

# PLAYERS TEMPLE

Cinema on the Sound

*William Shakespeare's*

# Romeo & Juliet

*A Players Temple Production  
in collaboration with All Hands Theatre Co.*

*Directed by  
Michael Temple*

---

## *A note from the Director:*

Written around 1595, Shakespeare's timeless story of Romeo & Juliet is as relevant today as it was over 400 years ago. There is no specificity as to what the ancient grudge between the dignified houses of Montague and Capulet is about; as with most all violent feuds, the why is outweighed by the collateral damage. Thus countless adaptations have since been produced to tell this story of individual people finding love in each other amongst vehemently divided backgrounds.

This production takes place in an abstract setting blending contemporary society with the Renaissance Italy in which Shakespeare originally set Romeo & Juliet (as he often chose this setting for many of his plays as a free-er environment than his own repressed Elizabethan England). While some characters are dressed in period costumes, they all represent the multitude of identities that make up our modern world across gender identity, race, sexual preference, religion, class, and politics.

Dividing this play into two distinct groups is too simple: as one of the most profound writers of all time, Shakespeare saw and wrote people as they truly were and are—layered and complicated. What divides us in the surface labels some people choose to box others into is not as strong as the well underneath of what unites us in our common humanity and experience.

With this in mind, Players Temple humbly hopes you enjoy our production of Romeo & Juliet with its themes of love versus hate, unity versus division, and fate versus action. Thank you.

With That Utmost Vital Thing—Love—

Michael Temple

Founder, Players Temple

## Players Temple

PRESENTS

In association with  
**All Hands Theatre Co.**

*William Shakespeare's*

# Romeo and Juliet

Players

*Romeo* Tygar Hicks

*Juliet* Kineta Kunutu

*Nurse* Zoë Laiz

*Friar Lawrence* Matias Bonino

*Benvolio* Alexandra Mallia

*Tybalt* Jamison Monella

*Lord Capulet* Joseph Abrams

*Mercutio* Michael Temple

Additional Voices

*Prince Escalus* Anthony Franqui

*Sampson/Watch* Ryan Cupello

*Abram/Watch* Liam Searcy

Producers

Michael Temple

Tygar Hicks

Music/Sound Engineer

Liam Searcy

Directed by

Michael Temple

Setting

Verona & Mantua,  
Renaissance/Present-Day Italy

**There will be one 15-minute intermission.**

## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST



**JOSEPH ABRAMS** (Lord Capulet) is a California native with 12 years in NYC under his belt. He came to study at Circle in the Square Theater School with a focus on musical theater, Chekhov and Shakespeare. Joseph recently appeared on City Island in *All Hands Theater Company's* production of *Love Song*. Joseph is ecstatic to be doing his first performance with *Temple Players Theater Company* and doing his second production of *Romeo & Juliet*. He hopes you enjoy the show as much as he loves performing in it.



**MATIAS BONINO** (Friar Lawrence) Meisner trained actor, Matias Bonino has recently played his first Co-star role on *FBI: Most Wanted*. He has played the lead in many independent films including 'My Friends Play' and 'Max Is Bleeding', performed in Off-off Broadway shows at the Hudson Guild Theatre and Manhattan Rep. Theatre from 'A Real Bitch', to 'A Common Martyr' and 'The Actors Nightmare' as Horatio. He has also participated in New York's National Monologue Slam in 2019 and won 1st place! He has worked with acting coaches: Anthony Abeson and Tom Todoroff pushing his way to learn many different angles of acting techniques to find his own style. Matias is Argentinian, based in New York City, and is fluent in Spanish, and though he has never visited his family's country, his deep sense of passion, and care for people was born in him from that culture. Everyone's a critic, but not everyone is you. We have all played a similar role in the show of life, So be unique in it all, Help somebody up, And don't forget to laugh when you fall.



**TYGAR HICKS** (Romeo) (she/her) has been a member of the greater theatre community for over two decades. She is a proud AEA/SAG member and the cofounder of All Hands Theatre Co. here, on City Island. She is pleased to embrace the role of Romeo and to assist the Players Temple in bringing Shakespeare to our neighborhood. She admires everyone in this production and would like to thank them for their friendship and inspiration. For more about Tygar, visit [www.tygarhicks.com](http://www.tygarhicks.com) and [www.AllHandsTheatreCo.com](http://www.AllHandsTheatreCo.com)

---

---

## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST



**Kineta Kunutu** (Juliet) (she/her) is a New York-based actor originally from Johannesburg, South Africa. Favorite theater credits include: *But I Cd Only Whisper* (The Flea) and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival); TV credits include *Citidal*, *The Blacklist* and *The Good Fight*. Kineta is an alumna of the Yale School of

Drama—where her credits include *Romeo & Juliet*, *Trojan Women*, *If Pretty Hurts Ugly Must Be a Muhfucka*, *Mies Julie*, and *In the Red and Brown Water*—and the American Musical and Dramatic Academy. In addition to her screen and stage work, Kineta is also a voice actor, yoga instructor and teaching artist.



**Zoë Laiz** (Nurse) (she/her) is a Filipina-Jewish actor based in NYC. Recent credits include: *Richard III* (Queen Elizabeth) with Gray Mallard Theater, *The Easiest Thing* (Tala) at The Tank NYC; *The Daerie Queene* (Julie) at Guild Hall of Easthampton; *Pride and Prejudice* (Jane Bennet) at Actors' Shakespeare Project; *Pericles* (Thaisa/Dionyza/Bawd) with the rig; Eight seasons at Shakespeare &

Company, including *As You Like It* (Celia), *The Emperor of the Moon* (Bellemante), and *4000 Miles* (Amanda, BTCC Award Nomination). [www.zoelaiz.com](http://www.zoelaiz.com).



