



Park House Community Initiative proudly sponsors:

The Doha Players

5 QR
Souvenir
programme

The Tempest

by William Shakespeare

Directed by James Mirrione
and Kim C Sturgess

VENUE

Qatar National Convention
Centre, Auditorium 3

Gharafat al Rayyan

D A T E S

Saturday 7th November at 19:00
Sunday 8th November at 19:00
Monday 9th November at 19:00
Tuesday 10th November at 19:00

TICKETS

Available online at:
www.q-tickets.com

For offline tickets, contact:
marketing@thedohaplayers.com

With special thanks to our main sponsor:



Park House
Community Initiative

Venue Partner:



مركز قطر الوطني للمؤتمرات
Qatar National Convention Centre
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Dear Friends,

I am delighted that the Park House Community Initiative is supporting the Doha Players with their production of *The Tempest*.

The Park House Community Initiative was launched in 2012 to ensure children of all ages, and adults, from Park House, and the wider community, are provided with world-class extracurricular activities and extra-educational opportunities. The initiative currently offers over 140 activities from Swimming to Stemclub, Cresstar to the Cross Stitch. It is a not-for-profit and was established to further invest in not only Park House: our children and parents, but also the wider community and to deliver events such as tonight's production.

The Park House Community Initiative currently supports a wide range of community activities: The Doha Players as the main sponsor, the Park House Caledonia team in the Qatar Amateur Football League; Doha Hockey Club as the main sponsor, the Doha Baroque Ensemble and Bach Coral Society as the main sponsor, West Bay Racing as the main sponsor and the Doha Community Orchestra as the main sponsor.

There are many great ideas being generated in our community and often all that is needed is a little support; financial, logistical or administrative, to bring these ideas to fruition. Tonight's production is a fine example: The Doha Players are very much a part of the fabric of our community and this production is the culmination of many dedicated amateurs giving their time to deliver first class entertainment.

This is the third production that the Park House Community Initiative has sponsored this year and we are not stopping here! The Park House Community Initiative and the Doha Players plan to deliver many more productions, the details of which will be available in the months to come.

I hope that you enjoy the show.

Niall Brennan



Directors Message

The directors and cast of The Tempest would like to welcome you all to this wonderful theatre. We would like to thank our main sponsor Park House Community Initiative and The deVere Group for their financial support of our artistic endeavours. Also, our thanks goes to our partners Qatar National Convention Centre (QNCC), AMLAK, American Community School and QISC for providing premises necessary to produce top quality drama.

On stage tonight members of the Doha Players will perform for you. However, it is all those unseen members in the background: the costumers, set builders, makeup artists, stage hands, ushers and box office crew who make all this rough magic become a reality. What you will hear and observe on this stage tonight is the result of a team of dedicated volunteers, all of whom have willingly given their time and skills to ensure the people of Doha can enjoy live drama. We salute you all.

James and Kim





A Brief History Of The Doha Players Founded 1954

The Doha Players are a not-for-profit group with members from all over the world who love community theatre.

The late 1940s and early 1950s saw the beginnings of the emerging oil and gas industries in Qatar. With it came a great need for experts versed in the business, and expatriates began arriving. There wasn't much for them to do in Qatar outside of work 60 years ago, so they made their own entertainment. That included amateur dramatics, and thus the Doha Players were born. Their first production, *Bird in Hand*, was staged in 1954.

The Doha Players performed the early productions in their homes and later used space in a furniture store. But after many years of successful shows, it was time to start thinking about building a theatre. In 1978, with architects' drawings, a financial plan and a lot of hope, the Doha Players, led by Jennie Jones, set out to make it happen. On December 16, 1979, a theatre officially opened, with a staging of the play *Humpty Dumpty*.

A "golden age" for the Doha Players ensued and an endless stream of ambitious productions were staged, with three or four shows a year, including *The Pirates of*

Penzance, *HMS Pinafore*, *Blood Brothers*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Oliver* and *The Sound of Music* to name but a few. The Doha Players Theatre and the adjacent West End facilities were also used for rehearsals, dance classes, workshops, music nights, cabarets, film shows, concerts and other social functions that have always been popular and, often, instant sellouts.

Since late 2005 the Doha Players have been performing plays at a number of excellent theatres in Doha. The theatre group's recent productions include *Peter Pan*, *Macbeth* and *The Dining Room*. In 2014 the Doha Players became one of the first adult community theatre groups worldwide to be granted a license to perform the longest running musical in history, *Les Miserables*, at Qatar National Theatre. The show comprised almost 50 amateur actors on stage and 80 volunteers working behind the scenes.

