

Willing Suspension Productions Presents

A
MAD WORLD,
MY
MASTERS.

*As it hath lately bin in Action
at the Student Theatre at Boston University
Composed by Thomas Middleton*



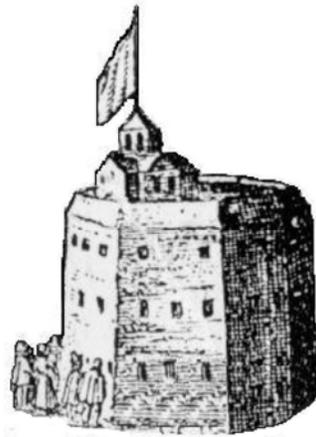
*Under the Direction of Liam Meyer, Kristin Smith
and Matthew Stokes*

*Under the Sponsorship of the English Department,
Humanities Foundation, and the NEH*

5-7 March 2008

The Players

<i>Dick Follywit.....</i>	<i>Jarman Day-Bohn</i>
<i>Sir Bounteous Progress.....</i>	<i>Dan Salerno</i>
<i>Frank Gullman, a Courtesan.....</i>	<i>Emily Gruber</i>
<i>Master Harebrain.....</i>	<i>Lucas Griswold</i>
<i>Mistress Harebrain.....</i>	<i>Emily Brownell</i>
<i>Master Penitent Brothel.....</i>	<i>Owen Schmitt</i>
<i>Leftenant Mawworm.....</i>	<i>Don Meeg</i>
<i>Ancient Hoboy.....</i>	<i>Benjamin DeTora</i>
<i>Gunwater.....</i>	<i>Paul Hansen</i>
<i>Mother Gullman.....</i>	<i>Rebecca Madden</i>
<i>Master Possibility.....</i>	<i>Fabiana Cabral</i>
<i>Master Inesse.....</i>	<i>Ambar Castillo</i>
<i>Molly.....</i>	<i>Samantha Burton</i>
<i>The Constable.....</i>	<i>Paul Hansen</i>
<i>Prudence.....</i>	<i>Fabiana Cabral</i>
<i>The Watch.....</i>	<i>Samantha Burton</i>



The Scene

- Scene 1.....A Street in London
Scene 2.....The House of Sir Bounteous Progress
Scene 3.....A Street in London, again
Scene 4.....Sir Bounteous' House, the next Day
Scene 5.....The House of Master Harebrain
Scene 6.....The Apartments of the Courtesan
Scene 7.....The Street outside the Courtesan's Apartments
Scene 8.....The Courtesan's Apartments
Scene 9.....Harebrain's House
Intermission (15 minutes)
Scene 10.....Sir Bounteous' House
Scene 11.....Another Street in London
Scene 12.....Sir Bounteous' House

The Argument

First performed in London in 1604/5, *A Mad World, My Masters* tells the tale of a young gallant, Dick Follywit, seeking his inheritance before his grandfather, Sir Bounteous Progress, dies. Follywit and his cronies, Mawworm and Hoboy, masquerade as Lord Owemuch and his servants, as bandits, as a courtesan and her pimps, and – finally – as actors in order to steal from Sir Bounteous. Sir Bounteous is, like his name, bounteous, over-generous, and gullible, and falls for Follywit's schemes.

Meanwhile, the Courtesan – Frank Gullman – and Penitent Brothel have set up a plot to allow Penitent to seduce Mistress Harebrain in spite of her husband, the jealous Master Harebrain. In the process, the Courtesan and her Mother (who is also her bawd) manage to con money out of Sir Bounteous, Masters Inesse and Possibility, and even Master Harebrain. The Courtesan and Penitent also adopt roles, she playing an innocent virgin, and he a physician.

Penitent soon repents his liaison with Mistress Harebrain, and he convinces her to become once more faithful to her husband. Follywit's schemes begin to grow too complicated for even him to manage, and he falls victim to – and in love with – the Courtesan, making her an “honest woman.”

The play ends to the satisfaction of all, with all tricks repaid and both Follywit and the Courtesan having achieved their aims.