**ALEXANDREA MALLIA** (Benvolio) (she/her) is a NYC Meisner trained actor, director, producer, illustrator, and Japanese translator. After spending thirteen years working toward an illustration career in Japan, she was inspired to pursue the life of a performing artist. Since making the switch she was

been in a number of productions both in film and on stage. She started her own theatre company, Crow Theatre Co, in 2019, producing three successful shows in the first year of its inauguration, and studied at a variety of programs, such as The New York Film Academy, John DeSotelle Studio, and Artist Gym. <https://www.alexandreamallia.com>

---

---

## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST



**JAMISON MONELLA** (Tybalt) (he/she/they) is a New York based actor, model, and playwright. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Theater Performance from Juniata College. Credits include Dorian in *(The Picture of Dorian Gray)* at New York Fringe, Creon in *Citizen Cyborg* at Planet Connections, Pat in *Drones* at Planet Connections, Joshua in *Corpus Christi* at The Tank,

and as Max in *Death of a Bachelor* at New York Theater Festival (also playwright). International credits include Danny in *American Western* at the Int'l Dublin Gay Theatre Fest and Hamlet in *Hamlet* at the Edinburgh Fringe.

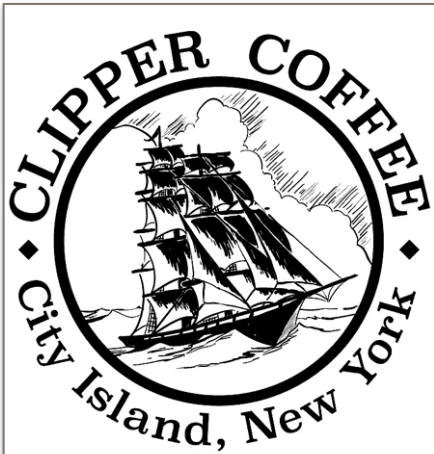


**MICHAEL TEMPLE** (director, Mercutio) (he/him) As an actor/writer/director, Michael is thrilled to bring this inaugural Players Temple production of *Romeo & Juliet* to City Island with the invaluable help of All Hands after playing Beane in their production of *Love Song*. Some other favorite regional acting credits include Benedick (*Much Ado About Nothing*); Bottom

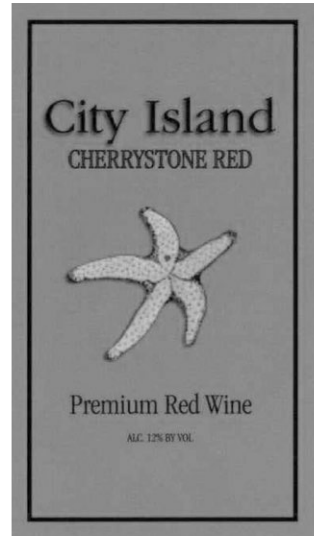
(*A Midsummer Night's Dream*); and Silvio (*Servant of Two Masters*). Training: AMDA (NY/LA); BADA (Oxford). Michael looks forward to producing more work under the Players Temple banner in more theaters across New York City and hopes you enjoy this production of one of his favorite Shakespeare plays as we all continue striving for more to do with love than hate. Always.

### *Special thanks to*

Jillian Wybenga  
Barbara Lee  
Rick Sordelet  
Megan and Mike Mervilde  
Jerry Landi  
Peter Gennari  
Cinema on the Sound



Clipper Coffee  
 274 City Island Avenue  
 City Island, NY 10464  
[www.clippercoffeeny.com](http://www.clippercoffeeny.com)



City Island  
 CHERRYSTONE RED  
 Premium Red Wine  
ALC. 12% BY VOL.

JGL Wines & Liquors Inc.  
 358 City Island Avenue  
 City Island, NY 10464  
[jgl358@verizon.net](mailto:jgl358@verizon.net)  
 718-885-0200

# Support All Hands Theatre Co.

*We love bringing you live theater!  
 We take pride in the high quality performances we  
 get to bring to you on City Island!  
 But we can't do it without you.*

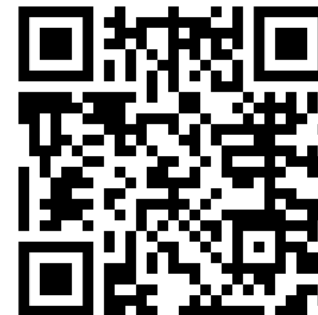
*Whether you're a theater lover who contributes  
 financially or with your time,  
 or you choose to advertise your business with us,  
 we deeply appreciate your support of live theater  
 here on City Island.*



270 CITY ISLAND AVE BRONX NEW YORK 10464  
 TICKETS AT [TICKETLEAP.COM](http://TICKETLEAP.COM) CINEMA ON THE SOUND

For information about purchasing ad space  
 or giving to AHTC, visit us at  
[www.allhandstheatreco.com/support](http://www.allhandstheatreco.com/support)

Or use this QR code.



*Feel the joy of acting!*



Private and Scene Study Classes  
 available for adults, teens and children

**All Hands Theatre Co.**

[www.allhandstheatreco.com](http://www.allhandstheatreco.com) 916-271-4362 [info@allhandstheatreco.com](mailto:info@allhandstheatreco.com)

