

The Making Of...



Message from the Director

Just four years ago, St. Joseph's Private School, Kuching was established. Nonetheless, we are proud to present William Shakespeare's final play, *The Tempest*. What you will see on stage tonight is the fruition of months of tireless hard work, unwavering focus and steadfast commitment by all the one hundred and thirty over students on and behind the stage. I applaud and congratulate every single one of these children of St Joseph's.

At first, Shakespeare seemed like an odd choice, his plays are not the easiest to understand and the visuals, not the most spectacular. The students would have to critically study the play and then express that interpretation creatively on and behind the stage. What convinced me were the students' interest and passion and the teachers' confidence that we wanted to do something different, something challenging and something that would be worth the effort. The students wanted to learn, so we provided them the opportunity and the support.

Indeed, producing a play of such magnitude calls for the support of the whole school. It involves the cast, the prop makers, the set designers, the costume designers, the make-up artists, the backstage and technical crew, the musicians, the writers, the publicists, the ticket sellers, the ushers, and others. The list is a long one. While I cannot name every single one here, I appreciate and thank all the teachers, support staff and the parents. The students couldn't have done it without you.

I want to also thank you, for your support and for coming to see our play. We worked hard and we hope our efforts will be enough. For without your help our plan to please you has failed. Thank you for indulging us.

Education Beyond the Ordinary

GERALD LEE
Director
St. Joseph's Private School

Message from The Principal

My heartiest congratulations to the cast and crew of The Tempest in their efforts in bringing William Shakespeare to life in Kuching.

It has been a long journey filled with both lights and shadows, highs and lows. Just as there was light in the camaraderie and joy experienced during the run-up to the play, there were also shadows in the difficulties that arose during the long hours of rehearsals and preparation. The play that you see is a result of the sweat and toil of many in school, a labour of love that was many months in the making.

As a school managed by the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits), we're happy to continue the long tradition that Jesuits have had with drama. The first recorded performance of a Jesuit school play was in 1551 at the Jesuit College in Messina, Italy. As the Jesuit colleges and schools spread all over Europe in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, drama in schools proliferated as well.

Drama was seen as a valuable way of developing students in rhetoric, language and religious values. The Jesuits and many before and after them realised that drama was inherently didactic in that it not only deepened the learning processes of the students involved but could also inspire and edify the audience as well.

The same process has happened with us in The Tempest. Our cast members did not just learn how to act and speak well on stage. The experience of being able to think and feel with their respective characters allowed them to appreciate the play at a deeper level. Shakespeare no longer stays as words on a page but becomes an experience, a personal event. Our crew learned teamwork and coordination and were able to recognise the importance of their behind-the-scenes work in ensuring that the actors were clothed, the stage was set and well lit for the performance.

This production was a student-centred one and thus we recognise the crucial role our teachers played in supporting and guiding the students at every step of the way.

We hope that you will be enthralled by the beauty of Shakespeare's tale of The Tempest and the exploration of the intricacies of our own human nature. We hope that you will be moved by the grief, uplifted by the joy and amused by the antics of those on stage. And most importantly, we hope that the abiding theme of conversion and reconciliation will remind you of the abundant love that God has for all on earth.

May you be blessed with God's abundant love always.

FR FRANCIS LIM CHIN CHOY, SJ Principal St. Joseph's Private Secondary School

With the help of your good hands:

Gentle breath of yours my sails

Must fill, or else my project fails

Which was to please...

As you from crimes would pardon'd be

Let your indulgence set me free.

Prospero, Epilogue

Synopsis

Act 1

The play opens with a fierce storm, which threatens to sink a ship carrying the King of Naples and other noblemen. The tempest is conjured by Prospero, a powerful magician who controls a group of spirits who worsen the storm and set fire to the ship. The sailors struggle to keep the ship afloat but to no avail and the noblemen abandon the ship in terror.

On a nearby island, Prospero returns to the simple cave where he lives to meet his distraught daughter, Miranda, who is upset by the storm. Prospero tells his daughter that he caused the storm to exact revenge on people who wronged him in the past. He explains that he used to be the Duke of Milan but was banished to this island by his brother Antonio. They arrived when Miranda was still a small child. Prospero then calls upon his servant Ariel, a spirit from the island, who reports that nobody was harmed in the storm. Prospero gives Ariel instructions and promises him freedom from service after these last tasks. Caliban, a monstrous beast and son of a witch, is also called upon to do further work for Prospero. Ariel then leads Ferdinand, the son of the King of Naples, to Miranda and the two promptly fall in love. Prospero decides to test the love of the young couple by punishing Ferdinand.