The group is always looking for new actors, musicians, directors, costumers, props managers, painters, set builders, sound and lighting experts and much more. The Doha Players – entertaining the people of Qatar for more than 60 years.

In memory of our friend Jonathan Adams

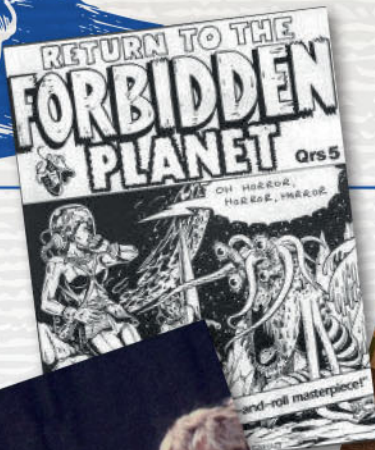
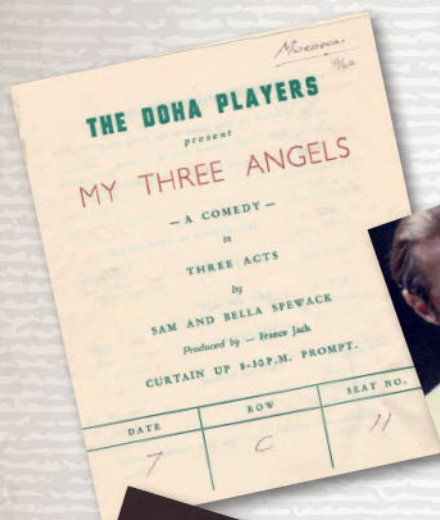


Photo Archive





The Tempest

By William Shakespeare

The first recorded performance of *The Tempest* was at the royal court of King James I on All Hallows' Day, November 1611. This date is perhaps significant as All Hallows' eve (Halloween) was a time when sorcery, witches and revenge were "celebrated" and the entertainment Shakespeare offered his audience that day included all three. The play text did not appear in print form until the First Folio of 1623.

A simple starting point for any person analysing the play for the first time might be to ask what is the geographical setting for *The Tempest*? The internal evidence within the play text makes it very clear. The island where Prospero and Miranda were marooned is approximately ten leagues - about 30 nautical miles - from the north African city of Tunis, on the sea route from that city to Naples on the Italian peninsula. This is a Mediterranean *Tempest* certainly not an Atlantic one. To confirm this geographical location, throughout the play Shakespeare chose to include references to Milan seventeen times; Naples nineteen times; Tunis nine times and Carthage four times. This is not just a physical location for the play as all the narrative signs and cultural symbols are also of England or the European Mediterranean.

Background Notes

The play is comedy focusing upon a "storm" of emotions. It observes the "unities" in that it covers one single place within the period of a day. *The Tempest* appears to be a rare Shakespeare original story.

Plot

Prospero, the ex-Duke of Milan, and his daughter Miranda are castaways upon an island inhabited by a spirit called Ariel and a demi-monster named Caliban, "a son of witch". Prior to the play, Antonio, Prospero's brother, had planned his murder and usurped his position as Duke of Milan. However, by Act 1 twelve years have passed. Prospero, now a skilled and angry magician, arranges a tempest to shipwreck his brother and fellow conspirators onto his island. He plans to get the King of Naples' son Ferdinand to marry his daughter Miranda thereby righting the great wrong done to him. The King of Naples is returning from Tunis where his daughter has just married a north African King. Prospero uses the spirit Ariel to ensure that Naples and Milan repent their crimes against him have Miranda and Ferdinand marry to begin a new royal dynasty. At the play's close Prospero shows mercy on all those who have plotted against him.

Major themes

Reconciliation rather than revenge. Use of authority and sibling politics.

"Methinks our garments are now
as fresh as when we put them on
first in Afric, at the marriage of
the king's fair daughter Claribel
to the King of Tunis."



Nicolas Rowe edition 1709



Favourite Lines From The Tempest

"These our
actors, as I foretold
you, were all spirits
and are melted
into air."
Act 4, scene 1
Katie

"We are such
stuff as dreams
are made on
and our little life is
rounded by a sleep."
Act 4, scene 1
Mione

"I long to hear the
story of your life,
which must take the
ear strangely."
Act 5, scene 1
Tom

"Full fathom five
thy father lies
And of his bones
are coral made."
Act 1, scene 2
Kat

"Beat him
enough, after a
little time, I'll beat
him too!"
Act 3, scene 2
Gary