



VISUAL STORY



The Company of Macbeth | Photo: Emily Cooper

Macbeth

Bard on the Beach Shakespeare Festival
1695 Whyte Avenue
Señákw/Vanier Park, Vancouver

bardonthebeach.org | Box Office: 604-739-0559 | 12pm–6pm daily

The Characters



Munish Sharma as Macbeth | Photo by Emily Cooper

Macbeth

Macbeth is a general and the Thane of Glamis. At the start of the play, he receives a prophecy from three mysterious figures that says he will become Thane of Cawdor and King of Scotland. He is married to Lady Macbeth.



Sebastian Kroon as Banquo | Photo by Emily Cooper

Banquo

Banquo is a brave, noble general and one of Macbeth's friends. When he encounters the three mysterious figures, they tell him that his children will become kings. Banquo is Fleance's father.



Raf Rogers, Craig Erickson, and Zahf Paroo as Figures
Photo by Emily Cooper

Figures

At the start of the play, three mysterious and eerie figures appear in front of Macbeth and Banquo. They tell Macbeth that he will become Thane of Cawdor and King, but that Banquo will become father to a line of kings.

The Characters



Melissa Oei as Ross | Photo by Emily Cooper

Ross

Ross is a noble.

Ross is often a messenger, delivering news to characters like Macbeth and Macduff.



Ashley Wright as Lennox | Photo by Emily Cooper

Lennox

Lennox is another noble.

Later, he joins Malcolm, Macduff, and Ross in the fight against Macbeth.



Anthony Santiago as Duncan | Photo by Emily Cooper

Duncan

Duncan is the King. When Ross brings news of Macbeth's victory in battle, Duncan declares Macbeth the new Thane of Cawdor.

Later, he and the other nobles decide to spend a night at Macbeth's home of Dunsinane.

The Characters



Tess Degenstein as Lady Macbeth | Photo by Emily Cooper

Lady Macbeth

Lady Macbeth is a strong, persuasive character. She is married to Macbeth.

When Lady Macbeth learns about the prophecy, she encourages Macbeth to kill Duncan so that he can become King.



Tai Leatham as Donalbain and Sara Vickruck as Malcolm
Photo by Emily Cooper

Donalbain and Malcolm

Donalbain (left) and Malcolm (right) are Duncan's children.

When Duncan is found dead in Dunsinane, they worry that they will be the next ones to be killed. Donalbain flees to Ireland, while Malcolm flees to England.



Rachel Angco as Fleance and Sebastian Kroon as Banquo
Photo by Emily Cooper

Fleance

Fleance is Banquo's child.

The three mysterious figures tell Macbeth that Banquo's children will become Kings. To prevent this from happening, Macbeth sends three murderers to kill Banquo and Fleance.

The Characters



Jacob Leonard as Macduff | Photo by Emily Cooper

Macduff

Macduff is another noble.

Macduff is suspicious of Macbeth after Duncan is killed. Later, he goes to England to convince Malcolm to fight against Macbeth.



Steffanie Davis as the Porter | Photo by Emily Cooper

Porter

The Porter works for the Macbeths in Dunsinane.

You might see her carrying a flask or toilet brush around. You might also hear her voice over the intercom in the Macbeths' bunker.



Craig Erickson, Tai Leathem, and Raf Rogers as Murderers
Photo by Emily Cooper

Murderers

These are the three murderers.

Macbeth hires them to kill Banquo and Fleance.

The Characters



Rachel Angco as Macduff's Child and Steffanie Davis as Lady Macduff
Photo by Emily Cooper

Lady Macduff and Macduff's Child

This is Macduff's Child (left) and Lady Macduff (right).

They are Macduff's family. They stay at home in Fife while Macduff goes to England to find Malcolm.



The Company of Macbeth | Photo by Emily Cooper

Citizens

These are citizens of Scotland.

At the start of Act 2, you can hear them talking about Malcolm and Macduff.



The Company of Macbeth | Photo by Emily Cooper

Soldiers

These are the soldiers fighting in the final battle.

The soldiers that are dressed in white are fighting for Macbeth. The soldiers dressed in green and brown are fighting for Malcolm.

Macbeth

Play Summary



Jacob Leonard as Macduff, Melissa Oei as Ross, and Sara Vickruck as Malcolm
Photo by Emily Cooper

The play starts with a bloody battle. Macbeth and Banquo lead their soldiers to victory over the rebel armies. On their way home, they encounter three mysterious figures. The three figures tell Macbeth that he will become Thane of Cawdor and then King of Scotland. They also tell Banquo that he will not be King, but his children will be.

