

STAGE COACH PLAYERS PROUDLY PRESENTS



The Lion in Winter

A Comedy Directed
by David W. Booth

by James Goldman

September 12-14, and 19-21
7:30 p.m.

September 22 2 p.m.

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stagecoachers.com for tickets

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PLAYERS**



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*Stage Coach Players dedicate
the 2013 season to the fond memory of*

Lana Marten

The Lion in Winter

A Comedy in Two Acts

By James Goldman

SYNOPSIS

The Time: Christmas 1183

The Place: Henry's Castle at Chinon, France

ACT I

Scene 1: Alais' chamber Christmas Eve Day
Scene 2: A reception hall Immediately following
Scene 3: Eleanor's chamber Short time later
Scene 4: A reception hall Immediately following
Scene 5: Eleanor's chamber Not long afterwards
Scene 6: Philip's chambers Immediately following

ACT II

Scene 1: Henry's chamber A short time after
Scene 2: Alais' chamber Early the next morning
Scene 3: The wine cellar Immediately following

The audience is invited to meet the cast and crew in the lobby after tonight's performance. They ask for a few minutes of your patience, as the king has not granted permission for them to appear in public places in medieval attire.

Special Thanks

The Society for Creative Anachronism, Craig Gilbertson,
Immanuel Lutheran Church, Domino's Pizza, Cracker Jax,
Audrey Helm

Director David W. Booth
Asst. Director/Stage Manager Darlene Hillman
Asst. Stage Manager Jan Booth
Set Designer David W. Booth
Costume Designers Janet Rosenberg, Norm Read,
Winifred Halsey, Joanne Gardner
Light Designer Bridget Johnson
Properties Designers Kerig Anthenat, Jan Booth
Hair/Make-Up Designer Keely Smith
Sound Designer Tom Grady
Graphic Design Wendy Tritt

Cast

Henry II, *King of England* Norm Read
Alais, *a French Princess* Anya Helm
John, *the youngest son*. Dalton Bates
Geoffrey, *the middle son* Jeffrey Svendsen
Richard the Lionheart, *the oldest son*. Scott Montavon
Eleanor, *Henry's wife* Amanda-Claire Lowe
Philip II, *King of France* Jacob Aust

Crew

Master Builder Scott Montavon
Set Construction Jacob Aust, Dalton Bates, David Booth,
Jan Booth, Bob Cain, Craig Dybas, Anya Helms,
Darlene Hillman, Amber, Mason, Brody & Isla Kelley,
Amanda-Claire Lowe, Jesse Martin, Scott Morris,
Dave Pearson, Norm Read, Rachel Saltz,
Bernie Schuneman, Jeffrey Svendsen,
Vince Virtue, Abi Zwinklis
Set Artists Anya Helm, Rachel Saltz, Jacob Aust
Lighting Mark Hunyard
Light Board Operator Andee Larson
Stage Crew Kerig Anthenat, Jesse Bart, Rick Bivens,
Jan Booth, Karen Mantz, Jesse Martin, Vince Virtue
Set Consultants Sean Henson, Barbara Kolb

Cast



Jacob Aust (Philip) is a student at NIU, studying Metals and Jewelry. He is returning to a Stagecoach performance for the second time after first appearing in *A Christmas Carol* in 2012. He has no formal training but has found a hobby in acting with stagecoach and plans to further his involvement with the stage.



Dalton Bates (John) is really enjoying his third theater experience. Other than acting, he enjoys playing bass guitar in a band called *Anemic Panda*. You can visit *Anemic Panda* on Face Book and check out his music.



Anya Helm (Alais) is making her debut on the SCP stage. She is very grateful for the opportunity to try a new artistic avenue. In the past, she has worked on set building, props, backstage crew, costumes, makeup and hair for Stage Coach Player's productions of *Jesus Christ Superstar* and *Shrek: The Musical*.



Amanda-Claire Lowe (Eleanor) is delighted to be making her Stage Coach debut as Eleanor of Aquitaine. Amanda-Claire has her BA in theatre from Lewis University where she performed in several productions; favorites include Sister Aloysius in *Doubt* and Kate in *Sylvia*. Amanda-Claire is a proud Actors' Equity Association member candidate.



Scott Montavon (Richard the Lionheart) has been in numerous productions at SCP in the last few years. He is very excited to be part of this show. When not on stage, Scott plies his trade as an ironworker and lives in Sycamore, Illinois, with his wife, Cheri, and sons, Skyler and Jarod.

The Lion - you've heard it sleeps, but not tonight!