Act 2

The nobles from the ship, Alonso (King of Naples), Sebastian (Alonso's brother), Antonio (Prospero's brother and current Duke of Milan), Gonzalo (the King's advisor) along with Adrian and Francisco (nobles from the court) find themselves on the island. They are glad to be alive and but Alonso is mourning the death of his son Ferdinand whom he presumed has drowned. As the nobles banter, Ariel arrives and puts everyone to sleep except Antonio and Sebastian. Antonio tries to convince Sebastian to kill Alonso and take over as King of Naples. Just as they are about to do the deed, Ariel returns to wake everyone up. They leave to look for Ferdinand.

On another part of an island, Trinculo, the court jester, finds a frightened Caliban on the ground. After hiding under Caliban's cloak to get out of a storm, Stephano a drunken butler comes and sees the two on the ground. He finds his friend Trinculo and they celebrate their reunion with drink. Stephano gives Caliban a drink of his alcohol, causing the latter to think that Stephano is more powerful than Prospero. Caliban takes Stephano as his new master and leave to do further mischief.

-INTERMISSION-

Act 3

Ferdinand has been tasked to stack heavy logs and this task makes Miranda sad. They meet and express their deep love for each other, both wanting to marry and spend their lives together. An invisible Prospero witnesses this and is touched, deciding to end the test of the young lovers.

The drunk trio of Stephano, Trinculo and Caliban continue in their merry way and begin to plot to take over the island. Caliban tells Stephano that he can be king of the island if he kills Prospero. Stephano drunkenly agrees while Trinculo is a little less convinced. Ariel lures them away with music as they lurch away with their plan to take over the island

Alonso, Sebastian, Antonio, Gonzalo, Adrian and Francisco witness a banquet on the island but soon realise that it is but an illusion. Ariel returns and chastises the 'Three men of sin', Alonso, Antonio and Sebastian for their roles in banishing Prospero. This leaves the three men in a state of terror and guilt.

Act 4

Prospero tells Ferdinand that he will no longer punish him, but instead will give his daughter's hand in marriage to him. Prospero conjures a beautiful wedding party with Ariel and the spirits as goddesses and nymphs to celebrate the occasion. However, in the middle of the celebrations, Prospero remembers Caliban's plot and has Ariel distract the drunken trio with flashy clothes so that they fail to carry out their plan.

Act 5

Prospero instructs Ariel to gather all the men who were shipwrecked on the island. He has a change of heart and decides to forgive and not punish those who plotted against him. Ariel brings the bewildered noblemen around Prospero who reprimands some of them. Ariel helps to remove Prospero's magic coat and staff and dresses him as a Duke of Milan once more. The nobles regain their senses and are astonished. Prospero reveals that Ferdinand is indeed alive and betrothed to Miranda, much to the delight of Alonso. Prospero even forgives Sebastian and Antonio for the plotting. The drunken trio of Stephano, Trinculo and Caliban arrive after having been physically punished for their deeds. Prospero forgives them and then announces that they will all return to Naples the following day.

In a final speech, Prospero speaks to the audience and pleads with them to free him by their indulgence so that he can return to become the Duke of Milan.

Modern Script used in the play adapted from: Shakespeare, William. *The Tempest*. Edited by John Crowther. No Fear Shakespeare. New York: SparkNotes, 2003.

Cast



Seated(L-R): Devin, Zachary, Eugene

Second Row: Nicola, Ashley, Meg, Geralyn, Leticia

Third Row: Annette, Jesse, Eddison, Ryan, Roy, Ian, Gerald,

Chloe, Debbie, Tara

Dramatis Personae

On the Island

Zachary as PROSPERO, the Duke of Milan Nicola as MIRANDA, Prospero's daughter Devin as CALIBAN, a native of the Island Gerald as ARIEL, an airy spirit

Nobles from the Court of Naples

Geralyn as ALONSO, King of Naples Annette as ANTONIO, Prospero's brother Chloe as SEBASTIAN, Alonso's brother Ian as GONZALO, an honest old counsellor Meg as FRANCISCO, a lord

Debbie as ADRIAN, a lord

Eugene as FERDINAND, Alonso's son

From the Ship

Ryan as TRINCULO, a jester
Eddison as STEPHANO, a drunken butler
Jesse as the BOATSWAIN
Devin as the MASTER of the ship

Spirits of the Island

Leticia as CERES, a spirit Ashley as IRIS, a spirit Tara as JUNO, a spirit Jesse and Roy as SPIRITS



Production Manager
Ashley Yap



DirectorCheryl Ann Teng



Stage Managers



(L-R): Jordan, Aneesha(H), Joshua

Wardrobe & Make-Up



Seated(L-R): Fiona, Selina, Larissa(H), Amanda Bon, Esther Standing(L-R): Jemima, Xin Ying, Jocelyn, Tiffany, Samantha, Kelly, Ariana Ashlyn(H), Charlotte, Grace, Amy, Amanda Suling, Rachel, Magdalene

