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If you would like to help the Curtain as a production sponsor, please contact

Steve Beecroft: sjbeecroft11@gmail.com

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Mill Valley Outdoor Art Club

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Russell Johnson (photography), Mark Shepherd (poster design)

Michael Berg from Ross Valley Players

Janice Deneau from Novato Theater Company

Dhyanis Carniglia, Set Painting

Maggy Hughes, front of house



The Curtain Theatre is a 501c3 non-profit organization.
Tax deductible donations can be made electronically at the snack bar.

THE CURTAIN THEATRE PRESENTS

SHAKESPEARE'S

HENRY IV

PART ONE

DIRECTED BY STEVE BEECROFT



2:00 PM

OLD MILL PARK AMPHITHEATRE
MILL VALLEY

SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS,
AND LABOR DAY MONDAY
AUGUST 18TH TO SEPTEMBER 9TH

CURTAINTHEATRE.ORG



👑PLAYERS👑

THE DOUGLAS <i>rebel</i>	Steve Beecroft
LORD MORTIMER <i>rebel</i> , POINS <i>tavern</i>	Nelson Brown
KING HENRY IV	Heather Cherry
VERNON <i>rebel</i> , SHERIFF, TRAVELER, SERVANT	James Gregory
LADY PERCY (Kate) <i>rebel</i> , SOLDIER	Isabelle Grimm
HENRY PERCY (Hotspur) <i>rebel</i>	Lijesh Krishnan
SIR WALTER BLUNT <i>royalist</i> , PETO <i>tavern</i> ,	James Montellato
PRINCE HAL (Henry or Harry) <i>royalist heir to throne</i>	Nick Moore
NORTHUMBERLAND (Hotspur's mother) <i>rebel</i>	
HOSTESS (Mistress Quickly) <i>tavern</i> , TRAVELER	Annette Oliveira
THOMAS PERCY EARL OF WORCESTER <i>rebel</i>	Tom Reilly
OWEN GLENDOWER <i>rebel</i> , TRAVELER	Gino Rose
LADY MORTIMER <i>rebel</i> , MESSENGER,	
TRAVELER, SOLDIER	Victoria Saitz
PRINCE JOHN (<i>royalist, King Henry's younger son</i>),	
GADSHILL (<i>tavern</i>), SERVANT	Phillip Swanson
WESTMORELAND (<i>royalist</i>), BARDOLPH (<i>tavern</i>),	
SOLDIER	Michael Walraven
SIR JOHN FALSTAFF (<i>tavern</i>)	Grey Wolf

👑BAND👑

Ben Brown (trumpet, mandolin); **Don Clark** (guitar, drum);
Michele Delattre (concertina, tin whistle); **Hal Hughes** (fiddle)

👑PRODUCTION👑

DIRECTOR, FIGHT AND CHOREOGRAPHY	Steve Beecroft
MUSIC DIRECTOR	Don Clark
SET DESIGN	Steve Coleman
COSTUME DESIGN	Adriana Gutierrez
STAGE MANAGER	Diane Pickell-Gore
ASST STAGE MANAGER	Lisa Immel
HOUSE MANAGER	Nic Meredith
DRAMATURGE	Peter Bradbury
PUBLICITY	Pat Meier-Johnson
PHOTOGRAPHY	Russell Johnson
POSTER DESIGN	Mark Shepard
PROPERTIES	Michele Delattre, Vicki Siegel
SET BUILDER	Michael Walraven

👑DIRECTOR'S NOTES👑

First produced in 1597, *Henry IV part one* was an instant success and has remained one of Shakespeare's most popular plays. It is not hard to understand why. The sheer dramatic energy of the play, the wonderful characters, the delicious comic scenes and the sweeping battle at the end make it a real crowd pleaser. Coming in the wake of England's miraculous defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588 and the rise of nationalism that inspired, the play fed the audiences' desire for stories of English history. The prodigal son trajectory of Prince Hal from wastrel to hero and eventually iconic King Henry V fit the bill perfectly.

