

For Immediate Release
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**SHAKESPEARE THEATRE COMPANY'S
2008-2009 SEASON CONTINUES WITH
The Dog in the Manger
BY LOPE DE VEGA
TRANSLATION AND ADAPTATION BY DAVID JOHNSTON
DIRECTED BY JONATHAN MUNBY**

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Shakespeare Theatre Company continues its 2008-2009 season with Lope de Vega's *The Dog in the Manger* directed by **Jonathan Munby** at the Lansburgh Theatre (450 7th Street NW) from **February 10 to March 29, 2009**. A master of Spain's Golden Age, Lope de Vega explores love, fidelity and class with wry humor in *The Dog in the Manger*. The haughty countess Diana rejects her many aristocratic suitors only to fall in love with her handsome young secretary, Teodoro. To pursue this forbidden love, Diana must sabotage her suitors, deceive her friends and concoct ever-more elaborate schemes. Lope de Vega balances high tragedy and low comedy, examining the savage whims of the human heart. Munby directs a cast featuring **Michelle Hurd** as Diana, **Michael Hayden** as Teodoro, **David Turner** as Tristan, **John Livingstone Rolle** as Federico, **Jonathan Hammond** as Marquis Ricardo and **David Sabin** as Octavio and Ludovico. This production is part of *Loving Lope* a collaboration with the GALA Hispanic Theatre who is producing *El mejor alcalde, el rey* (*The Best Judge, the King*) also by Lope de Vega.

"There is a strong sense that this play comes from the heart of Lope's own experiences; he feels very close to this," says Jonathan Munby. "What is clear is that his planets were in alignment, as it were, when he wrote *The Dog in the Manger*. The language, the drama, the wit, the human experience, pain and humor, all shine brightly in this master work."

THE DOG IN THE MANGER CAST

Michelle Hurd joins STC for the first time to play Diana. She is best known for her television work on shows including *Law and Order: SVU*, *Gossip Girl*, *ER*, *Bones*, *According To Jim*, *Law and Order*, *Charmed*, *The O.C.* and *The Practice*. She has appeared on Broadway in *Getting Away with Murder* at the Broadhurst Theatre and Off-Broadway in many productions including *900 Oneonta*, *A.M.L.*, *Looking for the Pony*, *Hot Key's* and *Conquering Thursday*. Hurd's regional theatre credits include west coast premier of *The Violet Hour* at South Coast Repertory, where she won the Robbie Award for best actress and North Shore Theater's

production of *Hamlet* and her film credits include *Random Hearts*, *Personals*, *Double Parked*, *Wolf* and *King of New York*.

Michael Hayden returns to STC to play Teodoro. He previously appeared in the 1998 production of *Sweet Bird of Youth*. Hayden's Broadway credits include *Festen* at the Music Box Theatre, *Henry IV* and *Carousel* at the Vivian Beaumont Theatre, *Enchanted April* at the Belasco Theatre, *Judgment at Nuremberg* at the Longacre Theatre and *Cabaret* at Studio 54. His Off-Broadway appearances include *The Language of Trees* at the Roundabout Underground, *Dessa Rose* and *Far East* at the Mitzi E. Newhouse Theatre, *All My Sons* at the Laura Pels Theatre and *The Matchmaker* at the Union Square Theatre. Hayden's regional theatre credits include *Merrily We Roll Along* at the Kennedy Center, *Camila* at the Walnut Street Theatre and *Playboy of the Western World* at the Guthrie Theatre, and his international credits include *Cabaret* at the Lyric Theatre and *Carousel* at the Royal National Theatre, both in London. He has appeared on television in *In the Name of Love: A Texas Tragedy*, *Murder One*, *Murder One: Diary of a Serial Killer*, *Bella Mafia*, *Glory, Glory*, *Charming Billy*, *Far East*, *Hack* and *Law & Order: Criminal Intent*. Hayden received the Broadway.com Audience Award for Favorite Featured Actor in a Broadway Play for *Judgment at Nuremberg* and the Theatre World Award for *Carousel* and was nominated for Tony Award, a Drama Desk Award and a Laurence Olivier Award.

David Turner debuts at STC in the role of Tristan. Turner has appeared on Broadway in *The Invention of Love*, *In My Life*, *The Ritz* and *Sunday in the Park with George* and Off-Broadway in *Shakespeare (Abridged)*, *The Butter and Egg Man*, *The Last Sunday in June*, *Gutenberg! The Musical!*. His regional theatre credits include *As You Like It*, *The Skin of Our Teeth*, *Camino Real* and *The Servant of Two Masters* at Williamstown, and the American premier of Frank Guinness' *The Bird Sanctuary* at the Pittsburgh Public. Turner appeared in television's *Lipstick Jungle* and has been the writer and director of both a documentary about artists striving to end poverty and a feature film entitled *The Debut*. He received a Helen Hayes Award nomination for Sir Harry Robin in *Monty Python's Spamalot*, and won BMI's Jerry Harrington Award for outstanding creative achievement as a composer/lyricist. Turner received his BA from Williams College, New Actors Workshop and his CELTA from the University of Cambridge.