Soon after, a noble named Ross arrives with news from King Duncan. As a reward for his success in battle, Macbeth has been named the new Thane of Cawdor, just like the prophecy said. However, Macbeth is determined not to take any action.

Back home in Dunsinane, Lady Macbeth learns about the prophecy from one of Macbeth's letters. She also learns that King Duncan plans to stay at Dunsinane that night. She convinces Macbeth to kill Duncan so that he can become King.

That night, Lady Macbeth drugs Duncan's attendants so that they fall asleep. Macbeth sneaks into Duncan's room and kills him. The next morning, Macduff finds Duncan dead. The guards are framed for Duncan's murder, and Macbeth kills them too. Malcolm and Donalbain worry that whoever killed their father will kill them next so they flee to Ireland and England. However, because Malcolm and Donalbain run away, they become the main suspects in Duncan's murder.

Macbeth and Lady Macbeth are crowned the new King and Queen. Macbeth worries about the three figures telling Banquo that his children will become kings and what that will mean for Macbeth's rule. He hires three murderers to kill Banquo and Fleance, but Fleance escapes.

Later that evening, Macbeth and Lady Macbeth hold a feast to celebrate their coronation. Macbeth sees a bloody Banquo sitting at the table. He starts shouting at Banquo, but none of the other guests at the table can see him. Macbeth and Lady Macbeth are both left shaken.

The next day, Macbeth speaks to the three mysterious figures again. They tell Macbeth that he cannot be harmed by anyone who was born from a woman. He also cannot be harmed until the trees in Birnam Wood march to Dunsinane. This should reassure Macbeth, until the figures repeat that Banquo's children will still become kings.

This prophecy infuriates Macbeth. He turns his attention on Macduff, who was not at his feast. He orders an attack on Macduff's home in Fife. Macduff's wife and children are killed. However, Macduff is in England, convincing Malcolm to come back to Scotland and take back his rightful throne.

Will they succeed in defeating Macbeth? Watch and find out!

What to Expect



Jacob Leonard as Macduff, Anthony Santiago as Duncan, and Ashley Wright as Lennox | Photo by Emily Cooper

On the stage, you will see a set that looks like a bunker. The set is also open at the back and looks out onto Seńákřw/Vanier Park. There is an orange mesh that might make the sight of people walking by and boats on the water look filtered.

The world of Macbeth is very dark and bloody. Many of the characters in the play die, including children, which can be difficult to watch. The music and sound design is also meant to feel ominous. There might also be loud music and sudden sound effects like thunder, which can be alarming.

Characters might enter or exit from unexpected places, like the balcony on stage, through tunnels and staircases close to where you are sitting, or in the area between the stage and the first row of seats. You might also see what looks like smoke when characters like the three mysterious figures appear, but it is only non-toxic fog and haze that is used as a special effect.

Sometimes, there are scenes where it looks like the characters are fighting, shouting, or even bleeding. This is part of the performance, and the actors work together to make sure that no one gets hurt. Any blood that you might see on the characters is fake blood that is used in movies or on stage for special effects.

Content Advisory

Read on for a more detailed list of moments in the play that might be scary, unexpected, or upsetting. If you would prefer to be surprised by the story, you can stop reading here and skip to the last page.

Pre-Show and Intermission:

- Before the show and during intermission, there will be rock music playing from the speakers. If this is too loud for you, you can step outside and wait in the Village until the show is about to start.

Act One:

- At the start of the show, there are some loud noises and sound effects that sound like a storm. Then, three distorted, supernatural-sounding voices speak. These are the three mysterious figures.
- Around 1 minute in, there is a big fight that happens. One soldier gets stabbed. You may see blood on their abdomen, but it is only fake blood, and nobody is actually getting hurt.
- Around 4 minutes in, there is loud cheering and shouting.
- Around 6 minutes in, the music from the cassette player distorts. Three supernatural figures appear and speak in a mechanical voice. They may look a little scary or unsettling.
- Around 17 minutes in, there is the sound of an intercom buzzing. Then you will hear the Porter's voice coming from the speakers, which might be unexpected.
- Around 23 minutes in, the three mysterious figures cross the stage.
- Around 30 minutes in, there is a high-pitched ringing sound when Macbeth sees the dagger off-stage. The lights will also flicker, but it is part of the scene.

