Ten Thousand Things opens 2019–2020 season with *The Winter’s Tale* by William Shakespeare

Show tours throughout Twin Cities and Greater Minnesota Oct 5–Nov 17

(Minneapolis, MN) — Ten Thousand Things opens the 2019–2020 season with William Shakespeare’s *The Winter’s Tale*, an epic story that takes us from the tyrannical power of jealousy to the promise of renewal made possible by magic, miracles and forgiveness only true love can bring.

Marcela Lorca directs the show, with music performed by Peter Vitale and songs composed by J.D. Steele. The cast features Stephanie Bertumen, Shá Cage, Cristina Florencia Castro, James Craven, Steven Epp, Christopher Jenkins, Mo Perry, William Sturdivant and Karen Wiese-Thompson.

*The Winter’s Tale* is one of Shakespeare’s most stunning plays,” says Lorca, who is beginning her second year as Ten Thousand Things’ Artistic Director. “It takes us through so many powerful human situations from divisive jealousy and loss to rebirth and forgiveness. It brilliantly weaves storylines that are surprising yet intensely familiar to anyone who has felt the unifying power of love.”

The show tours to several community sites in the Twin Cities before paid public performances at Open Book in Minneapolis (Oct 10-13, 17-20, 24-27) and North Garden Theater in St. Paul (Oct 31-Nov 3, Nov 7-10). It then travels to Red Wing for two community performances and three paid performances at the Sheldon Theater (Nov 15-17).

Tickets at Open Book and North Garden Theatre are $35 (with exception of $20 preview on Oct 10 and $45 benefit on Oct 11). A pay-what-you-can option is available for every performance for audience members under age 30, with a minimum of $15. Tickets are available at www.tenthousandthings.org or 800-838-3006.
Tickets for the Sheldon Theater performances in Red Wing are $26 and are available at sheldontheatre.org.

**Jubilee**
The 2019-2020 season is part of Jubilee, a yearlong, nationwide theatre festival featuring work generated by those who have historically been excluded, including but not limited to artists of color, Native American and Indigenous and First Nations artists, women, non-binary and gender non-conforming artists, LGBTQIA2+ artists, Deaf artists, and artists with disabilities.

**About Ten Thousand Things**
Ten Thousand Things bring lively, intelligent, professional theater to people with little access to the wealth of the arts—who in turn help our artists and traditional audiences re-imagine what theater can be. Theater-goers experience the immediacy and vibrancy of theater through a performance in which there is no stage and the finest actors perform in the middle of the audience, inches away from patrons with minimal sets and costumes.

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*Full performance schedule and ticket information on page 3*
TWIN CITIES PAID PERFORMANCES
Thursday, Friday & Saturday at 7:30 pm; Sundays at 4 pm
Tickets are $35 ($20 tickets for October 10 and $45 tickets for benefit performance on October 11; pay-what-you-can for age 30 and younger with ID available at all shows with $15 minimum)

Thursday, October 10 ($20 preview)  
Friday, October 11 (post-show reception)  
Saturday, October 12  
Sunday, October 13

Thursday, October 17  
Friday, October 18  
Saturday, October 19 (post-show discussion)  
Sunday, October 20

Thursday, October 24  
Friday, October 25  
Saturday, October 26  
Sunday, October 27

Thursday, October 31  
Friday, November 1  
Saturday, November 2 (post-show discussion)  
Sunday, November 3

Thursday, November 7  
Friday, November 8  
Saturday, November 9  
Sunday, November 10

TWIN CITIES COMMUNITY PERFORMANCES ($5 reservation fee, reservations required)