John Livingstone Rolle returns to STC in the role of Federico. He joined STC onstage as the Messenger of Corinth/Chorus Leader/Watchman in *The Oedipus Plays*, Cutbeard in *The Silent Woman*, Brackenbury in *Richard III*, Starveling in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, 3rd Fisherman in *Pericles*, Venturi in *Lorenzaccio*, Antonio in *The Tempest*, Verges/Friar Francis in *Much Ado About Nothing* and Bottom in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. He has appeared Off-Broadway in various shows at The Acting Company, the New York Shakespeare Festival and The Pearl Theatre Company. His regional theatre credits include *1001* and *The Merry Wives of*

Windsor at the Denver Center Theatre and *Richard III* at the Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey. Rolle has also received training at the Boston Conservatory and the Juilliard School.

Jonathan Hammond joins STC for the first time in the role of Marquis Ricardo. Hammond's regional theatre credits include *Up in the Air* at The Kennedy Center, the 40th anniversary revival of *The Boys in the Band*, and other appearances at Actors Theater of Louisville, McCarter Theater, Public Theater, Baltimore Center Stage, Theatre for a New Audience, American Repertory Theater, Pittsburgh Public Theater, Syracuse Stage, York Theater Company, Theatre Works-Palo Alto, Pioneer Theater Company, Barrington Stage, Fulton Opera House, Connecticut Repertory Theater, Florida Studio Theater and The York Theater. He has also appeared in television's *Law and Order*, as well as winning an Elliot Norton Award and an Outer Critics Circle Award.

David Sabin returns to STC to play the roles of Octavio and Ludovico. Sabin's STC roles include Sir John Falstaff in *Henry IV* and *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, Sir Toby Belch in *Twelfth Night*, The Cook in *Mother Courage and Her Children*, Boss Finley in *Sweet Bird of Youth*, Ben in *The Little Foxes*, York in *Richard II*, Lord Hastings in *Richard III*, Sir Anthony Absolute in *The Rivals*, Pinchwife in *The Country Wife*, Bottom in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Gloucester in *King Lear*, Lord Augustus Lorton in *Lady Windermere's Fan*, Brabantio in *Othello*, Baptista in *The Taming of the Shrew*. His Broadway credits include *Miss Moffat*, *Slapstick Tragedy*, *Ambassador!*, *Gantry*, *The Yearling*, *The Suicide*, *Othello*, *The Threepenny Opera*, *Dance a Little Closer* and *Music Is!*. Off-Broadway, he has appeared in *The Fantasticks*, *Heartbreak House*, *You Never Can Tell*, *The Master and Margarita* and *Prairie Du Chien*, and he has appeared at many regional theatres including Long Wharf Theatre, Yale Repertory, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Actors Theatre of Louisville, Trinity Square Repertory, Philadelphia Drama Guild and Steppenwolf Theatre. His television credits include *When Things Were Rotten* (Mel Brooks), *Love of Life* (CBS Soap), *Kojak*, *The Rockford Files* and *Murphy Brown*.

The Dog in the Manger also features **Wesley Broulik** as Leonido, **Julie Craig** as the singer, **Leo Erickson** as Camilo, **James Ricks** as Fabio, **Joel David Santner** as Celio, **Miriam Silverman** as Marcela, **Leigh Wade** as Dorotea with **Nathan Bennett**, **Stacy Cabaj**, **Billy Finn**, **Dan Lawrence** and **Amanda Thickpenny**.

THE DIRECTOR

Jonathan Munby makes his STC debut directing the East Coast premiere of David Johnston's translation of this rarely performed classic. Munby, a frequent director with the Royal Shakespeare Company, has been praised for his "high-octane" productions (*The Sunday Times*). His directorial credits include *24 Hour Plays* at The Old Vic; *The White Devil* at the Menier Chocolate Factory; *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre; *Henry V* and

Mirandolina at Royal Exchange Theatre; *The Canterbury Tales* at the Royal Shakespeare Company: Stratford, West End and an international tour (including Kennedy Center), *A Number*, *The Comedy of Errors* and *Bird Call* at the Sheffield Crucible, *Madness in Valencia*; *Nakamitsu* at the Gate Theatre; *Noises Off* at Arena Stage; *Journeys Among the Dead* at the Young Vic; *Bed Show* at the Bristol Old Vic; *The Anniversary* at the Garrick Theatre in London; *John Bull's Other Island* at the Lyric Theatre in Belfast; *The Gentleman from Olmedo*, *Tartuffe*, *The Venetian Twins*, *The Triumph of Love* and *Dancing at Lughnasa* at the Watermill Theatre; *Troilus and Cressida*, *Love for Love*, *Festen* and *The Way of the World* at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama; and *Numb* in the C Venue of the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. His opera directing credits include *Don Giovanni* for the English Touring Opera and *Sweetness and Badness* for the Welsh National Opera. Munby was Assistant Director with the Royal Shakespeare Company from 1999-2001, he is also an instructor at the Motley School of Theatre Design and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

THE DESIGNERS

Jonathan Munby has collaborated with his design team to create a striking world onstage that expertly blends the period with the contemporary. Set designer **Alexander Dodge** brings religious flair with confessional-style lattice work panels and larger-than-life portraits peering out intently. **Linda Cho** designs costumes with the elegant lines of the 17th century Spanish farthingale mixed with contemporary fabrics and subtle ornamentation. The design team for *The Dog in the Manger* also includes Lighting Design by **Matthew Richards**, Original Music and Sound Design by **Richard Martinez**, Choreography by **Daniel Pelzig**, Voice and Text Coaching by **Ellen O'Brien**, Stage Manager **M. William Shiner** and Assistant Stage Manager **Colleen Martin**.