Jerry & Annette Johns





Norm Read (Henry II) has appeared in many roles with SCP since his debut in *Camelot* in 1998, and is excited to play the one lead role he has most desired. Past favorites include Sheriff Dodd in *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*, Matthew in *Anne of Green Gables*, and Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol*. He has also worked backstage as costumer, stage manager, and director, as well as serving twice on SCP's board of directors, and he received the 2006 SCOTY award. Norm lives in Kingston, Illinois, with his lovely wife, Winifred, whom he thanks for her patience and support.



Jeffrey Svendsen (Geoffrey) has been involved with agriculture and public service for a majority of his life. After graduating from Illinois State University with a BS in Agriculture Communication & Leadership, he turns his attention down a new path of entertainment on the stage rather than in the classroom.



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Crew




David W. Booth (Director) is on the faculty and has served as the marketing director for the NIU School of Theatre and Dance since 1997. He holds a MS degree from NIU in organizational development and has studied with the MFA in directing program at the School of Theatre and Dance. He has been associated with DeKalb's Stage Coach Players since 1989, where he has served as vice president, been on the board three times, headed several committees, directed numerous productions and was a recipient of the SCOTY award in 1998. For the last three years, he has conducted workshops for experienced and aspiring actors. He most recently appeared onstage as Rote in *Wait Until Dark* (2011), but his favorite and most challenging roles have been Nunzio Cristana in *Over the River and Through the Woods*, (2008), and Owen Musser in *The Foreigner* (2003). Recent directing credits include SCP's *The Dining Room*, a production which was invited to compete in the Region III American Association of Community Theatres festival this past April, the first SCP Black Box Production of *Seeking Flight* (2011), *November* (2010), and *Heaven Can Wait* (2007), but his favorites still include *Earth and Sky* (2006) and *Dracula* (2005).

Jan Booth (Assistant Stage Manager/Properties) has been involved with Stage Coach Players for many years in a variety of roles, both on stage and off. She is currently serving on SCP's board of directors. When not at the theatre, Jan teaches for Concordia University, is a co-director of the Illinois Writing Project, and enjoys canine agility training. She lives in DeKalb with her husband, David, and their five animal companions.



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Darlene Hillman (Stage Manager) last appeared on stage in *And Then There Were None*. She enjoys her back stage time, having served as stage manager for several productions. She has been on the board of Stage Coach Players and received the SCOTY award in 2010. Darlene is the office manager at Immanuel Lutheran Church.

Bridget Johnson (Light Design) has been involved in theater almost her whole life. This will be her seventh show with SCP and her fourth backstage. She wants to thank her parents for the continued support.

Kerig Anthenat (Properties) most recently worked on props for *Red Herring*. She has also done props for Stage Coach Players with *The Dining Room*, *Seeking Flight*, and *Steel Magnolias*. She is thrilled to be working with David and Jan Booth again.



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Director's Notes

I don't recall ever having directed a play that has inspired so many people to tell me how much they were looking forward to seeing it onstage.

I might have thought some of them remembered the 1968 movie, starring Peter O'Toole, who won a Golden Globe for his performance as Henry II, and Katharine Hepburn, who won the Oscar for best actress that year, as Eleanor of Aquitaine. However, many people who have approached me weren't even born until after this movie was released.

Even in the rehearsal process, the question that began, "Whatever happened to..." came up quite often amongst our cast and crew.

The Lion in Winter is a fictional account of one Christmas holiday during the latter years of the reign of King Henry II of England. Though not accurate in a true historical sense, this event never actually took place, I was surprised to learn during my research on the time period in which this play is set that many of the author's depictions of the characters and their interactions in the play were very much based on the historical record of events leading up to the year 1183 (see Dramaturgical Notes elsewhere in this program).

So, what is it that is so compelling about this story?

I think the partial answer is that all of the characters in this play are depictions of real people. There is written history on every one of them. However, I think the remainder of the explanation of interest is the American fascination with all things related to English royalty, even if those royal figures weren't all that good at what they were supposed to do—some of them, including all three of Henry II of England's sons were terrible, if not horrible, as leaders. I don't get it, but the fascination is an undeniable fact, and I will leave it at that.

