Yet more male roles for Kath – she gets the feeling she's being typecast! Still, she was cast as a woman in our recent season of one-act plays!

Helen Lymbouris plays the Player Queen, a Messenger and an Attendant. This is Helen's first time on stage. She wanted a background role, and got thrown into a speaking role! It's been fun, a great experience, and everyone should try it at least once, she says.

Randall MacDonald plays Horatio, Reynaldo and a Player. This is Randall's first time on the stage with the lights on – he has previously taken backstage roles. He is finding it all very new and exciting, and he is pleased not to have to wear black!

Martin Nouis plays an Attendant and a Pallbearer. Martin has appeared in a number of plays for Moreland over the years, most recently in *Miracles*. Martin is very keen on theatre, and is always willing to help out with any aspect of our productions.

Costas Pavloy plays Marcellus, the Player King, a Gravedigger, a Norwegian Soldier, an Attendant and a Pallbearer. Costas has previously appeared in *Mulga Bill's Bicycle* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* for Moreland. He enjoys theatre and the involvement with other people that it brings now that he is retired.

James Phillips plays Laertes. James appeared in our recent production of *Amore*, and has also played in *The Pirates of Penzance*, and *Guys and Dolls*. Like Guy, James took on this role at a very late stage, following the illness of a cast-member – so he asks us to be gentle!

Leown Russell plays Queen Gertrude. Leown is one of our longest-serving members, having appeared in many plays over the years, most recently *A Fairy's Gotta Do What a Fairy's Gotta Do*. She has also appeared in many films, and she enjoys dancing, films, reading, singing, music, nature and painting.

Kitty Thorpe plays Ophelia. Kitty has appeared in school productions, and has also mastered circus skills such as fire twirling. For a period she earned a living travelling around outback Queensland putting on puppetry and fire shows!

Backstage Crew:

Sound – Steve Gagen

Properties – Paul Muller

Set Design – Steve Gagen

Lighting Design – Lucas Black

Lighting Operation – Monique Mahony

Publicity – Kath Harper and Steve Gagen

Photography – Leesa Maxwell and Leown Russell

Stage Managers – Leesa Maxwell and Paul Muller

Costumes – Nadia Delre, Karim Shaker, Dee Bellen, Kate Green and Kitty Thorpe