The Management

Artistic Director.....Liam Meyer
Technical Director.....Kristin Smith
Textual Director.....Matthew Stokes
Producer.....Jennifer Airey
House & Ticketing Manager.....Holly Schaaf

The Crew

Set Design.....Liam Meyer
Set Construction.....
Kirk Bezio, Liam Meyer, Matthew Stokes
Lighting Design.....Kristin Smith
Lighting Crew.....
Michael Dungar, Emily Gruber,
Don Meeg, Kristin Smith
Property Crew.....
Jennifer Airey, Emily Gruber, Liam Meyer, Holly Schaaf,
Kristin Smith, Matthew Stokes
Costume Concept Designer.....Liam Meyer
Costume Crew.....
Jennifer Airey, Holly Schaaf, Kristin Smith,
Matthew Stokes, The Cast
Load-in Crew.....
Jennifer Airey, Kirk Bezio, Jarman Day-Bohn,
Michael Dungar, Benjamin DeTora, Emily Gruber,
Paul Hansen, Don Meeg, Liam Meyer,
Kristin Smith, Matthew Stokes
Ticketing & House Management.....
Holly Schaaf, Jennifer Airey

Meet the Company

Jennifer Airey (PhD) **Producer** – *Mad World* is Jen's second *Willing Suspension* show as a Producer, and her last – she will be leaving us to take a position at the University of Tulsa next year. Congratulations, Jen, and thanks for giving us three years of ferrying to and fro!

Emily Brownell (CAS'11) **Mistress Harebrain** – Emily (Emi) Brownell has been in various plays since an early age, but her most recent production was playing the role of Sandy in the production of "Grease" during her senior year of high school. She would like to thank quite a large number of people for their encouragement, her fellow actors, and the directors-especially Matt for introducing her to *Willing Suspension Productions*. Enjoy!

Samantha Burton (CAS'10) **Molly/First Watch** – Sam is an IR major who hails from the Lone Star State. She recently appeared in "I've Got One, What's Yours?" a one-time ensemble performance inspired by Frank Warren's *PostSecret* and facilitated by Sara Betnel. She lives with the lovely presidents of the Classics House who are known for petting the Dashby and finding Waldo. Her weapon of choice: The Iron.

Fabiana Cabral (CAS'10) **Possibility/Prudence** – Fabiana is a sophomore in CAS, majoring in Psychology, from Caracas, Venezuela. She loves literature and drama, and is thrilled to be performing in an English play for the very first time. This is her first performance with *Willing Suspensions*, and she loved every moment of it. She'd like to thank the directors for all their valuable input, her fellow actors for their talented interpretations of their roles, her friends for coming to watch, and especially her mother for traveling 2205 miles and flying for 6 hours from home to visit her and watch her perform!! Love ya lots Mom!!

Ambar Castillo (CAS'10) **Inesse** – Ambar, a yellow plantain from New York City, is a sophomore in CAS. After acting in Harlem Repertory Theater's 2007 "Once upon an Island," Ambar decided to leave these streets behind her, and—instead of dying like a princess of the rough-and-tough—plans to live the dangers of an international journalist. She is double-majoring in Latin American studies and journalism. Ambar will thus realize her dream of reporting news at Telemundo or Univision right after those extremely long Spanish-broadcast "GOOOOOOOOL!" victorious soccer moments. She is enjoying her second year of cross-dressing in a *Willing Suspension Productions* play.

Jarman Day-Bohn (COM'08) **Follywit** – This is Jarman's 11th theatrical production here at Boston University. He had a wonderful time working with such a fun and talented cast. He would like to thank, first and foremost, Kristin, Matt, and Liam, for showing such incredible patience with him throughout the rehearsal process. He would also like to thank Hally for not leaving him after making her run lines so much, and his friends and family for coming out to see him... yet again.

Benjamin DeTora (CAS'10) **Hoboy** – Benjamin is a Sophomore in the College of Arts and Sciences. He is currently pursuing a Japanese major with a Theatre minor. His previous work with Willing Suspension was Edward II. He aspires to be a whaler on the moon.

Lucas Griswold (CAS'11) **Harebrain** – Lucas is an Archaeology major, and this is his second production at BU, and if anyone wants to see him in a more light-hearted role, they should attend Buried Child, which is coming up in April.

Emily Gruber (MA) **Courtesan** – Emily is an MA student in the English department. Previous dramatic experience includes roles in Eve Ensler's Necessary Targets, Patricia Noonan's The Storykeeper, Thornton Wilder's Our Town and, in high school, immortal adaptations of Little Women and Anne of Green Gables. After playing an angry anorexic, a dissatisfied middle-aged mother, a gender-bending stage manager, an aggravating aunt and a bashful schoolboy, she is unsettled to be taking on a role that requires neither aging, cross-dressing, nor alliteration. Thanks to companionate line-runners and shoe-shoppers, and enjoy the show...

