

WHAT, LAMB! WHAT, LADYBIRD!

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A Play in One Act

by

Charlene V. Smith

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## About *Bad Quarto Productions*

Bad Quarto Productions was founded in 2010 to explore the rarely performed plays of Shakespeare's time, and the ways in which Shakespeare's staging techniques can inform modern theatrical productions. The company has produced the earliest printed version of *Romeo and Juliet*; *The Merry Devil of Edmonton*; *The Cronicle Historie of Henry the Fift*; and *The Ballad of Dido*, an original musical developed using Shakespearean techniques, among other plays.

Combining precise work on verse, rhetoric, and other traditional Shakespearean acting techniques with the liveliness of improv, Bad Quarto's performance style has found favor with audiences wherever we've played, and we continue to look for new ways of bridging the gap between Shakespeare's theatre and our own.

If you like what we do, and support our mission, please consider following along with us on Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/badquarto>), Twitter (@BadQuartoPlays), as well as, Instagram (BadQuartoProductions) and help us get the word out about our upcoming shows and events. While you are there, don't forget to sign up for our email mailing list! If you would like us to bring more plays like *The Tragicall Historie of Hamlet* to your area, please consider making a donation by either turning in the enclosed donation slip to a Bad Quarto cast/company member, mailing it to Bad Quarto Productions 165 Daniel Street Amsterdam, NY 12010 or calling our Box Office at 646.598.2128.

If you like what you saw today, please visit us on your favorite social media platform and let us know! Audience reviews really do mean the world to us.

## *Smith's Text*

*What, Lamb! What, Ladybird!* was originally produced by Brave Spirits Theatre in Washington DC at the Capital Fringe Festival in 2011. That production was conceived and performed by Charlene V. Smith as a one-woman show, and directed by Victoria Reinsel, and was also the inaugural production of Brave Spirits Theatre. The text of this production was developed for performance by a cast of five by Alex Dabertin in consultation with Charlene V. Smith

## *Shak-speare's Rehearsal Conditions*

Shakespeare and his playing companies likely only ever rehearsed a new play as a group once, on the day of their performance. They would gather at the playhouse just after sunrise, and rehearse until about 1 o'clock, with performances at two. In the weeks leading up to this rehearsal and performance, the players would likely meet individually with senior members of the company to rehearse individually. Resulting performances were fresh, energetic, and required the players to actively listen to one another in a way that modern rehearsal processes do not encourage.

## *Shak-speare's Staging Conditions*

Plays in Shakespeare's England were performed in universal lighting, and were written to encourage the audience contact made possible by actors and audience sharing the same pool of light; in addition, audiences commonly sat on the stage, and Shakespeare and others take advantage of these conventions by casting the audience in their plays. Shakespeare's plays tended to be heavily doubled, with an actor playing more than one role, and also made use of minimal scenery to enable fast scene changes, and live music to augment the performance. We have sought to deploy all of these conventions, as best as we may in a modern approximation, in our performance. By convention, all of the roles in Shakespeare's plays were performed by men or boys apprenticed to the company, and we have sought to achieve a similar effect by casting actors without regard to the gender of their characters.

# Company

*Ensemble* (in alphabetical order)

Nadia Brown

Dani Martineck

Courtney M McClellan

Keaton Morris-Stan

Sarah Sawyer

Director ..... Alex Dabertin

Artistic Director ..... Tony Tambasco

Marketing Director ..... Joanne Famiglietti

**Please feel free to take pictures! And please tag us on social media!**

Facebook: @BadQuartoProductions

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# WHO'S WHO



**Nadia Brown** (*Ensemble*) is a recent grad from Marymount Manhattan College with a BFA in Acting, and recent credits include the role of Annabella in *'Tis Pity She's A Whore*, and Marina in *Pericles, Prince of Tyre*.



**Dani Martineck** (*Ensemble*) is a New York-based actor, writer, and lab manager. Dani recently appeared in *Twelfth Night* at The Secret Theatre (Viola) and played five seasons with Tennessee Stage Company's Shakespeare on the Square. She has previously appeared with Bad Quarto in *Hamlet*, *The First Quarto* (Guildenstern, Gravedigger). Look for her next in season 2 of *UnProductive: The Web Series*.