- Around 32 minutes in, there is the sound of an owl shrieking during Lady Macbeth's monologue.
- Around 33 minutes in, Macbeth enters from the tunnels covered in blood. There is an echoing sound effect.
- Around 36 minutes in, there is a supernatural-sounding shriek and fog that comes out of three vents on the stage. Then, there is the sound of an alarm, and then the distorted voices of the three mysterious figures speaking.
- Around 37 minutes in, there is a loud buzz from the Porter. The Porter enters and speaks to some of the audience members in the front row. It might feel a little like the Porter is mad at the audience, but this is all rehearsed and part of the show.
- Around 42 minutes in, there is a loud scream when Macduff discovers Duncan's dead body off-stage.
- Around 45 minutes in, Lady Macbeth pretends to faint.
- Around 46 minutes in, the three mysterious figures cross the stage again. There is ominous music.
- Around 56 minutes in, Macbeth raises his voice at Lady Macbeth.
- Around 58 minutes in, the three murderers confront Banquo and Fleance. There is a fight, and the murderers kill Banquo by hitting him over the head. You can see blood coming out of Banquo's face from the blow, before the murderers cut his throat and drag him off stage.
- Around 1 hour in, there is ominous music that plays when Macbeth and Lady Macbeth crown themselves.
- Around 1 hour and 3 minutes in, Banquo appears at the head of the table during the Macbeths' feast. He is covered in blood, with a large gash on his head.
- Around 1 hour and 5 minutes in, Banquo runs on stage, which causes Macbeth to shout loudly at him.
- Around 1 hour and 9 minutes in, Lady Macbeth drinks from her cup before spitting out a mouthful of blood. The three mysterious figures appear before blood gushes out of the faucet. Then, loud rock music plays to signal the start of intermission.

Act Two:

- At the start of Act Two, the Citizens will walk down the staircases while talking to each other.
- Around 3 minutes in, the three mysterious figures emerge from the three sewer vents on stage. Fog comes out of the sewer vents. They speak with distorted, mechanical voices. There are also ominous sound effects, including the sound of lighting cracks and thunder.
- Around 4 minutes in, a woman pushes a stroller through the area between the stage and the front row. She is in an unsettling and unnatural pose, which might be disturbing.
- Around 5 minutes in, a bloody body bag is dragged across the back of the stage. It is implied that it is Duncan in the body bag.
- Around 6 minutes in, the mysterious figures walk across the stage. A bloody Banquo appears again.
- Around 11 minutes in, murderers appear and confront Lady Macduff and her child. Macduff's child is stabbed, and Lady Macbeth has a knife pressed to her throat. She is dragged off stage by one of the murderers.
- Around 12 minutes in, Lady Macbeth screams while looking at herself in the mirror.
- Around 17 minutes in, Macduff raises his voice at Malcolm.
- Around 21 minutes in, Lady Macduff and Macduff's Child walk on stage, covered in blood. They confront Macduff, who breaks down and acts as if he is vomiting.
- Around 23 minutes in, Lady Macbeth goes to clean the blood on the floor, but she only smears it on the wall and then on herself. Throughout the scene, she gets more and more blood on her, before she screams and starts to sob.
- Around 26 minutes in, Lady Macbeth speaks to the front row.
- Around 28 minutes in, there is loud, galloping music as the battle approaches Dunsinane.

- Around 31 minutes in, there is a loud cry during Macbeth's monologue. It is Lady Macbeth from off-stage. Soon after, Macbeth learns that Lady Macbeth is dead.
- Around 35 minutes in, there is the sound of a fire alarm going off, and then screaming. A battle ensues.
- Around 36 minutes in, multiple soldiers from both sides are killed during the battle. A soldier from Macduff's army approaches Macbeth. Macbeth breaks the soldier's neck and kills him.
- Around 37 minutes in, Macduff and Macbeth finally meet. There is a short fight using swords and knives. Macbeth cuts Macduff's hand with a knife, causing it to bleed.
- Around 39 minutes in, Macduff and Macbeth fight using hand-to-hand combat.
- Around 40 minutes in, Macduff takes Lady Macbeth's necklace from the sink and uses it as a garrote to choke Macbeth. You can see blood coming out from where Macbeth is being choked by the necklace. When Macduff steps away, Macbeth falls, dead.
- Around 42 minutes in, the three mysterious figures appear behind Malcolm. They speak in their distorted voices, before loud rock music plays and the lights go dark.

The End!



Raf Rogers, Craig Erickson, and Zahf Paroo as Figures and Sara Vickruck as Malcolm
Photo by Emily Cooper

At the end of the play, the lights will go dark. Then, the lights will come on again, and the actors will take a bow to thank you for watching the play.

The audience will clap and maybe even cheer for the performers. Sometimes, they will stand for a standing ovation.

If you want to, you can also clap and cheer for the actors.

Thank you for coming to Macbeth!