

Tina Packer: The Visionary Behind Shakespeare & Company



Tina Packer Builds A Theater by Helen Epstein

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

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Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
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Tina Packer is an American actress, director, and educator who co-founded Shakespeare & Company in 1978. She has been instrumental in developing the company's signature style of performing Shakespeare, which emphasizes clarity, intimacy, and physicality. Packer has also written several books on acting and directing, including "Women Creating Theatre" and "The Whole Theatre."

Packer was born in New York City in 1939. She studied acting at the Yale School of Drama and the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art. After graduating from Yale, she worked in regional theater and on Broadway. In 1978, she co-founded Shakespeare & Company with her husband, Dennis Krausnick. The company is based in Lenox, Massachusetts, and has a reputation for producing high-quality productions of Shakespeare's plays.

Packer's approach to performing Shakespeare is based on the belief that the plays are meant to be experienced live and in person. She emphasizes the importance of clarity, intimacy, and physicality in performance. She also believes that Shakespeare's plays are relevant to contemporary audiences and that they can be used to explore social and political issues.

In addition to her work with Shakespeare & Company, Packer has also taught acting and directing at the Yale School of Drama, Harvard University, and the Juilliard School. She has also written several books on acting and directing, including "Women Creating Theatre" and "The Whole Theatre."

Packer is a recipient of numerous awards, including the Tony Award for Best Director in 1994. She has also been inducted into the American Theater Hall of Fame. She is a respected figure in the theater world and her work has had a profound impact on the way Shakespeare is performed and taught.

Packer's Legacy

Tina Packer's legacy is one of innovation and excellence. She has been a pioneer in the field of theater and her work has helped to shape the way Shakespeare is performed and taught today. Her approach to theater is based on the belief that the plays are meant to be experienced live and in person. She emphasizes the importance of clarity, intimacy, and physicality in performance. She also believes that Shakespeare's plays are relevant to contemporary audiences and that they can be used to explore social and political issues.

Packer's work has had a profound impact on the theater world. She has inspired a generation of actors, directors, and educators. Her work has also

helped to make Shakespeare more accessible to audiences of all ages and backgrounds. She is a true visionary and her legacy will continue to inspire and inform the theater world for years to come.

The Importance of Live Theater

In a world that is increasingly dominated by digital media, it is more important than ever to support live theater. Live theater provides a unique and powerful way to experience art and culture. It allows us to connect with other human beings in a shared space and to experience the transformative power of storytelling. Live theater is also an important economic driver, creating jobs and generating revenue for local businesses.

Shakespeare & Company is a shining example of the power of live theater. The company produces high-quality productions of Shakespeare's plays that are accessible to audiences of all ages and backgrounds.

Shakespeare & Company also offers a variety of educational programs, including classes, workshops, and outreach programs. These programs help to foster a love of theater in young people and to make Shakespeare more accessible to underserved communities.

If you are looking for a way to experience the power of live theater, I encourage you to visit Shakespeare & Company. You will be amazed by the quality of the productions and the passion of the actors. You will also be supporting a vibrant and important cultural institution.

How to Support Shakespeare & Company

There are many ways to support Shakespeare & Company. You can buy tickets to performances, donate money, or volunteer your time. You can

also spread the word about the company to your friends and family. Every little bit helps!

Here are some specific ways to support Shakespeare & Company:

- Buy tickets to performances
- Donate money
- Volunteer your time
- Spread the word about the company

Your support will help Shakespeare & Company to continue to produce high-quality productions of Shakespeare's plays and to offer a variety of educational programs. Thank you for your support!



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