

The Merchant of Venice



**February 25, 26 and March 3, 4, 5, 6
1983**

Kennedy Theatre
University of Hawaii at Manoa
Honolulu, Hawaii

THE UNIVERSITY THEATRE
presents

The Merchant of Venice

by **WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE**

Directed by **Terence Knapp**
assisted by **Lynn Sager**
Scene design by **Richard G. Mason**
Costume design by **Sandra Finney**
Lighting design by **Mark Boyd**
Technical direction by **Mark Boyd**

CAST (in order of appearance):

ANTONIO, the merchant of Venice	Michael Norton-Dennis
SALERIO, a young Venetian	Timothy Slaughter
SALANIO, his companion	Tam Trevino
BASSANIO, suitor to Portia and friend to Antonio	Thomas Peterman
GRATIANO, his companion	Christopher Coad
LORENZO, suitor to Jessica	Marvin W. Marshall
PORTIA, an heiress	Molly Meehan
NERISSA, her companion	Sharon Harrington
PORTIA'S ATTENDANT	Julie Nikoras
SHYLOCK, a Jewish moneylender	Dan Davis
The PRINCE OF MOROCCO, suitor to Portia	Nobuo Samuel Wellington
LAUNCELOT, servant to Shylock	Alan Hunley
OLD GOBBO, his father	Darryl A. Tsutsui
LEONARDO, Bassanio's servant	Gary Welter
JESSICA, Shylock's daughter	Susie Davis
The PRINCE OF ARRAGON, suitor to Portia	Raymond Ma
PORTIA'S MAIDSERVANT	Ruth Yamamoto
TUBAL, friend to Shylock	Peter Clark
JAILOR	Clifford Hausman
BALTHAZAR, servant to Portia	Keven Williamson
The DUKE OF VENICE	John Musgrove
STEPHANO, a messenger	Douglas Jayne

The play is set in Venice and at Portia's estate in Belmont.

There will be one intermission.

NOTICE: Smoking is not allowed in the auditorium, nor may photographs or recordings of any kind be made during the performance.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES:

THE MERCHANT OF VENICE has always been enormously popular partly because of its love story, partly because it blends the universally fascinating themes of money and love but mainly because it contains a great theatrical protagonist, Shylock, surely the most famous Jew in all literature. Shakespeare had at least two contemporary sources for the character of his moneylender (Christians being forbidden to loan money at interest by medieval Canon Law gave rise to financial dealings with Jewish brokers throughout the Western world). One was Christopher Marlowe's play THE JEW OF MALTA, a huge success at the time. The other was the notorious execution at Tyburn of Doctor Roderigo Lopez, a Spanish physician who had attended Queen Elizabeth. Lopez had become entangled with the manipulative and powerful Earl of Essex and, despite the Queen's personal intercession on his behalf, was condemned to die for treason on a fabricated charge. At his execution he cried out, "I am a Christian and I love the Queen." The crowd in high holiday spirits shouted, "Hang him . . . he's a Jew!"

During Shakespeare's lifetime Venice was the most glittering of merchant cities, a gorgeous image of cosmopolitan money-making. A drama in which "the willing, generous and prosperous transactions of Love's wealth are compared and contrasted with Shylock's entirely commercial transactions" (John Russell Brown) could not be set in a more appropriate place.

The story tells of how men from all over the world travel to Belmont to woo Portia. He who chooses out of three caskets, gold, silver and lead, the one which contains her portrait will win her according to her dead father's whim. Among her suitors is Bassanio, a Venetian, who, having wastefully spent his own money, raises a considerable sum to court Portia through his friend Antonio. Since the merchant of the play's title is short of ready cash, he borrows the money from Shylock and guarantees the loan with a pound of his own flesh, a bond regarded as a joke. When Antonio cannot meet his bond, because his ships and treasures are lost at sea, Shylock claims the pound of flesh. Bassanio leaves Belmont where he has successfully chosen the right casket to rescue Antonio and is followed by his wife, Portia, who disguises herself as a brilliant young lawyer. Shylock is humbled at the trial and the play ends on a note of light romantic comedy shared by the lovers and Jessica, Shylock's daughter who has eloped with young Lorenzo.

Taking the great mercantile, maritime City State as his setting, Shakespeare makes money rub off on every major character. Portia is pursued by hungry suitors. Bassanio who has squandered his inheritance needs money to win a rich wife. Antonio gambles everything he possesses out of affection for his young friend, and Shylock uses his wealth to get even with the Venetians whom he detests for humiliating and insulting him even when they eagerly borrow from his coffers.

T.K.

PRODUCTION STAFF:

Stage manager: Lynn Sager

Prompter: Rosemary Hilbery

Lighting: Linda Brooks, Tom Giza, Randall Matsuno

Set construction: Harry Ghery, Noa Kristi, Randall Matsuno, John Musgrove, Dawn Oshima, Paul Palmore, Tim Slaughter, Charles Walsh, Susi Ward and students of Drama 101, 240 and 241

Costume construction: Barbara Lea Weaver (crew head); JanDee Abraham, Lucy Gentry, Laurie McMahon, Jennifer McMannus Piper, Lee Morris, Brigid Nakamura, Emilis Sakamoto, Joanne Tome, Nai-Cha Tung, Alison Uyeda, Jacquilyn Villanueva, James Young and students of Drama 101

Costume crew: JanDee Abraham (crew head); Lucy Gentry, Theresa Lee, Aki Ono, Young Peterson, Joanne Tome and members of Drama 101

Makeup crew: Michael Costain, John Howland, Diane Hutter, Mark Pinkosh

Photography: Malcolm Mekar

Poster design: Billie Ikeda (University Relations)

Publicity: Joel Light, Sidney Milburn

Program: Joel Light, Billie Ikeda (University Relations)

Box office: Alison Uyeda, Tony Aguon, Janice Crowl, Steven Miller

Housemanager: Steven Miller

Ushers: Kailua High School (NHS), Kaimuki High School (NHS), Leilehua High School (NHS), Roosevelt High School (NHS), St. Louis High School Drama Class

Acknowledgements: Perms by George of McEnergy Kahala Beauty Salon; Men's hair styling by Stafford of Kahala Styling Center

FACULTY: Edward Langhans, Chairman; Glenn Cannon, Director of the Theatre; Carl Wolz, Director of Dance; Mark Boyd, James Brandon, Bernard Dukore, Sandra Finney, Phyllis Haskell, Tamara Hunt, Terence Knapp, Roger Long, Richard Mason, Yasuki Sasa, Elizabeth Wichmann, Lin Wright

LECTURERS: Lei Ahsing, Barbara Fitzsimmons, Takashi Koshi, Laura Leone, Joyce Maltby, Lee Moore, Kathy Omura, Pam Sandridge, Mimi Wisnosky

GRADUATE ASSISTANTS: Donna Dang, Lynn Gillin, Yuki Goto, Noa Kristi, Joel Light, Olava Menczkowski, John Musgrove, Paul Palmore, Tim Slaughter, Barbara Weaver

STAFF: Nellie Akiyama, Arthur Caldeira, Takeo Miji, Nancy Takei, Charles Walsh