

# The Tempest

## Cast

**Prospero (Joel Gajewski)** The overthrown Duke of Milan. He now lives on an island and has become a great magician.

**Miranda (Aida Gluck)** Prospero's daughter, who falls in love with the Prince of Naples, Ferdinand.

**Ariel (Marigold Pazar)** an airy spirit who does Prospero's bidding because she was saved by Prospero from being trapped by a witch.

**Caliban (Oliver Gluck)** the island native, son of the witch who ruled the island before Prospero arrived.

**Elemental Sprites (Mia Pedersen, Sally Mills, Lisa Corser, Joanne Duncan, Claire Edmonds)** spirits of the island who take many forms

**Alonso (Evan Graham)** King of Naples.

**Sebastian (Troy Bull)** Alonso's treacherous brother.

**Antonia (Jacqueline Chapman)** Prospero's sister, who usurped his position as Duke of Milan. She and Sebastian plot unsuccessfully to kill Alonso and his family to come to the throne.

**Ferdinand (Will Kilner)** Alonso's son who falls in love with Miranda.

**Gonzalo (Tony Gluck)** a kindly Neapolitan counsellor, who secretly provided Prospero and Miranda with food, water, and books when they were pushed out to sea.

**Trinculo (Neil Simpson)** the King's jester.

**Stephania (Charlotte De Wit)** the King's drunken chef.

**Boatswain (Oliver Gluck)** a mariner.

A Prospero Players Production





## Crew

Composers - Sebastian Culhane, Matthew Duncan  
Musicians - Carmen Corser, Sebastian Culhane, Matthew Duncan, Dean De Wit,  
William Culhane  
Set - Sophia Montefiore  
Costumes - Sophia Montefiore  
Lighting - Mark McDougall, Toneya Thomas  
Lighting assistants - Alethea Graham, Claudia Pedersen  
Back Stage Manager - Heidi Prichard  
Back Stage Assistants, Lilli Donaldson, Riley Thomas  
Makeup - Innes Ullmann, Charlotte De Wit  
Makeup Assistants - Lilli Donaldson, Aida Gluck, Alethea Graham  
Choreographer - Jess Dixon



## Prospero Players

Prospero Players was established in 2000 by some keen thespians among the teachers and students of the Newcastle Waldorf School. Since then their major productions have included *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Oedipus*, *A Winter's Tale*, and *Nexus* as well as Prospero Players' own dramatisations of *Hiawatha*, *The Glugs of Gosh* and *Momo*. They have established a reputation for eye catching scenery, detailed costumes and original live music.



Joel Gajewski  
*Prospero*



Aida Gluck  
*Miranda*



Marigold Pazar  
*Ariel*



Oliver Gluck  
*Caliban and  
Boatswain*



Evan Graham  
*Alonso*



Jacqueline Chapman  
*Antonia*



Troy Bull  
*Sebastian*



Will Kilner  
*Ferdinand*



Charlotte De Wit  
*Stephania*



Neil Simpson  
*Trinculo*



Mia Pedersen  
*Sprite*



Sally Mills  
*Sprite*



Lisa Corser  
*Sprite*



Joanne Duncan  
*Sprite*



Claire Edmonds  
*Sprite*



Tony Gluck  
*Gonzalo*





Imagine a time in the future when humans are in complete harmony with nature. Shakespeare's last play contains this vision of the future through the wisdom of Prospero, but what was the price he paid? He lost his kingdom and all contact with human beings, except for his daughter Miranda. How does a magician on an island redeem his past and find a future for his daughter?



## Synopsis

### Act 1, Scene 1

A tempest overpowers the ship carrying King Alonso of Naples, who is returning home from the wedding of his daughter in Tunis.

### Act 1, Scene 2

Watching from their island home, Prospero, the rightful Duke of Milan, and his fifteen year-old daughter, Miranda, discuss the cause of the tempest and the fate of the men. Prospero tells his daughter the sad history of how they came to be exiled on this island, that while Prospero was wrapped in his magical studies his ambitious sister, Antonia, decided to overthrow him with the help of King Alonso and claim the dukedom for herself. Prospero and little Miranda had been placed in a boat and abandoned at sea till fate brought them to this island.

Prospero's spirit servant, faithful Ariel, tells her master that she has fulfilled his instructions and brought the entire tempest tossed shipmen to safety, also she has isolated the King's son Ferdinand. Prospero recalls how he freed Ariel from the island witch and how he and Miranda had endeavoured to befriend the witch's son Caliban.