But to my mind, the ongoing popularity of the play stems from its uniqueness. While other histories by Shakespeare and his contemporaries focused solely on the political machinations of rulers and nobles, a large part of *Henry IV part one* takes place in the pubs of Eastcheap and explores the impact of political events on the lower orders of society. Prince Hal, too, is unique in the canon. In stark contrast to Hotspur who represents the chivalric past, Hal is a singularly modern politician who recognized that, to rule successfully in a changing world, he needed to appeal to all parts of society . . . much, of course, as Shakespeare did. Hal's ability to move seamlessly between high and low parts of the polity, from the pub to the court to the battlefield, sets him apart. Perhaps he was Shakespeare's archetypal ruler? And then there is Falstaff, a character breakthrough for the Bard and one of his most popular and inspired creations; infinite wit delighting in its own inventiveness.

It has been my dream to bring this wonderful play to the stage in Old Mill Park. I am truly thankful to a wonderful group of actors and the always creative and supportive team of the Curtain Theatre for making it a reality. Enjoy the show!!!

--Steve Beecroft, director



"But be sure / I will from henceforth rather be myself, / Mighty and to be feared, than my condition, / Which hath been smooth as oil, soft as young down...." Henry is always questioning or worrying about his changing role as usurper, as king, as father of the next king of England. And so it is with others in a play whose delineation of character is rich and complex. A central feature of the play is the change in Prince Hal, who claims that his 'wasted youth' in the company of Falstaff and the lowlives of Eastcheap is part of a dissimulation to make his emergence as a heroic figure more impressive. Watch out for characters throughout the play who are changing, becoming themselves. Henry (her)self, Hal, Kate, Worcester. Think too about this: Henry accuses the rebels of *"face[ing] the garment of rebellion / With some fine colors that may please the eye / Of fickle changelings and poor discontents..."* Sound familiar? Above all Henry IV is a play that draws out the private and personal from the slide and clash of public events.

-- Peter Bradbury, dramaturge

COMPANY

Steve Beecroft (director; choreography, fight design, The Douglas) This is Steve's 9th production in Old Mill Park with the Curtain Theatre. Roles range from Caliban in *The Tempest* to Tranio in *The Taming of the Shrew*; from Claudio in *Much Ado About Nothing* to Valere in last year's production of *The Miser*. He also choreographed and played Cookie in the Curtain's production of *Return to the Forbidden Planet* in 2014, winning the SFBATCC award for best featured actor in a musical and a nomination for best choreographer. Apart from Shakespeare and musical theatre, Steve is also a concert singer. Thanks to Trish for her support and to you, the audience, for helping to keep theatre alive and well in Mill Valley.

Peter Bradbury (dramaturge) started following Curtain Theatre when his wife Heather, the better part of him, was cast as the melancholy Jacques in *As You Like It*. He kept turning up to rehearsals and couldn't resist talking to cast and crew so they gave him a title

Nelson Brown (Mortimer, Pains) is happy to be back in the park for his second Curtain Theatre production, after playing La Flèche in *The Miser*. Other productions include *Guys and Dolls* (Nathan Detroit) and *Pippin* (Lewis) with Marin Musical Theatre Company and *A Christmas Carol - The Musical* (Ghost of Christmas Present) with Stapleton Theatre Company. On weekdays, Nelson enjoys bringing characters to life in another medium as an animator.

Ben Brown (band) Ben Brown's career as a dreaded swordsman was cut short by a flesh wound sustained just outside of Camelot. He now plays the fanfares as the new crop of gallant lads and lasses swing the steel.

Heather Cherry (King Henry IV) This is Heather's seventh season with Curtain Theatre, which is the most fun ever. Here I am. So glad you are. "I hope that we'll meet again in a world of peace and freedom in the taxicab if the accident will." Love to Connie and Peter.

Don Clark (music director, band) has played in the Curtain band for eighteen summers. He again joins spouse Michele Delattre (concertina, whistle) and Hal Hughes (fiddle), augmented by Ben Brown (trumpet, mandolin). Don composed the opening song and closing tune; Hal also contributed compositions.

Steve Coleman (set design) is a longtime artist in Mill Valley and award winning set designer. He is known for his loving, often fantastical creations of everything from small models to the elegant reborn stage at the 142 Throckmorton Theatre.