—David W. Booth



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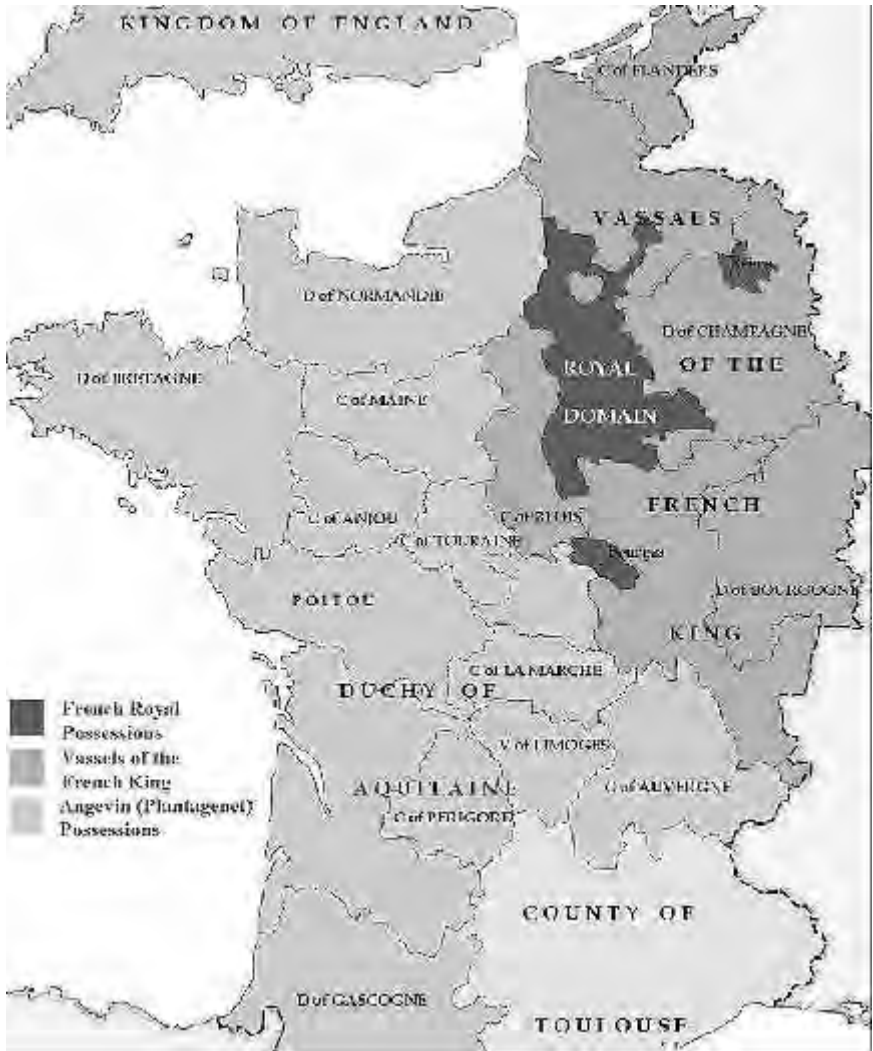
Dramaturgical Notes

“Henry Fitz-Empress, the first Plantagenet.” Henry II was the son of the “Empress” Matilda (so-called because of her first marriage to the Holy Roman Emperor Henry V) and Geoffrey the Fair, Count of Anjou, Maine, & Touraine, who was also known as “Plantagenet” for the spring flower, *planta genista*, that he would wear in his cap. Matilda was the only surviving child of Henry I of England, and tried to claim the throne upon his death, only to see her cousin Stephen take it. Henry began leading troops into battle against King Stephen at age 14, and in 1153 forced a peace treaty naming Henry heir to the throne. Stephen died shortly thereafter, making Henry King of England, *“Done at 21.”*

“He married, out of Love, a woman out of legend.” Eleanor was the most desirable heiress in Europe after inheriting the Duchy of Aquitaine in her own right upon the death of her father, Duke William X. She was married at a young age to Prince Louis, who shortly became King Louis VII of France. After years of marriage, including participating in the disastrous Second Crusade, Eleanor had managed to only bear Louis two daughters, and created a certain amount of scandal at Court, so King Louis had their marriage annulled on the grounds of consanguinity. She almost immediately married then-Count Henry, and soon became Queen of England.

“The Young King died in summer, and I haven’t named an heir.” Queen Eleanor then proved quite prolific, and bore Henry five sons and three daughters. Their first son, William, died in infancy, but the second, young Henry, grew up and was crowned as co-monarch with his father. King Henry would never grant his son any real power, however, and Young Henry often revolted against his father. Eleanor supported her son in his rebellion of 1173, and when the elder Henry triumphed, he had her imprisoned in England for the rest of his life. In the summer of 1183, Young Henry was again in rebellion, but took ill, and when he realized he was dying, he begged for his father’s forgiveness. He is said to have died clutching in his hand the ring that King Henry sent to him as a token of forgiveness.

