

Press Release
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A LOOK AHEAD IN THE 2011-2012 MAIN STAGE SERIES

Aquila Theatre Performs Shakespeare's Superstitiously-Famed *Macbeth*

LAFAYETTE (LA) – The Performing Arts Society of Acadiana (PASA) welcomes to The Heymann Performing Arts Center, Aquila Theatre, performing William Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, Thursday, November 10, 2011 at 7:30 pm, sponsored by Preis & Roy. Patrons are invited to attend a scholar-led, *Creative Conversation* with Aquila Cast Members at 6:30 pm, within the Heymann Center's mezzanine. Tickets are available through The Heymann Center Box Office or www.ticketmaster.com. UL students and faculty receive 50% off, with a valid UL ID, while additional discounts are available for those attending in groups of ten or more. All promotional purchases are available through the Heymann Box Office only.

In Aquila Theatre's depiction of *Macbeth*, "Fair is foul and foul is fair," where nothing is as it seems and men combat their own madness and fates. The play follows principal character, Macbeth — the victorious Scottish general, as he chances upon three mysterious witches during his journey home from war. The witches offer an intriguing prophesy, tempting Macbeth with the promise that he will one day become King of Scotland. Upon hearing the news, Lady Macbeth urges her husband into murderous action, and what follows is a wild and maddening descent into war, insanity and demons.

This work has enjoyed considerable success and notoriety as a cursed play, often superstitiously referred to as "the Scottish play" by those who fear to utter the name *Macbeth* within the confines of a theater. Led by founder and Artistic Director, Peter Meineck, this stellar cast of British and Scottish actors has a wealth of expertise in Shakespearean language and provides an authenticity of performance style. "Gleefully engaging ... almost unbearably fun," says *The New York Times* about this acclaimed British-American, touring theater company.

A daytime performance for middle and high school students will be held at The Heymann Center on November 10, 2011 at 10:30 am. Student tickets are \$7.00. The final day to register classes is November 2, 2011. Contact PASA at 337-237-2787 ext. 201 for more information.

Included community outreach activities will be hosted by the UL School of Performing Arts and led by Aquila Company Members. *Ancient Greeks/Modern Lives: Poetry-Drama-Dialogue* a major national program that is taking place in 100 cultural institutions across America with a mission to inspire people to come together to read, see and think about classical literature and

how it continues to influence and invigorate American cultural life. This expanded master class/acting workshop will include exercises with masks, discovering emotions and much more, all focused on the themes of *Homecoming/Return of the Warrior*. The program scholar will show and explore the connections between the ancient Greeks and today and will lead both a reading event and discussion on these themes. Participants should wear comfortable, loose clothing and be prepared for basic movement. The master class will take place at UL's Burke Theatre, from 5:00 – 6:30 pm on Wednesday, November 9, and open to the public. US Veterans are encouraged to attend. Registration is free, but limited. Contact PASA at 337-237-2787 ext. 201 to register.

Antient Greeks/Modern Lives: Poetry-Drama-Dialogue is a program that has been made possible by a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities: great ideas brought to life.

www.antientgreeksmodernlives.org



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Founded in 1988, the Performing Arts Society of Acadiana is a non-profit organization that presents live entertainment at various venues throughout the Lafayette community. Separate performances for students are provided, in addition to our community's senior citizens through the PASA Plus program, one of PASA's longstanding community outreach programs. Others include Silent Seats and Play It Again, bringing the world of the performing arts into the lives of underprivileged children within the community. PASA presents annual performances of music, dance and drama from a wide range of artists, worldwide.