Michele Delattre (band) is a founding member of the Curtain Theatre where she has been artistic director for ten years. Hats off to the hard-working Steve

Beecroft and his talented company, and to our audience for sharing in the fun!

James Paul Gregory (Vernon, Sheriff, traveler, servant) has worked throughout the Bay Area with such companies as Custom Made Theatre Co., Novato Theatre Company, Altarena Playhouse, and Utopia Theatre Project. Notable roles include *Arsenic and Old Lace* (Mortimer Brewster), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Bottom), *Fiddler on the Roof* (Motel), and *The Miracle Worker* (James Keller). James recently graduated from San Francisco State University with a B.A. in Theatre Arts (performance emphasis).

Isabelle Grimm (Kate, royalist warrior) Isabelle returns to Curtain Theatre after *The Miser* and *The Comedy of Errors*. A Bay Area native, she received her BFA in Theatre Performance from Chapman University and attended Shakespeare & Company's Month-Long Intensive in Lenox, Massachusetts. Locally, she has worked with Marin Shakespeare Company (*Cymbeline*, *Richard III*, *Twelfth Night*), Theatre Lunatico (*Measure for Measure*, *Kursk*, *Macbeth*), and Ross Valley Players (*The Tin Woman*, *The Game's Afoot*), among others. Next up, she will be returning to the Barn for RVP's first ever Shakespeare production, *Twelfth Night*. For more information, please visit her website: isabellegrimm.com

Adriana Gutierrez (costume design) has dressed actors all over the Bay Area with various theater, film and commercial projects. Her costume design for last summer's production of *The Miser* was nominated for the San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle 2017 costume award.

Hal Hughes (band) has worked with music and theater in the Bay Area since the 1970s, with Tumbleweed, Overtone Theater, Nightletter Theater, Subterranean Shakespeare, Word for Word, Backyard Beckett, and others. He's delighted that Curtain Theatre likes to use his tunes in their productions. He'd like to thank Northumberland for keeping the Prelate Scoop busy elsewhere.

Lisa Immel (asst stage manager) is in her fourth production with this wonderful group and cannot be grateful enough to be included in the show! Thanks to all our guests! Play on!

Lijesh Krishnan (Hotspur) grew up in Kuwait and his native India before spending a decade in the Twin Cities. In the Bay Area, he has acted with several companies including Theater of Others, Aluminous, Ninjaz of Drama, Those Women, Altarena and AEB. His recent Shakespeare credits include *Hamlet*, *Edgar*, *Beatrice*, *Lysander*, *Tranio* and *Iachimo*. Other roles include *Pride and Prejudice* (Darcy), *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike* (Spike), *Last Days of Judas Iscariot* (Jesus), *The Understudies* (Evadne), *Killer Joe* (Joe) and *The Balcony* (Envoy). He will next be in *The Comedy of Errors* with Theater of Others in San Francisco.

Nic Meredith (front of house manager) brings unfettered enthusiasm and charm to the role matched only by his inexperience and lack of co-ordination. His only experience on the stage was as a young woman in the school play back in his native England, but at least he has kept his nice accent. Coming from a long line of skinflints and pick pockets, you'd better count your change twice when buying coffee and snacks at the break.

James Montellato (Sir Walter Blunt, Peto) began acting in plays and musicals when he was 14, playing roles such as the Scarecrow in *Wizard of Oz* and Prince Charming in *Cinderella*. Falling in love with acting and singing, James continued performing. Locally he played Carlo in the Ross Alternative Work, *Giovanni Is Here*, and Ben in Ross Valley's Player's production of *Impressionism*. Most recently, he appeared in the ensemble of MMTTC's *Guys and Dolls*, and is thrilled to be performing his first roles for the Curtain Theatre.

Nick Moore (Prince Hal) is beyond thrilled to be working with Curtain Theatre again! He appeared in *The Miser* last summer and his recent productions elsewhere include: *The Fantasticks* (Novato Theater Company), *Red* (Bread and Butter Theatre), *Cow Pie Bingo* (Alter Theater), *Jeeves Intervenes* and *The Rainmaker* (Sonoma Arts Live), *The Normal Heart* (Theatre Rhinoceros), *Everything That's Beautiful* (New Conservatory Theater Center), and *Othello* and *Twelfth Night* (Marin Shakespeare Company).