TUE, Oct 8, 1:15 pm, Harbor Lights (1010 Currie Ave, Minneapolis)  
Wed, Oct 9, 3 pm, North Hennepin Community College (7411 85th Ave N, Brooklyn Park)
Mon, Oct 14, 6:30 pm, Episcopal Homes – Kings Crossing (500 Dale St N, St Paul)
Wed, Oct 16, 7 pm, St Paul Jewish Community Center (1375 St Paul Ave, St Paul)
Tue, Oct 29, 1:30 pm, Avalon School (700 Glendale St, St Paul)
Tue, Nov 5, 12:15 pm, Interact Center (1860 W Minnehaha Ave, St Paul)

PRISON PERFORMANCE *Open to media only*

Wed, Oct 23, 1:30pm, Ramsey County Corrections – Women’s Section, St Paul

RED WING PAID PERFORMANCES
Tickets are $26 at www.sheldontheatre.org/buy-tickets

Friday, November 15, 7:30 pm  
Saturday, November 16, 7:30 pm  
Sunday, November 17, 2 pm

RED WING COMMUNITY PERFORMANCES ($5 reservation fee, reservations required)
Thursday, Nov 15th; 1pm at Pier 55 Red Wing Area Seniors (240 Harrison St, #2, Red Wing)

Additional performances not open to media/public: YMCA at Cora McCorvey, Project Success, Epsilon at Hennepin County Home School, Shakopee Women’s Corrections, Ramsey County Corrections – Men’s Section, Red Wing Juvenile Corrections
CAST & CREATIVE TEAM

STEPHANIE BERTUMEN (Perdita, Mamilius, Mariner, Ensemble) has worked with History Theatre, Ordway, Theater Mu, Old Log Theatre, Children’s Theatre Company, and The Old Globe in San Diego, among others. She had the pleasure of serving as guest choreographer for The Great Gatsby at Chaska High School and choreographer for The True Story of the Three Little Pigs at Old Log. Stephanie is a proud graduate of the University of Minnesota/Guthrie Theater BFA Actor Training Program and dedicates her work to the memory of her mother.

SHÁ CAGE (Hermione, Ensemble) is a theater and film actress, director and playwright who most recently directed African School Girls at the Jungle Theater. She was previously seen in TTT’s Henry IV, and in shows with Penumbra, the Guthrie, Park Square, Mixed Blood and Frank Theater. Her play titled Hidden Heroes about the Black women of NASA premiered at Stages Theater in May 2019 and the Negro baseball documentary she’s co-producing, 39 Seconds, is released in late 2019. She is the recipient of a Regional Emmy, Ivey Awards, a McKnight Fellowship, a distinguished Fox/TCG Fellowship and was named a 2017 Artist of the Year by City Pages, a leading artist of her generation by Insight, a Change-maker by Women’s Press, and a Mover and Maker by Mpls STP magazine. Shá is an advocate for human trafficking victims and the proud mother of two.

CRISTINA FLORENCIA CASTRO (Emilia, Dorcas, Cleomense, Ensemble) has acted with Penumbra Theater (For Colored Girls…), Jungle Theater (Anna in the Tropics), Artistry (Wit), Mixed Blood (The House of Spirits), Park Square (August: Osage County), Daleko Arts (The Shape of Things), and Market Garden Theatre (Three Days of Rain). Recent honors include a playwriting residency with the Ingram New Works Project at Nashville Rep, Jerome Many Voices Fellowship at The Playwrights’ Center, and Silver Award in Playwriting from the National YoungArts Foundation. She is an alumna of the University of Minnesota/Guthrie Theater B.F.A. Actor Training Program.

JAMES CRAVEN (Polixenes, Mopsa, Ensemble) is originally from New York City and raised in South Minneapolis. He graduated from Carnegie-Mellon University. He was cast in the musical touring show, “Gospel at Colonus,” and traveled throughout Europe in the 1980s. In the 1990s he lived and worked in Los Angeles and Minneapolis, doing theater (Penumbra Theatre), military training videos, television and movies. This is his first show with Ten Thousand Things.

