

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

I first came across *The Tempest* when I had to teach it to a class of 15-year-olds who were a mixed bunch, to say the least. Several were on their last chance in school and most of the others were struggling as English was not their first language. My heart sank: how could I engage them with Shakespeare? But the play did it for me; they loved it.

From that day on, I dreamed of directing it and here I am! Who can resist the power play, the young lovers, the knockabout comedy and the evolving relationships? It may be set many years ago on a strange island (with marmosets?!) but the themes are still so relevant today. So sit back, weather the storm and enjoy the spectacle that is *The Tempest*.

The music that runs through the play is by a local band: Inlak'esh. A great bunch who I had the pleasure of working with on *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in Northampton several years ago. All the tracks are available on Spotify and Apple Music.

Huge thanks must go out to several people: my fabulous cast and assistant director, Nico, obviously, but also to the unsung heroes who work tirelessly to help erstwhile directors see their dreams come to life. To Bob and his team for listening to my garbled ideas and producing a set way beyond my hopes; to Trish for taking on the task of making so many fabulous outfits; to Jan for her amazing props and always finding a way to do it!; to Chloe for her lovely choreography; to the tech team who are amazing in all the effects they create and to the ever ready Fiona, stage manager extraordinaire! Thank you all x

Kath

This production is dedicated to the memory of Bob Adams, Dunstable Rep set build manager and long-time stalwart member, whose last play this was.

CAST

Prospero | Ben Dards
Miranda | Daisy Bates / Chloe Whitney-Bamford (performances on 8, 9 (matinee only) and 12 May)
Ariel | Phoenix Oakwood
Caliban | Matt Eyles
Stephano | Johanna White
Trinculo | Emma Brown
Alonso | Shirley Jones
Sebastian | Carla Kedzierski
Antonio | Massimo Petronio
Gonzalo | Simon Theodorou
Ferdinand | Nate Chatterley
Adrian/Boatswain | Luke Walsh
Sprites/servants/sailors | Lilli Gregory and Summa Topham

SYNOPSIS

Prospero, banished from Naples by his usurping brother who is now Duke of Milan, rules his island home accompanied by his servant, Caliban (who himself harbours a grievance), his supernatural sprite, Ariel, and his young daughter, Miranda.

As the play begins, Prospero, using his magical powers, sees the King of Naples and his own treacherous brother, along with many nobles, sailing past on the way back from a wedding. He conjures up a storm – *The Tempest* – to wreck the boat and get them in his power. Now, his revenge can begin.

Please note that this performance includes flashing lights.

Costumes were kindly created and donated by Trish Evison. In lieu of payment, she has asked for donations to Parkinson's UK. If you would like to donate, please scan the QR code.



PRODUCTION TEAM

Director | Katherine Yates

Assistant director | Nico Whitney-Bamford

Stage manager | Fiona Whiteside

Choreography | Chloe Whitney-Bamford

Tech team | Craig Fisher, Andrew Hayward,
Dave Houghton, Josh Mitchell and David Witherall

Set build team | Bob Adams, Marlon Gill,
Emma Dickson, Annie Davis and Mervyn Wilson

Publicity | Sarah Cunnane, Matt Eyles and Jo White

Costumes | Trish Evison

Props | Jan Dury

Music | Inlak'esh

With thanks to the Rep committee, front of house & bar teams, and everyone who has supported this production



'We are
such stuff
as
dreams
are
made on...'



THE TEMPEST

By William Shakespeare
Directed by Kath Yates

8-16 May 2026

The Little Theatre,
Dunstable

