

08/24/2010  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ATTENTION: Calendar Editor, Theatre Editor, Theatre Critics

CATEGORY: Theatre

WHO: Actors Ensemble of Berkeley

WHAT: William Shakespeare's *The Winter's Tale*, directed by Jeremy Cole

WHERE: Live Oak Theatre, 1301 Shattuck Avenue (at Berryman), Berkeley, CA

WHEN: Friday and Saturdays at 8 p.m., October 22nd – November 20th 2010 at 8:00pm

Matinee performances at 2 p.m. on Sunday: October 31st, November 7th, and November 14th.

Additional performance 8 p.m. Thursday November 18th.

TICKETS: \$12.00-\$15.00

RESERVATIONS: (510) 649-5999

TICKETS ONLINE: [www.aeofberkeley.org](http://www.aeofberkeley.org)

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Actor's Ensemble of Berkeley closes its 53<sup>rd</sup> Season with Shakespeare's *The Winter's Tale*, directed by Jeremy Cole and featuring a cast of 17.

*The Winter's Tale* is one of Shakespeare's late plays, and along with its fellows *The Tempest*, *Cymbeline* and *Pericles*, it is often labeled as a "romance." These late plays, which don't follow the strict rules of either comedy or tragedy, have been delighting audiences and confounding critics for centuries with their blend of tragic and comic elements. Famous for its mirrored halves – Part One being the more tragic, Part Two being the more comic – *The Winter's Tale* is packed with unforgettable characters: the jealous Leontes; the outraged Paulina; the innocent Perdita; the loyal Camillo; the doomed young prince Mamillius; the honorable Hermione, the ill-fated Antigonus, and even Time, itself. The play also has some of the most memorable scenes in the canon: Leontes' jealous outburst; the banishing of the babe Perdita; the revelation of the Oracle; the appearance of Hermione's ghost; Autolycus' multiple pick-pocketings; the reunion sequence; the famous statue scene, and of course, Antigonus' famous exit, pursued by a bear...

Actors Ensemble of Berkeley has been delighted to have Jeremy Cole in the director's chair for two previous critically acclaimed productions of *Doctor Faustus* and *As it Is In Heaven*. He has also worked for Thunderbird Theatre company in San Francisco, as well as an award-winning tenure at Backstage Theatre company of Breckenridge, CO, where he was fortunate to have some of his productions transferred to Off-Broadway. Actors Ensemble of Berkeley looks forward also to the West Coast Premiere of Sarah Ruhl's *Passion Play*, which will also be directed by Jeremy in the Spring of 2011.

Actors Ensemble of Berkeley is Berkeley's longest-running theatre organization, having begun as part of the "Little Theatre" movement of the 1950's in the living rooms of its founders, all students or graduates of U. C. Berkeley's theatre department. It has grown into an all-volunteer organization that has been consistently producing high-quality productions of both classic and modern works for the past 53 years, taking advantage of the creative spirit that permeates Berkeley and the rest of the East Bay.

*The Winter's Tale* opens Friday, October 22 and runs Friday and Saturday evenings at 8pm, Sunday afternoons at 2pm through Saturday, November 20, with one added Thursday performance on November 18. There will be no matinee performance on Sunday, October 24.

Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$12 for students and seniors. There is a special rate of \$10 for groups of 15 or more. Tickets are available through the Actors Ensemble of Berkeley website ([www.aeofberkeley.org](http://www.aeofberkeley.org)). Reservations for purchase at the door may be made by calling the box office at 510-649-5999 (cash or check only at the door).

For more info visit [www.aeofberkeley.org](http://www.aeofberkeley.org)