



ORIGINAL PRACTICE SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

BECAUSE SHAKESPEARE SHOULD BE A LITTLE DANGEROUS

****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****

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Original Practice Shakespeare Festival: WIL Festival, Midsommer on Mt. Tabor, and 2017 Season

Portland, Oregon – May 10, 2017: Looking forward, Original Practice Shakespeare Festival (OPS Fest) expands the Laurelhurst Festival—now known as WIL Festival, announces their 2017 season, and brings “Midsummer Midsommer” back to the summit of Mt. Tabor to kick off summer in Portland.

About WIL Festival:

In July, OPS Fest performs every show in its repertory. This year will expand for the newly-minted WIL Festival (WIL Fest). WIL Fest will take place over three weekends at three Portland parks: Willamette Park, (SW Macadam Ave); Irving Park, (NE Fremont & NE 7th Ave.); and Laurelhurst Park, where it all began, (SE Cesar E Chaves Blvd. & Stark St.). OPS Fest will perform a total of 16 shows from our 15 different plays over 9 days. *The 10PM version of “Merry Wives of Windsor” will not be suitable for children.*

About Midsummer Midsommer:

Each June 21st, OPS Fest kicks off their season with the popular “A Midsommer Nights Dreame” at the summit of Mt. Tabor. Not only do the actors not know what character they will play, the audience casts the show directly before it starts, leaving only 20-30 minutes of preparation. As one of the most popular performances of the season, people flock to cast the show on-site at 8PM and watch their selections take form at 9. *This performance will not be suitable for children.*

About the 2017 Season:

This year’s season roster adds “The Tragedie of Julius Caesar” and “All’s Well That Ends Well” to the 15-show season. To close out the season, OPS Fest continues the tradition of a Single Gender/Identifying Double-Header at Gabriel Park. This year an all-male/identifying “A Midsommer Nights Dreame” will be performed at 2PM and an all-female/identifying “The Tragedie of Romeo & Juliet” at 7PM. (Full schedule included with this Release.)

About Original Practice Shakespeare Festival:

OPSFest brings no-cost repertory Shakespeare to parks and venues. Its actors perform utilizing the original practice techniques of Elizabethan England: limited rehearsal, cue scripts, loads of audience interaction, and an onstage prompter. OPS Fest is a proud partner of the OUTWright Festival and will be performing “Much Adoe About Nothing” June 3rd at 2PM in that gender-bent way only OPS Fest can.

Learn more at opsfest.org and opsfest.org/tour-calendar

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Brian Allard, Founding Artistic Director