This has set the stage for the events that are portrayed in *The Lion in Winter*. Although the events and intrigues of several years are compressed into one fictitious Christmas Court in Chinon, the play does present a reasonably plausible account of the relationships, conflicts, and struggles of this dysfunctional Royal Family.



Our history, when it is written,
will show that our patrons led us well.

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<p>2013</p> <p>October 13: Otello, Lyric Opera of Chicago</p> <p>October 19: OpenHouse Chicago</p> <p>October 27: OnStage Alaska</p> <p>November 3-8: Christmas at the Biltmore Estate and Asheville \$499</p> <p>November 13: Wicked! At Oriental Theater.</p> <p>December 11: Hello Dolly! Drury Lane (lunch and matinee)</p> <p>December 07: Chicago Shopping Day.</p> <p>December 26-January 3: New Years' Caribbean cruise</p>	<p>2014</p> <p>February 7-9: Winter Carnival in Quebec</p> <p>February 23-March 01: WWII Museum and New Orleans \$599</p> <p>April 10-15: Cherry Blossom Festival/Washington D.C. \$549</p> <p>April: Panama Canal (full transit) 100th Anniversary cruise</p> <p>May 4: THE SOUND OF MUSIC</p> <p>May: Canada Transcontinental Rail Vista trip</p> <p>June: Alaska, Denali(3 nights) and the Yukon</p> <p>July 21-25: Stratford Festival of Canada</p> <p>October: New England and Canada Fall Colors</p>
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Thank you for attending today's performance of *The Lion in Winter*. What a classic story director David Booth and his talented cast bring to our stage.

We have quite the ambitious schedule for the remaining months of 2013. In October we present *Rope*, directed by G. Scott Morris. There is plenty of intrigue in this show, and it formed the basis of the 1948 Alfred Hitchcock film. Set in London 1966, two undergraduates murder a fellow classmate. They place the body in a wooden chest, then invite a few acquaintances, including the dead youth's grandfather, to a party, the chest serving as a supper table. The horror and tension are worked up gradually as we see the guests leave, and view the reactions of the two murderers, watched by the suspecting Rupert Cadell."

November brings *Annie* directed by Sue Price Johnson. This favorite Broadway family musical is set in the depths of the 1930's. Annie is a young orphan girl who must live in a miserable orphanage run by Miss Hannigan. Her hopeless situation changes when she is selected to spend time at the residence of the wealthy Oliver Warbucks. He decides to help Annie find her long lost parents by offering a reward if they would come to him and prove their identity. However, Miss Hannigan and friends, plan to impersonate those people to get the reward for themselves.

Rounding out the year is our traditional presentation of Charles Dicken's *A Christmas Carol*. This year's adaption is by the director Amanda Smothers, who brings a fresh look at a classic holiday show. We do hope you will make plans to attend one of the 5 performances. As always, the Saturday matinee performance will be to benefit the Salvation Army Toys for Tots program.

Dates and times for all the shows are listed within your program.

As always we appreciate your support of our theatre and are delighted you chose Stage Coach Players for your live theatre entertainment.

Our best,
The SCP Board of Directors, 2013-2014

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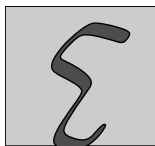
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2013 Season

The Lion in Winter

by James Goldman • Directed by David W. Booth
Sep 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21, 2013 at 7:30 pm
Sep 22, 2013 at 2:00 pm

Rope

by Patrick Hamilton • Directed by G. Scott Morris
Oct 10, 11, 12 17, 18, 19, 2013 at 7:30 pm
Oct 20, 2013 at 2:00 pm

Annie

Music by Charles Strouse • Lyrics by Martin Charnin
Book by Thomas Meehan • Directed by Sue Johnson
Nov 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 2013 at 7:30 pm
Nov 9, 10, 16, 17, 2013 at 2:00 pm

A Christmas Carol

Adapted by Amanda Smothers from a story by Charles Dickens
Directed by Amanda Smothers
Dec 12, 13, 14, 2013 at 7:30 pm
Dec 14,15, 2013 at 2:00 pm

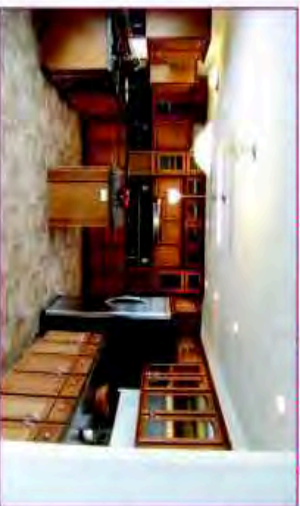
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