



**A COMPANY
OF FOOLS**

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a Company of Fools Presents: *Macbeth*
July 8th - August 24th

a Company of Fools is tackling Shakespeare's Scottish Play! Opening this July, a Company of Fools is presenting *Macbeth* on a seven-week tour of over thirty-five parks across Ottawa and beyond.

Our fast-paced 90-minute rendition of one of the Bard's greatest tragedies will feature a coven of witches, a sword fight to the death, and a moving wood, all performed by an all-female cast of 5 actors taking on 15 different roles.

Join the Fools this summer as we revel in the chaos brought on by power lust - and have a few laughs along the way. Whether you're a Shakespeare nerd or this is your first foray with the Bard since high school, our foolish take on *Macbeth* has something for everyone.

WHEN: July 8th - August 24th

TIME: Monday-Saturday at 7 pm.

WHERE: Over 35 parks across Ottawa and beyond, featuring stops in rural communities like Navan, Carp, Oxford Mills, and more! Plus - you can find us every Monday in Strathcona Park! The full schedule is available at fools.ca/macbeth

COST: Pay What You Can (PWYC), with a suggested donation of \$20 per person.

About *Macbeth*

Picture this: Macbeth, a Scottish thane with big dreams, gets a prophecy from some mysterious witches that he's destined to be king. Instead of brushing it off like a sensible person, he dives headfirst into his vaulting ambition, with his equally ambitious wife, Lady Macbeth, egging him on.

Cue some sneaky plotting, a sprinkle of murder, and a dash of guilt-induced hallucinations, and you've got yourself a classic Shakespearean recipe for disaster. A cautionary tale with a side of sword fights and supernatural spookiness, *Macbeth* is a theatrical rollercoaster that'll leave you questioning whether it's *really* worth it to stab your way to the top.

Our *Macbeth* has been reimagined by our all-female/nonbinary cast and creative team as a tale spun by a coven of witches where they retell the story of the doomed tyrant Macbeth. Convening with other witches from near and far (our audience), they perform the play as a warning and an act of defiance. Their performance cautions us against blindly following those in power ... or risk facing dire consequences.



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About the Team

Fool's darling Kate McArthur (*Romeo&Juliet*, *The Tempest*, *Twelfth Night*, *As You Like It*) lends her talents to the titular role of Macbeth. Joy Mwandemange, an Ottawa-based performer and singer, stars alongside McArthur as the cutthroat Lady Macbeth.

Rounding out the cast are Shakespeare by the Sea's Ananya Antony, Dora award-winning multidisciplinary performing artist Rebecca Russell, and South African-Canadian actor and writer Leanna Williams.

a Company of Fools' newly appointed Artistic Director Kate Smith is diving into Foolishness headfirst as the production's director, with new Fools Andrea Stienwand (set/props) and Bonnie Garland (costume) rounding out the creative team. Macbeth is also supported by Erin Eldershaw's fight choreography and musical composition by Angela Schleihau.

About the Fools

Best known for our Shakespeare in the Park series, we tour 90-minute versions of Shakespeare's hits to parks across Eastern Ontario.

We believe that it doesn't matter where you live, how much you make, or how old you are: theatre should be accessible to everyone! All our performances are for pay-what-you-can donations, family-friendly, and our touring model means we bring the theatre right to your backyard.

Over the past 34 years, we've developed our signature foolish approach to staging Shakespeare. We work with a small cast of actors to embody 15 different characters within a production and employ styles of slapstick, mask, and puppetry to create a family-friendly experience. We help first-time theatregoers discover their love for live performance through our foolish approach to storytelling!

The Deets

Macbeth runs July 8th - August 24th, Mondays through Saturdays at 7pm.

Bring a lawn chair or blanket, bug spray, picnic, and your sense of humour. Pass-the-hat donations are collected at the end of the performance and can be submitted in the form of cash, credit card, cheque, or bars of gold.

For more information on the show and a detailed park schedule, visit www.fools.ca/macbeth