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Shakespeare's Great Political Drama *Julius Caesar* To Be Staged by PacRep at Outdoor Forest Theatre

**Classic tragedy to be illustrated in contemporary style
by director Kenneth Kelleher**

September 13, 2021, Carmel, CA - One of Shakespeare's most iconic tragedies – and his fiercest political drama – *Julius Caesar*, will be presented by PacRep for 12 performances only, weekends from September 30 – October 17 at the Outdoor Forest Theater in Carmel, it was announced by Stephen Moorer, PacRep Executive Director.

"Given our county's fractured and divided discourse, few better plays cry out to be heard than *Julius Caesar*," noted Moorer adding, "the words of Shakespeare say it best, '... either there is a civil strife in heaven, or else the world, too saucy with the gods, incenses them to send destruction'."

Under the direction of Resident Director Kenneth Kelleher, the production will be illuminated in contemporary fashion, revealing an exciting interpretation of the classic play about life-and-death struggles for political power. Caesar's growing ambition threatens a Republic that is already riddled with assassination plots, conspiracy and bloody murders. When Caesar is killed, chaos engulfs the city. Alliances are formed and faked, and leaders are made and sacrificed. It's Rome, and you'd better watch your back....

The cast will feature guest artists Mike Storm as 'Julius Caesar', Ernest Emmanuel Peeples as 'Brutus', Nick Mandracchia as 'Antony', and PacRep resident actress Julie Hughett as 'Cassius'. Also appearing are Malinda DeRouen as 'Portia', Justine Stock as 'Calpurnia', Noah Lucé as 'Cinna', Alexis Williams as 'Lucius', and Leticia Duarte as 'Casca'. Set design is by Patrick McEvoy, with costumes by Ziona Goren, lighting design by Joanna Hobbs, with original music by David C. Eakin, and live percussion by regional Taiko drummer Ikuyo Conant.

As a self-aggrandizing populist molds himself into an authoritarian ruler, his opponents fear the end of democracy. Confronting demagoguery, mob violence, and potential civil war, every citizen must choose to embrace the new agenda, or fight against it. With the deterioration of democratic institutions at its core, *Julius Caesar* offers a timely political commentary, and presents a powerful dramatization of the catastrophic consequences of a political leader's expansion of power beyond constitutional confines.

Shakespeare's epic and thrilling tragedy explores the challenge of sustaining democracy, the timeless nature of propaganda, and the power of self-interest and betrayal to turn a government against its people, and politics into a brutal blood sport.

Julius Caesar begins with two discount previews on Thursday, September 30 at 7:30 pm, and Friday, October 1 at 7:30 pm, opening Saturday, October 2 at 7:30 pm, and again on Sunday, October 3 at 7:30 pm. Regular performances continue Thursdays through Sundays at 7:30 pm (with a "SWEET Thursday 2-for-1" general admission offer) through October 17. All performances are at the Outdoor Forest Theater, located at the corner of Mountain View Avenue and Santa Rita Street, in Carmel-by-the-Sea.

Covid Information. Masks are required of all patrons upon entry, while in line for concessions and restrooms, and while moving around the facility. For fully-vaccinated patrons, masks remain optional while seated in the auditorium only. For full information on PacRep's Covid procedures regarding performances at the Outdoor Forest Theater, patrons are requested to go to: <https://www.pacrep.org/covid-safety-information>

Ticket Information. **Single tickets are on sale now.** General admission single ticket prices range from \$8 to \$41 with discounts available for seniors over 65, students, children, teachers, and active military.

2021 Season TicketPACS 2021 continues PacRep's popular Season Ticket program with its new **Season TicketPACS**, offering substantial savings (up to 20%) and complete flexibility to choose titles and dates, and even allows for repeat performances!

PacRep is supported by ticket sales, individual donations, special events, and grants from The David and Lucile Packard Foundation, Monterey Peninsula Foundation, The Berkshire Foundation, The Shubert Foundation, The S.T.A.R. Foundation, The Nancy Buck Ransom Foundation, The Chapman Foundation, and the Harden Foundation, among many others.

PacRep Theatre 2021 PERFORMANCE CALENDAR
(831-622-0100 or www.pacrep.org for info)

William Shakespeare's Julius Caesar – Outdoor Forest Theater

THU	Sep 30	7:30 pm	OFT	Julius Caesar (Discount Preview)
FRI	Oct 1	7:30 pm	OFT	Julius Caesar (Discount Preview)
SAT	Oct 2	7:30 pm	OFT	Julius Caesar (Opening)
SUN	Oct 3	7:30 pm	OFT	Julius Caesar
THU	Oct 7	7:30 pm	OFT	Julius Caesar (Sweet Thursday 2 for 1 General Admission)
FRI	Oct 8	7:30 pm	OFT	Julius Caesar
SAT	Oct 9	7:30 pm	OFT	Julius Caesar
SUN	Oct 10	7:30 pm	OFT	Julius Caesar
THU	Oct 14	7:30 pm	OFT	Julius Caesar (Sweet Thursday 2 for 1 General Admission)
FRI	Oct 15	7:30 pm	OFT	Julius Caesar
SAT	Oct 16	7:30 pm	OFT	Julius Caesar
SUN	Oct 17	7:30 pm	OFT	Julius Caesar (Closing)

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