



*The Rude Mechanicals Present*

*The Life and Death*

*of King Richard the Second*

*by William Shakespeare*



*Directed by Michael F. McCarthy*

*March 24 - April 1, 2017*

*DC Arts Center*

[www.rudemechanicals.com](http://www.rudemechanicals.com)

## Bios for Cast and Crew

**Claudia Bach (Queen)** is thrilled to be a Rudes neophyte. Past roles include Malcolm (Macbeth), Hotspur (Henry IV Part I), Lord Capulet (Romeo & Juliet), Sly (Taming of the Shrew), Jocasta (Oedipus Rex), Michael (God of Carnage), Vera (And Then There Were None), and Lydia (Shakespeare in Hollywood). Thanks to the Rudes team and to Erin, for deciding at the last minute that maybe she'd audition too. [Claudia is also the first Rude since the First Rude to be offered to direct having never yet performed with them. –ed.]

**Lynda Clark (Bishop of Carlisle)** is returning once again to the Rude Mechanicals, this time performing as a bishop! Keep a look out for the one with a cross and purple hair, she's hard to miss...

**Wayne de Cesar (John of Gaunt)** is pleased to be appearing in his fourth production with the Rude Mechanicals. Most recently he played Falstaff in Henry IV.

**Luke Craver (Light Operator)** is a Form V student at Saint Anselm's Abbey school. He has been involved in the school's theater program since he arrived five years ago.

**Jaki Demarest (Bolingbroke, Graphics)** thanks Michael McCarthy and Alan Duda for the opportunity to play one of the more enigmatic and challenging characters in Shakespeare's canon. There is no monologue that explains his motivations or gives us any insights into his thoughts, his wants, his inner life. Neither hero nor villain, he seems to flow between circumstances that are never actually in his control. Some are born great, some achieve greatness, and Bolingbroke has greatness thrust upon him, in ways that will ultimately haunt him.

**Alan Duda (Assistant Director, Author)** enjoys not acting in such interstitial stages as Narrator (King John), Captain of the Guard (Trojan Women), and Co-Author (Pericles). He has also appeared as the title character in Macbeth, Julius Caesar (twice), Coriolanus, Antony & Cleopatra, and Hamlet. Thanks to Mike. Love to Jaki.

**Peter Eichman (Thomas Mowbray)** is pleased to find himself in a dramatic role again, especially because he gets to wear medieval garb, too. He was most recently seen in the Rude's comedic take on "The Life and Death of King John" (Lady Falconbridge; the Duke of Austria), and Laurel Mill Playhouse's "Comedy of Errors" (Antipholus of Ephesus). When not onstage, Peter works for the University of Maryland Libraries building and maintaining the software that powers their digital collections repository.

**Joshua Engel (York)** had ten thousand men. First he marched them up the hill. Then they had a lovely lunch, with a very drinkable Burgundy.

**Eric Honour (Sound Design)** is an amateur acoustician. He once bicycled 180 miles in terry-cloth slippers.

**Trevor Jones (Stage Manager)** "Rico, I need a transdimensional stabilizer STAT! And make sure it's got left-hand threads." [Skipper gets handed a reverse threaded transdimensional stabilizer.] "And I won't ask where it came from!"

**Michael F. McCarthy (Director)** has performed in a number of Rude's productions over recent years. Being offered an opportunity to direct Richard II is a dream come true. (It has always been his favorite play). Michael is grateful to the talented cast of actors that made his directing task so enjoyable. Special thanks must also be offered to Alan, Trevor, and Liana, who contributed much to the production. When not commuting to the studios at Chez Duda in Greenbelt, Michael passes his time teaching English at Saint Anselm's Abbey School in Washington, D.C.

**Erin Nealer (Bagot)** is so excited to make her Rude Mechanicals debut. She has recently been onstage as Laertes (Hamlet), Prince Hal (Henry IV Part 1), Demetrius (A Midsummer Night's Dream), and Friar Lawrence (Romeo and Juliet). She would like to thank her parents for their support, Claudia for literally everything, and the Rudes for taking a chance on her and her ridiculous poofy pants.

**Ludo Numfar (Queen's Assistant)** is an operatically trained singer.

**Liana Olear (Exton, Producer, Light Design)** worked on over a dozen Rudes productions designing lights, stage managing, assistant directing, and, for All's Well That Ends Well, directing. She is thrilled to be in her favorite of the Histories, and invites you to see her second-favorite and second directing project, Henry VIII, a year from now.

**Peter Orvetti (Northumberland)** started his acting career with the Rudes' 2012 production of "Lysistrata" and has since worked with Ambassador Theater, Arcturus Theatre, SCENA, Silver Spring Stage, and Spooky Action, among others, in addition to multiple Capital Fringe productions and several television and webseries appearances. He is currently a company member at Laugh Index Theater.

**Sarah Pfanz (Richard II, Graphics)** is excited to be back with the Rudes after appearing as the Dauphin in Henry V, but somewhat less excited to once again lose her throne to an uppity Lancastrian with a dubious claim. On the other side of the Potomac, she is in the business of overthrowing kings, having played Hotspur (Henry IV, Part 1), Young Mortimer (Edward II), and Cassius (Julius Caesar), all with Britches and Hose Theatre Company. She would like to thank her friends, her castmates, and anyone else who has to put up with Richard talking.

**John Wallis (Aumerle** - who enjoys long walks on the beach, being loyal to his friends, and crying.)

Props from / to Jamie Paulson.