

The Cosmos Theatre
Presents
A Staged Reading of
THE TRAGEDY OF KING SAUL
Written and Directed
Anthony E. Gallo



November 16, 2013 12 PM
POWELL ROOM
A Play in Two Acts

ACT 1

Scene 1	Prologue	
Scene 2	Ramalah	Around 1000 BC
Scene 3	Samuel's Home	The Next Day
Scene 4	Battlefield	15 Years Later
Scene 5	Samuel's Home	A Week Later
Scene 6	Jesses Home	A Week Later
Scene 7	Saul's Room	Early Afternoon.
Scene 8	Saul's Palace	Week Later
Scene 9	Saul's Palace	Two Days Later
Scene 10	Saul's Bedroom	Two Weeks Later
Scene 11	Same Room	The Next Day

One Fifteen Minute Intermission

ACT 2

Scene 1	Saul's Bedroom	Three Days Later
Scene 2	An Open Field	Shortly Afterward
Scene 3	Michal's Bedroom	A Week Later
Scene 4	Saul's Palace	Six Months Later
Scene 5	Camp Of Ahimelech	A Month Later
Scene 6	Saul's Palace	Shortly Afterward
Scene 7	The Forest	Months Later
Scene 8	Endor	Weeks Later
Scene 9	The Forest	Months Later
Scene 10	Epilogue	

CAST

Saul, King of Israel	Stan Cloud
Samuel, Chief Judge of Israel	Bruce Smith
David	James McDaniel
Jonathan, Saul's Son	Ned Conquest
Michal, Saul's Daughter	Tarpley Long
General Abner, Saul's Uncle	George .Spencer
Jesse(Ensemble)	Pat Martin
Ahimilech (Ensemble)	Ed Molnar
Joel, Son of Samuel (Ensemble)	Eric Beshers
Alich, Son of Samuel(Ensemble)	Dick DeCorps
First Witch of Endor	Norma Evenson
Second Witch of Endor	BuntyKetcham
Third Witch of Endor	Liane Atlas
Narrator,	Trix Whitheall
Ensemble	Norma, Evenson Harvey Zuckman,
	Bunty Ketcham, Liane Liane Tarpley
	Long Scott Bush, Dick DeCorps Ed
	Molnar
Narrator, Sound Director	Trix Whithehall

The Artists.....

Liane Atlas (Third Witch, Ensemble) is a former foreign affairs officer with Department of State. She is a volunteer with the National Gallery, the Smithsonian Women's Committee, and the Washington Vassar Club FilmFest. She has appeared I five Tony Gallo plays.

Eric Beshers (Joel , Ensemble) appeared in The Importance of Being Earnest and Peer Gynt. More recently, he has had parts in Lincoln and God and Paul. He is a transportation economist.

Stanley Cloud (Saul) is a former Washington Bureau Chief of *Time Magazine* and is the author (with his wife, Lynne Olson) of two non-fiction books, *The Murrow Boys* and *A Question of Honor*. He is also the author of a novel, *The Manhattan Well*, about Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr, and two plays, both of which have been presented by the Cosmos Theatre.

Ned Conquest Jonathan) did his graduate and post-graduate work at Princeton. He has written stories, plays and poems. His plays *Gawain* and *the Widows Might* were presented by the Cosmos Theatre. He has appeared in *Lincoln and God*, *The Agony of David*, *Vandergrift*, and *Paul*..

Dick DeCorps (Alich, Ensemble) sings with the New Dominion Chorale (Treasurer) and is choir director at St. John Church, McLean. This is his first role in one of Tony Gallo's plays. He is a retired Coast Guard airplane pilot

Norma Evenson (First Witch, ensemble) appeared in many of Tony Gallo's plays, *Lincoln and God* and *The Agony of David*. She has participated in several Cosmos Club theater group productions, and is the author of a historical drama titled, *A Work in Progress*, as well as an ensemble of short play titled *Murder She Re-Wrote* . She is Professor Emeritus at the University of California, Berkeley, and a Fellow of the American Society of Architectural Historians.

Tarpley Long (Michal, Ensemble) studied for an MFA at the University of Alabama. She is a graduate of Studio Theatre Acting Conservatory in Washington, D.C. Her most recent roles include *Far Away* and modern Russian plays at Studio Theatre. She was an understudy for the role of Mama in *Black Milk* and appeared in *Fifteen Rounds with Jackson Pollock* in a Hyacinth Theater Company production Film credits include roles in three productions with Whoretoculture., Most recently she was cast as Boo in Anthony Gallo's play *The Botticelli Cruise* produced at Greenbelt Arts Center in summer of 2013."