STEVEN EPP (Leontes, Mopsa, Ensemble) is an actor, writer and co-Artistic Director of The Moving Company. Previous TTT productions include Stones in His Pockets, Man of La Mancha, and Fiddler on the Roof. Regional credits include productions at the Guthrie, Jungle Theater, Actors Theatre of Louisville, Playmakers, La Jolla Playhouse, The Old Globe, Spoleto Festival, American Repertory Theatre, The Alley, Intiman, CenterStage, Berkeley Rep, The Shakespeare Theatre, Seattle Rep, Off-Broadway: Theatre for a New Audience, and The New Victory Theatre. From 1983-2008 Steve was an actor, writer and co-Artistic Director at Theatre de la Jeune Lune, winner of the 2005 Tony award for Best Regional Theatre.

CHRISTOPHER JENKINS (Florizel, Gaolor, Archidamos, Ensemble) is ecstatic to be making his TTT debut. He is from Denver, CO, and is currently a senior at the University of Minnesota/Guthrie BFA Actor Training Program. He previously worked at the Illinois Shakespeare Festival (Henry V, Shakespeare in Love, and Double, Double) and Music Academy International in Italy (Chicago). He is excited to be a part of Minnesota’s art community and is honored to be working with such tremendous artists.

MO PERRY (Paulina, Shepherd, Ensemble) is an actor and writer who has appeared on stages across the Twin Cities including the Guthrie, Jungle, Mixed Blood, Children's Theater Company, Park Square, and more. Mo is a proud member of TTT’s Artist Core, and last appeared in TTT’s production of A Midsummer Night’s Dream. She is also a freelance magazine journalist and essayist with bylines in The Atlantic, Catapult, Experience Life, MNMO and more, and is the co-founder of Logosphere Storysmiths, a boutique content creation agency that creates vivid narratives for impactful organizations and leaders.

WILLIAM STURDIVANT (Camilo, Clown, Dion, Ensemble) is making his TTT debut. His New York credits include X: Or, Betty Shabazz v. The Nation (Off-Broadway); The Comedy of Errors, Julius Caesar, Romeo and Juliet, and Henry V (The Acting Company); and Henry IV Part 1 (Pearl Theatre). Regional credits include shows with Great River Shakespeare Festival and the Guthrie Theater. William is a graduate of the University of Minnesota/Guthrie
KAREN WIESE-THOMPSON (Autolycus, Antigonus, Ensemble) is back for her 15th show with TTT. Her first performance with TTT was The Good Person of Szechwan in 2003. She has been seen at many theaters in and around the Twin Cities including Park Square, Torch, History Theatre, Pig’s Eye, Gremlin, Fifty Foot Penguin, Paul Bunyan Playhouse in Bemidji, Loudmouth Collective and Girl Friday Productions.

MARCELA LORCA (Artistic Director; Director) became TTT’s Artistic Director in June 2018. Directing credits for TTT include Into the Woods and The Sins of Sor Juana. She has directed numerous shows at the Guthrie Theater, McCarter Theater, Milwaukee Rep, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Syracuse Stage, Mixed Blood Theater, Goodman Theater, Washington Shakespeare and Julliard Drama School. She was Director of Company Development at the Guthrie Theater, in charge of the University of Minnesota/Guthrie Theater BFA Actor Training Program and A Guthrie Experience for Actors in Training. She also served as Movement Director/Choreographer for the Guthrie where she choreographed more than 20 plays and coached movement for more than 150.

SONYA BERLOVITZ (Costume Design) is returning for her 11th show with Ten Thousand Things. Previously she designed costumes for more than 60 productions at Theatre de la Jeune Lune between 1980 and 2008. Productions elsewhere have included South Coast Repertory Theater, Playmaker’s Repertory Theatre, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Children’s Theatre Company, Guthrie Theater, American Repertory Theatre, La Jolla Playhouse, Jungle Theater, Park Square Theatre, Arena Dances, and Minnesota Dance Theater. She is a graduate of both La Chambre Syndicale de la Couture Parisienne and The School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

NICOLE DELPIZZO (Props Manager) is a designer and painter based in the Twin Cities. This is her first show with Ten Thousand Things. Her recent prop work has been seen at Yellow Tree Theatre and Mixed Blood Theatre, with an upcoming props design at Park Square Theatre. Other recent work includes design and paint at The Jungle Theatre, Sandbox Theatre, Normandale College, and Commonweal Theatre.