**Courtney M McClellan** (*Ensemble*) excitedly joins Bad Quarto again for *What, Lamb! What, Ladybird!* after performing in *The Second Shepherds Play* (Gill/Mary) last winter. Credits include: *Whatchamacallit* (Disciple) with the Skeleton Rep and *Ripper* (Lizzie/Mrs. Lusk) in NYC, *Hamlet* (Gertrude) and *The Comedy of Errors* (Adriana/Courtesan) with NC Shakes and *One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest* in Nashville (Nurse Flinn). Other Nashville credits: *A Raisin in the Sun* and *Once on This Island*. Regional credits: *Chicago* (Mama Morton), *Big River* (Alice), and *The Sound of Music* (Sister Berthe) with Weathervane Playhouse (Newark, OH); *Romeo and Juliet* (Lady Montague/Lady Capulet/Benvolio), *Macbeth* (Witch/Malcolm), and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Titania/Helena/Quince) with NC Shakes. BA Communications/Theatre, Hampton University; McCaskill Studios, NYC.



**Keaton Morris-Stan** (*Ensemble*) is thrilled to be working with Bad Quarto Productions. She has most recently worked with The Public Theater and Target Margin Theater. She has also been in a number of short and independent feature films. More about Keaton can be found on her website at [keatonmorrisstan.com](http://keatonmorrisstan.com)



**Sarah Sawyer** (*Ensemble*) recently moved to New York after training at the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School in England. Theater Credits: *The London Cuckolds* (Tobacco Factory), *Romeo and Juliet* (Phoenix Symphony), Jane Austen's *Emma* (Arizona Theatre Company), *Little Women* (Lyric Opera Theater). Film: *You Can't Hear Me, Broken Leg* <http://sarahasawyer.com/>

**Charlene V Smith** (Playwright) is a director, actor, and scholar working in the DC metropolitan area. She has a BA in English and Theatre from the College of William and Mary and an M.Litt and MFA in Shakespeare and Performance from Mary Baldwin College in partnership with the American Shakespeare Center. As a writer, she has live-blogged for the American Shakespeare Center during the 2011 and 2013 Blackfriars Conferences, presented papers at the Shakespeare Association of America, and was the head editor on a book of essays produced by her MFA class, *Rogue Shakespeare: Stagecraft and Scholarship in an Ensemble-Based MFA Company*. She is an Equity Member Candidate and the Artistic Director of Brave Spirits Theatre ([www.bravespiritstheatre.com](http://www.bravespiritstheatre.com)). *What, Lamb! What, Ladybird!* is her first play.

**Alex Dabertin** (Director) is a recent graduate of Columbia University where he co-directed the King's Crown Shakespeare Troupe's acclaimed 2015 outdoor production of *Much Ado About Nothing*. *What, Lamb! What, Ladybird!* is his first directorial project with Bad Quarto Productions, but he has appeared on stage with the company, most recently as Hamlet in 2016's *Hamlet, the First Quarto*. He wants to thank Charlene V. Smith and Tony Tambasco for giving him this opportunity, as well as his Juliet, Elizabeth Kipp-Giusti.

**Tony Tambasco** (Artistic Director) holds an MFA in directing from the American Shakespeare Center's partner program with Mary Baldwin College. He has directed plays both regionally and here in New York for over 15 years: including *Hamlet: The First Quarto* and *The Taming of a Shrew (The 1594 Quarto)* most recently with Bad Quarto Productions. Tony's other recent directing credits include *As You Like It* with Sweet Tea Shakespeare in North Carolina, and John Patrick Bray's *Green Sound* with the Greenhouse Ensemble in NYC. You can learn more about his work at <http://www.TonyTambasco.com>

For more company photos, please visit us online at <http://www.BadQuarto.org>



Bad Quarto Productions is proud to be a member of The Shakespeare Theatre Association (STA). For more information visit [www.stahome.org](http://www.stahome.org).



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& SADDLEBAGS

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