SPECIAL PERFORMANCES AND EVENTS

There will be audio-described performances of *The Dog in the Manger* on Thursday, March 12, at 8 p.m. and Saturday, March 21, at 2 p.m. Sign-Interpreted performances are Saturday, March 7, at 2 p.m. and Tuesday, March 10, at 8 p.m.

LOVING LOPE

GALA Hispanic and Shakespeare Theatre Company coordinate two Lope plays and events. Washington audiences will have the rare opportunity to experience two seminal works by Lope de Vega, one of the masters of Spain's Golden Age. GALA Hispanic presents *El major alcalde, el rey* (*The Best Judge, the King*) from January 29 through February 22 while *The Dog in the Manger* is in production at the Shakespeare Theatre Company from February 10 through

March 29. During the run of these productions, GALA and STC will collaborate by hosting a discussion series featuring artists from both companies that will provide audiences with an insightful look into the rich and intriguing world of Lope de Vega.

At 5:30 p.m., Following the performance of *El mejor alcalde, el rey* at GALA Hispanic on Sunday, February 15, GALA Artistic Director Hugo Medrano will lead a discussion between actors from both productions and STC artistic director, Michael Kahn.

On Sunday, February 15, at 1 p.m., members of STC's artistic staff, education department and scholars will lead a special Windows discussion on *The Dog in the Manger*, at Sidney Harman Hall as a part of the *Loving Lope* collaboration. All are welcome. Call 202.547.1122 and press 4 or visit ShakespeareTheatre.org to reserve a space.

Following the evening performance of *The Dog in the Manger* on Wednesday, February 18, all are welcome to the Lansburgh Theatre for a post-show discussion. As part of the *Loving Lope* collaboration, ask questions of the acting company of *The Dog in the Manger* as well as actors from GALA Hispanic's *El mejor alcalde, el rey*. Those attending the performance are guaranteed seats. Additional seating is available on a first-come basis. Call 202.547.1122 for the approximate start time. No reservations required.

On Saturday, March 7, following the 2 p.m. matinee, STC hosts a special Classics in Context roundtable discussion, also as a part of *Loving Lope*, at Sidney Harman Hall about *The Dog in the Manger* with local bloggers, scholars and artists. Call 202.547.1122, option 4, or visit ShakespeareTheatre.org to reserve a space.

There will also be two special Happenings at the Harman. On Wednesday, February 11, the Embassy of Spain and the Washington Performing Arts Society will present Spanish dancer Ziva Cohen and on Wednesday, March 4, the Embassy of Spain will present the Friday Morning Music Club program in honor of *The Dog in the Manger*.

FACT SHEET: *The Dog in the Manger*

By Lope de Vega, Translated/Adapted by David Johnston * Directed by Jonathan Munby

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DATES: February 10-March 29, 2009
Press Night: Sunday, February 15, 2009
Opening Night: Tuesday, February 17, 2009

LOCATION: Lansburgh Theatre, 450 7th Street NW

TIMES: Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.; Thursdays, Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m.; Sundays at 7:30 p.m. (except March 29); Saturdays and Sundays at 2 p.m. (except February 15); matinee at noon on March 25.

TICKETS: \$35.50-\$84.75 with discounts available for students, seniors and members of the military.

ACCESSIBILITY: The Lansburgh Theatre is accessible to persons with disabilities, offering wheelchair-accessible seating and restrooms, audio enhancement, and Braille and large print programs.

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- On Sunday, February 15, at 1 p.m., members of STC's artistic staff, education department and scholars will lead a lively Windows discussion on *The Dog in the Manger*. All are welcome. Call 202.547.1122 and press 4 or visit ShakespeareTheatre.org to reserve a space.
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PARKING:

Paid parking is available at the PMI parking garage on D Street, between Eighth and Ninth streets, and the Colonial Parking Garage in the Lansburgh building (at 450 7th Street between D and E streets).

METRO: Archives-Navy Mem'l- Penn Quarter station (Yellow and Green Lines) is one and one-half blocks south of the Lansburgh Theatre. Gallery Pl-Chinatown station (Red, Yellow and Green Lines) is one block north of the Lansburgh Theatre at the Verizon Center. For Further information, call Metro at 202.637.7000.

Box Office: 202. 547.1122 (voice) TTY: 202. 638. 3863 Toll Free: 877.487.8849

ShakespeareTheatre.org