NIK GOLFIS (Set Design) is a multidisciplinary artist/designer based in Minneapolis. He builds props, designs sets, and produces exhibitions and performances in both galleries and arenas. His work has been exhibited in Minnesota, New York, Missouri, and Montana. At the Guthrie he was producer/scenic designer for Relics and the Guthrie Experience. He has also worked with The Playwrights’ Center, Under the Porcelain Mask, Theatre Garage, and The Comedian’s Tragedy. Nick is a graduate of Luther College.

LILY HART (Production Intern) is a recent graduate from the University of Minnesota–Twin Cities where she graduated summa cum laude with a degree in history, English, and a minor in creative writing. She is passionate about exploring historical narratives through theater and taking work outside of museums and making it more approachable. She is happy taking what she has learned in internships at Handel & Hendrix Museum and the Westminster City Archives and bringing it home to the Twin Cities theater community.

JO HOLCOMB (Dramaturg) previously worked with TTT on Into the Woods. She has served as dramaturg for more than 75 productions at the Guthrie since 1996. Other credits include Minnesota Jewish Theatre. She is an artistic council member at the Eugene O’Neill Theater Center National Playwrights Conference (2018–2020) and instructor in University of Minnesota/Guthrie Theater B.F.A. Actor Training Program. Jo received her M.S. in Arts and Humanities Research from the University of Kentucky and her M.A. in theology from The Athenaeum of Ohio.

JD STEELE (Song Composer) has been blazing a path on the Minnesota music scene since the mid 1980s. He has recorded, toured and produced with artists that include Prince, George Clinton, Donald Fagan, Fine Young Cannibals, Kim Carnes and many other noted artists. He has recorded and produced with his internationally acclaimed musical family The Steeles on their seven CD releases. His most recent recording “Songs” is available at cdbaby.com/jdsteele. He has performed on stages worldwide, including the show “The Gospel at Colonus” on Broadway with Morgan Freeman, and he has written for film and television. Mr. Steele has been commissioned to create 10 musicals for the stage including the Guthrie Theater, Mixed Blood Theater, and Katha Dance Theater. He is a faculty member at MacPhail Center for Music and founder/leader of a youth choral group in Nairobi, Kenya.
**PETER VITALE** (Resident Composer & Music Director) has worked on more than 40 previous TTT productions as an actor, music director, composer and photographer. He has appeared at other local theaters including the Guthrie, Jungle Theater, Frank Theater, Minnesota Opera, North Star Opera, Park Square Theater, Minnesota Jewish Theater Company and the Ordway. Peter is the recipient of a Meet the Composer grant for his work on *Raskol* through the MetLife Creative Connections Program, and is the author/composer of the musical, *Who Am I This Time?* based on the short story by Kurt Vonnegut.

**NANCY WALDOCH** (Production Manager) has been with TTT since 2006, and this show marks her 40th production with the company. She is the production stage manager as well as community connector, so if you have an idea for a community that TTT should connect with, please let her know.

**SAM WEISBERG** (Assistant Director) is overjoyed to return to TTT after working as a production intern on *Scapin* last fall. He is a director, actor, and people-gatherer with a passion for community-based theatre. His directing credits include devised work and musical theatre. He has worked as a creative producer at ArtsEmerson in Boston, MA, and a stage manager at The Playwrights’ Center. Sam also collaborates with teenagers from around the west metro at Blue Water Theatre Company, where he is an associate director.