Administration



(L-R): Xin Yi, Sephine, Jeremy(H), Sushil, Hendrix, Zachary

Sets



Front(L-R): Leonard, Dennis, Lucas, Duncan, Alex(H),

Clement, Brandon, Cody, Theodore

Back(L-R): Britnie, Germaine, Arielle, Amelia(H),

Jasmine, Yu Fei

Props



(L-R): Gordon, Ashley, Sharon(H), Yu Syn, Chris

Publicity



(L-R):Aloysius, Rishika, Cassandra Shim, Jeannie, Serene, Natasha(H), Tresha, Alyssa, Cassandra Ho, Belle, Ethan

Ticketing



(L-R):Ben, Amanda, Aileen, Ivo, Joel, Terry(H), Harnesh, Allysia, Abigail, Ann

Technical



(L-R): Victor, Gordon, Brandon(H), Tristan, Yang Ai, Chie Liang

Music & Multimedia



(L-R): Tia, Rui Jie, Kirstin(H), Sebastian(H), Vernon, Chris

Teachers Production Committee

Advisor: Mr Gerald Lee

Production Managers: Fr Francis Lim. SJ. Sr Marie Celine Wee. SSFS

Direction: Sch Stanley Goh, SJ, Fr Alvin Ng, SJ, Ms Lucilla Chin

Artistic Direction: Ms Lye Mei Yin
Master of Ceremonies: Ms Vivien Ng

Music:

Ushers.

Stage Management: Ms Christina Kong

Sets: Ms Dora Teo. Ms Ho Ngo Lee, Mr Felix Jilam

Wardrobe: Ms Doris Ting, Ms Christine Jussem, Ms Juliet Nawe.

Sr Cecelia Norma, SSFS

Ms Christina Yong

Make-up: Ms Tan Gek Hua, Ms Angela Sating,

Ms Shirley Chong, Ms Carinth Elbes,

Ms Yeo Miaw Charn

Props: Mr Ong Kheng Syn, Ms Chua Suk Ngo,

Mr Nichol Thomas

Technical: Mr Roger Chai, Mr Benjamin Lau, Ms Imelda Sim

Multimedia: Mr John Yap, Ms Priscilla Hiu

Publicity: Ms Mary Chai, Ms Phoebe Sim, Ms Mildred Yii

Programme: Ms Geraldine Ong, Ms Maria Ritikos

Ticketing: Ms Vanessa Kelly, Ms Jessica Lendl, Ms Amy Ting,

Ms Susanna Juan

Front-of-House/Hall: Ms Christina Michael, Ms Bong Wan Yuan,

Ms Michelle Tang, Mr Mario Facer, Ms Ginov Novonh. Ms Navud Naeh

Ms Satila Nantie ak Tomin, Ms Sylvia Ho,

Mr Chong Joong Min, Ms Carrie Chung,

Ms Helena Liwin, Ms Jeyslind Gago

Administration: Ms Annie Wong, Mr Paul Voon

Treasurer: Ms Felicia Koh, Mr Raphael Barita, Ms Jean Chong

Traffic Control: Mr Kelvin Harry, Mr Kho Han Hui, Mr Jesse Madigen

Crowd Control/Discipline: Mr Felix Alla, Mr Andrew Hii, Ms Connie Jemini,

Ms Eleanor Ruth, Ms Felicity Dara, Ms Jong Zit Hua,

Ms Monica Gordon, Ms Nancy Ting,

Ms Nerissa Guang, Mr Ricky Gundah

Protocol: Mr Kho Thong Eng, Ms Evelyn Michael,

Ms Sharon Chong, Ms Nancy Ong

Food/Refreshments: Ms Maria Huang, Ms Japni Jawi

Behind The Scenes





Acknowledgements

The cast and crew of The Tempest would like to express their gratitude to the following people, without whose help, the production would not have been possible.

We thank Mr Alex Lee, Mr Joshua Noel Bong, Ms Mary Voon, Mdm Rafidah Morshidi, Ms Joanna Yap, the staff from Motion Foundry, the priests and staff of St Joseph's Cathedral Parish.

We would also like to thank all parents as well as benefactors of the school for their support.

Be not afeard.

The isle is full of noises,

sounds, and sweet airs that give delight and hart not.

Sometimes a thousand twangling instruments will ham about mine ears, and sometime voices that, if I then had waked after long sleep, will make me sleep again.

And then, in dreaming,

the clouds methought would open

and show riches ready to drop upon me,

that when I waked

I cried to dream again.

Caliban, Act 3 Scene ii