Paul Hansen (CAS'09) **Gunwater/Constable** – Mad World is Paul's second show with Willing Suspension Productions. Last year, he played Lancaster and Trussel in Edward II, and earlier this year he played Snug the Joiner in A Midsummer Night's Dream with Stage Troupe.

Rebecca Madden (CAS'10) **Mother** – Rebecca Madden is a sophomore in the College of Arts and Sciences, majoring in sociology and minoring in theatre arts. In her free time, she produces political cartoons and other witty tid-bits. She would like to thank her family and friends for coming out to see A Mad World, My Masters.

Don Meeg (COM'08) **Mawworm** – This is Don's 3rd performance with Willing Suspensions and 7th at BU. He has previously been seen as Calianax in The Maid's Tragedy and will be playing Dodge in Buried Child in April. He is honored to have been part of this group for the past three years and wishes them the best in future ventures. His time in college has led him to one great conclusion: that the entire universe has been neatly divided into things to (a) mate with, (b) eat, (c) run away from, and (d) rocks.

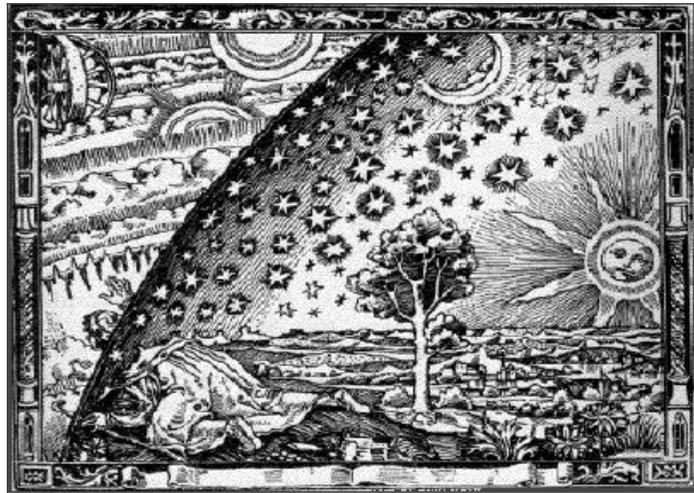
Liam Meyer (PhD) Director – Liam would like to thank the cast and crew and everyone involved for all their hard work and dedication.

Dan Salerno (PhD) Sir Bounteous – “This camp is in mortal danger. The man Hearst is a murderous engine. My friend Swarengen, aware their combat is unequal, feels the appeal of the gory finish. Others I've just come to know stand candidates in the elections, whose results they know may be moot. What, one is disposed to ask, in f*ck ought a theater man to do?”

Owen Schmitt (CAS'10) Penitent Brothel – Currently in limbo over major. Recently appeared with BU Stage Troup along with Paul and Lucas while Jarman hid somewhere in the back and took credit for everything. Normally other semi formal words would be printed here but the author of this bio has had a sudden attack of brain eating algae, because he went swimming in the Charles. On a completely different note, Owen would like to thank all friends and family for still putting up with his life as an actor, even though he continues to claim that he is not a thespian.

Kristin Smith (PhD) Director – After three Willing Suspension productions (The Maid's Tragedy and Edward II), Kristin is simply happy to have survived thus far. She has worked as a technician, designer, stage manager, and director for many years, both in Wisconsin and Boston. Most recently, she joined Actors' Shakespeare Project, and has worked on both Macbeth and Henry V. Thanks to Kirk, Jen, Holly, Liam, Matt, Lucy, Kat, and her parents for all their support... and, in some cases, strong doses of reality.

Matthew Stokes (PhD) Director – This is Matt's triumphant return to Willing Suspension after taking a year off following The Maid's Tragedy. He would like to thank the cast and crew for reminding him just how much he missed the theater.





With most Bounteous Thankꝰ:

Professor Christopher Martin: "His Worth is Great"

Professor William Carroll

Harriet Lane

Rena Luczkiewicz

Leslie & Kerry Simon

Nikki Pierce

The English Department

The Humanities Foundation

The National Endowment for the Humanities

Student Activities Office

Stage Troupe

Emerson College Costume Department

Proletariat

All our friends, family, professors, and students.

Bounteous: We had a play here.

Follywit: A play sir? No.

Bounteous: Yes, faith, a pox on th' Author.

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