Pat Martn(Jesse)

Ed Molnar (Ahimilech, Ensemble) has appeared in *Charleston Revisited*, *Paul, and Lincoln and God*. He is a mathematician and defense analyst, and a former Virginia Tech and U. S. Military Academy faculty member. Ed received his Ph.D. in theoretical mathematics from The Ohio State University and is also the author of an award-winning novel, *Shadows On A Mirror*.

James McDaniel (David) has appeared in numerous community theaters in the Washington DC area and in Tidewater Virginia for over thirty years. He lives with his wife, Sherman, and two cats, Tux and Sergeant. He works during the day as an instructional systems designer at DAU

Bruce Smith (Samuel) “has appeared in Gilbert and Sullivan musicals, including *H.M.S. Pinafore* and *The Mikado*, as well as *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, *Our Town*, and experimental plays in New York City. He is the author of a short story, has written a movie script, and is also currently writing a biography of Lincoln Gordon, American statesman. He has appeared in six Tony Gallo plays

George Spencer (General Abner) is an attorney who has considerable experience in the performing arts, having appeared in numerous plays and sung with many groups, including the Paul Hill Chorale, the Washington Men’s Camerata and the Washington Savoyards. His most recent appearance was in *Lincoln and God*, performed at the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church. George resides in McLean, Virginia and maintains offices with an intellectual property law firm in Arlington.

Beatrix Whitehall (Sound Design and Narrator) is new to the Seventh Street Playhouse, but has been involved with theater for over 30 years in innumerable productions, as actress, stage manager, technician, designer, and, recently, director. She is a founding member of the Greenbelt Arts Center and is currently on the Board of Thunderous Productions. Trix is a graduate of Harvard Law School, works as a public defender in Maryland, and performs Celtic music with the Homespun Ceilidh Band.

Harvey Zuckman(Ensemble) is a retired law professor who developed a penchant for writing short historical plays mostly set in his hometown of Minneapolis. All of the plays in what he calls his "Minneapolis Trilogy" have been performed by the Cosmos Club's drama group. He is pleased to be making his acting debut in Tony Gallo's "Saul".

This premiere staged reading of *The Tragedy of King Saul* is the third in playwright **Anthony E. Gallo's** ('93) trilogy examining the lives of the first three kings of Israel. *The Agony of David* and *The Last Days of King Solomon* were staged at the Club in 2008 and 2006 respectively. Samuel 1 and 2, Chronicles, and Josephus are the basic sources of historical memory for all three plays.

Following 200 years of rule by judges or seers, the people of Israel demanded a king. God, speaking through Judge Samuel, warned against a kingship but eventually allowed the people to have their way. Saul was Israel's first king. The plays deals with Saul's tragic kingship. He attempts to maintain his power, but comes into conflict with God, the prophets, the powerful Judge Samuel, children Jonathan and Michal, and above all the young man who will eventually replace him: the multi-talented soldier, poet, musician, politician, and religious David. The ingredients of this play make for great drama: murder, betrayal, compassion and love, want of power, depression, father/son relationships, wars, and jealousy.

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Mr. Gallo is a playwright, screenwriter, librettist, and essayist whose fourteen copyrighted, published, and produced dramas include – in addition to the above trilogy – *Margherita*, *Eugenio*, *Better than the Best*, *Vandergrift!*, *Lincoln* and

God, Charleston Revisited, The Botticelli Cruise, Paul, The Springfield Boys, motion picture *Charleston Revisited,* and folk operas *Lincoln and God* and *David*. His portfolio consists of over seventy works. His plays have been staged 110 times in thirty venues in Washington, Maryland, Virginia, New York, Pennsylvania, and Massachusetts. He is also artistic director of the *Seventh Street Playhouse* and *Eastern Market Studios*. *Margherita* (premiered at the Cosmos Club in 2002) is under contract to Browne-Nederlander Productions in New York City.

Audience participation and discussion follows.

TARPLEY LONG ('97)
Chair, Cosmos Theatre

The playwright would sincerely appreciate your suggestions and comments. You may contact him at 202 544 6973 or agallo2368@verizon.net