Annette Oliveira (Northumberland, Hostess Quickly, traveler) recently played an aged wise woman in the world premiere of *Ageless* at San Francisco's Phoenix Theatre. She was a Latina mom in *Real Women Have Curves* in Hayward, a temptress in *The Clean House* at Contra Costa Civic Theatre and a jaded God in a rock opera at Z-Space. Off-Broadway and in East Coast theaters, she appeared in *Antigone*, *The Madness of Lady Bright* and other plays. Annette took on a cornucopia of roles for Shoestring Radio Theatre and has narrated fiction and non-fiction audiobooks. She studied with Uta Hagen and is a graduate of San Francisco's Meisner Technique Studio.

Diane Pickell-Gore (stage manager) is back at Curtain Theatre for her eighth season! She has also stage managed for many other Marin theaters... and on Sunday mornings can be found "stage managing" services at Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church in Corte Madera. Enjoy the sword show!

Tom Reilly (Thomas Percy Earl of Worcester) is very happy to be working with Curtain Theatre again! He has previously appeared in Curtain's productions of *As You Like It*, *The Comedy of Errors*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *The Miser*, and *The Taming of the Shrew*. Last winter, he played Abraham Lincoln in *A Civil War Christmas* at Town Hall Theatre in Lafayette. He has also recently worked with the Douglas Morrisson Theatre, Bay Area Children's Theatre, the New Conservatory Theatre Center, and Ross Valley Players. He is delighted to be part of such a talented ensemble.

Gino Rose (Owen Glendower, traveler) debuts at Curtain Theatre in this production. Recently he was Friar Laurence in College of Marin's *Romeo and Juliet*; and he played Baptista (the harried father) in *Taming of the Shrew* at Half Moon Bay Shakespeare Company. Favorite roles include Nicolas in *One For The Road* at Performers Under Stress, and Sorin in *Seagull* at College of Marin. He's a graduate of the Meisner Technique Studio, and teaches acting privately. His solo dramatic pieces, which he writes and performs, include *A Heart Too Strong to Die*; and, *Dance of the Spider* (for Solo Sundays); and *The Former Gene Thomas*.

Victoria Saitz (Lady Mortimer, messenger, servant, traveler) is thrilled to be performing with Curtain Theatre for the first time, as well as taking part in her first outdoor show! She recently graduated with her BA in acting from Sonoma State and is excited to be putting it to use. Some of her favorite roles include Antonio in *Twelfth Night* (Sonoma State), Amanda in *Women in Jeopardy* (Left Edge Theatre) and Silvia in *The Women* (Mercy High School San Francisco.) If you want to learn more about her, you can check out her website: <https://victorians96.wixsite.com/victoriasaitz>

Phillip Swanson (Prince John, Gadshill, Hotspur's servant) Phillip is thrilled to be returning to the park in Mill Valley, having previously appeared in *Taming of the Shrew*, *Merry Wives of Windsor*, and the world premiere of *A Hot Day in Ephesus*. It was in *A Hot Day* that he first met Steve Beecroft, and when he heard Steve was directing *Henry IV*, he was so excited to work with him again, under the beauty of the trees.

Michael Walraven (Bardolph, Westmoreland) has been active in Marin theaters for many years. At the Curtain Theatre he appeared as Verges in *Much Ado About Nothing* and a mobster merchant in *Comedy of Errors*. He is pleased to be playing a higher class of lowlife in this summer's show. Michael also supervises set building in the park.

Grey Wolf (Falstaff) How special to be again with the pleasant, blessed Curtain Theatre in a magical California Redwood grove. I hope I entertain you as well or better than I may have last year as Harpagon as part of Curtain's delightful *Miser*. Or as part of *Shrew* a few years ago. Special thanks to Michele, Don, Steve Beecroft, Diane, Steve Coleman, and my fellows of the ensemble, to Diana and Her foresters, To Athena and Apollo, and the Muses and Shoshana that I have been so blessed to serve and be so wholly supported by.

