

# PRE-SHOW IN-THE-KNOW

## HAMLET: PRINCE OF SKIDMARK

### FAST FACTS

#### TITLE

*The Tragedy of Hamlet: Prince of Skidmark a Badaptation of the Bard* by The Listies.

Directed by Declan Greene.

#### ABOUT THE PLAY

The Listies (Matt Kelly and Richard Higgins) greet the audience who have come to see the Royal Shakespearean Players perform *Hamlet*. Matt tells Rich that he has given the Players a basket of 'Shakespearean food,' food literally from Shakespeare's time. The stage manager (Olga Miller) comes on to tell them that all of the Players have become ill from the food, but Rich has already taken a bite of some! They only have 50 minutes until Rich gets sick too. In that time the three of them will try and tell the story of *Hamlet*...

The Listies call on every trick in the book to tell the story of *Hamlet*; there are fancy costumes, Shakespearean insults, a science experiment, zombies and nunjas (nun ninjas!), and a healthy dose of audience involvement. While diverging ever-so-slightly from the original plot, The Listies raise important questions about the value of re-telling canonical plays, the roles of women in Shakespeare, and if there is a 'right' way to tell a story. All of this is done with lots of fart jokes, vomit machines and slapstick - we're in for a good time!

#### STYLE

Physical Comedy, Shakespearean adaptation.

#### RUNNING TIME

1 hour

### ACTIVE AUDIENCE

#### THINK ABOUT

- What makes something funny
- The story of Shakespeare's *Hamlet*
- Female characters in *Hamlet* and other Shakespeare plays
- Whose stories get told on our stages

#### WATCH AND LISTEN FOR

- Do The Listies do and say things you do and say as well?
- Funny props and costumes
- Dialogue from the original *Hamlet*

#### MEMORABLE MOMENTS

- Matt in the Ghost costume
- The ear poisoning on stage
- The part the audience plays!