Prospero orders Caliban to fetch wood, then Ferdinand wanders in followed by invisible Ariel. Miranda is immediately captivated by him and he by her. Prospero had hoped to secure his daughter's future through this meeting, but needs to test the depth of Ferdinand's character.

### Act 2, Scene 1

On another part of the island, Gonzalo tries to comfort King Alonso who is grieving for his lost son, Ferdinand. The King's brother, Sebastian, is less than sympathetic. Ariel interferes and tempts Sebastian and Prospero's sister, Antonia, to murder the King. Ariel wakens Alonso and Gonzalo to save them and they exit in search of Ferdinand.

### Act 2, Scene 2

Caliban meets the drunken cook, Stephania, and the King's Jester, Trinculo.

### Act 3, Scene 1

Ferdinand performs tasks for Prospero and Miranda wishes to help him. They declare their love for one another. Prospero is delighted by this development then turns his attention to bringing Antonia and the King to justice.

### Act 3, Scene 2

Caliban, Stephania, and Trinculo form a comical, wicked trio intent on usurping Prospero as ruler of the island. But Ariel has been listening and rushes to tell Prospero.

## Interval

### Act 3, Scene 3

King Alonso and his courtiers have been searching the island for Prince Ferdinand when a banquet magically appears. Just as they are about to eat, Ariel, disguised as a harpy, accuses them of their wickedness and tells them that Just Fate has caused their troubles. The King can only decide to keep searching for his son and Gonzalo anguishes that they are all going mad.

### Act 4, Scene 1

Prospero conjures a wedding pageant for Ferdinand and Miranda. Suddenly they hear the drunken trio Caliban, Stephano, and Trinculo. Prospero and Ariel entice them with finery then the spirits of the island take the shape of hounds and chase the three away. Prospero and Ariel remain.

### Act 5, Scene 1

It is three days since the tempest. Prospero listens to Ariel's appeal on behalf of the shipwrecked men and he is moved to reveal that he will show them mercy although they had not shown him any twelve years ago. Ariel leads Alonso, Sebastian, Antonia and Gonzalo to Prospero and Prospero frees Ariel.

Prospero identifies himself to the King, The King's brother and his own sister and forgives them. Alonso is then reunited with his son, Ferdinand and agrees to his marriage with Miranda, thus reconciling the two families. Ariel then fetches Caliban, Stephano, and Trinculo, to be confronted by Prospero. Prospero restores the island to Caliban and then invites the King and his courtiers to hear the story of his life on the island, as Ariel prepares their sea journey for them back to Italy.

### Epilogue:

Delivered by Prospero.





## Director

Kirsty McCrudden



The Tempest is beautifully balanced on the tensions of tragedy, comedy and romance. The powers of magic and morality play out on an island encompassed by the spirits of sea, earth and sky. This, the last play Shakespeare penned, is a spell binding adventure marking the bard's release from the stage. It has been a pleasure to work with such an enthusiastic and talented cast and crew from Prospero Players. The musical compositions and lighting by students past and present is particularly inspirational. We hope we do it justice.

## Costume and Set Design

Sophia Montefiore



It is often a challenge in amateur theatre to create costumes and sets on a shoestring budget that approximate the ambitious visions of the imagination. For this production I was able to revamp quite a few costumes from our past production of Shakespeare's A Winter's Tale, which had the same loosely Renaissance style I was looking for. For the magical characters, however, there was quite a lot to be done to create 'out of time' effects. I used some mask blanks that I purchased in Venice and also elements inspired by Eurythmy and throughout I needed to collaborate with the needs and visions of the cast.

For the set I aimed to create a magical space that kept the elements of the sea and the shipwreck. Backdrops are always a joy to create and these were no exception.

## Composers

Sebastian Culhane & Matthew Duncan



Being Musical Director for Shakespeare's The Tempest was a challenging, but rewarding, experience. As composers, Matthew and I, had to carefully consider where music would fit into and enhance the play without overpowering, or distracting from, the actors. In the end we settled on a mix of quiet, simple melodies and sound effects during the scenes, and more involved pieces for the scene changes, which, I think, works very well to complement the emotions and meaning behind Shakespeare's last play.



## Thank You

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[www.prosperoplayers.com](http://www.prosperoplayers.com)



Cover artwork Sophia Montefiore