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**SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL ST. LOUIS
PRESENTS THE ST. LOUIS PREMIERE OF Q BROTHERS *DRESS THE PART*
JANUARY 29 - FEBRUARY 15 AT THE READY ROOM**

December 10, 2019 -- Shakespeare Festival St. Louis (Tom Ridgely, Producing Artistic Director) announced today its production of a new musical by Chicago- based theatre collective the Q Brothers called *Dress The Part*. A hip-hop reimagining of Shakespeare's *Two Gentlemen of Verona* set in a 1980's high-school performed by two virtuosic actor-MCs and a live DJ, *Dress the Part* will run January 29-February 15 at the Ready Room in The Grove.

It was written and composed by the Q Brothers who successfully fuse modern beats with Shakespearean verse in award-winning productions like *Bomb-itty of Errors* and *Othello: the Remix*. Their production *Q Brothers A Christmas Carol* is currently showing to sell-out crowds at the Chicago Shakespeare Theater.

Dress the Part will be directed by GQ and JQ and feature actors Jordan Moore and Garrett Young, both of Chicago, IL. Local DJ, Crim Dollar Cray, will provide beats to the rap and hip-hop verses as Moore and Young dance their way through 24 different characters.

The artistic team includes Sheena Laird (Choreography) Peter and Margery Spack (Scenic and Video Design), Christina Leinecke (Costume Design), Eric Southern (Lighting Design) and Rusty Wandall (Sound Design). The Ready Room will be transformed to reflect the story from the doors to the stage.

Performances start at 8 p.m. Wednesday through Friday and at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Saturdays. A schedule of local acts will open each night and includes notable comedians Tina Dybal and Bobby Jaycox and DJs Jay E and Nico Marie.

Tickets for *Dress The Part* will go on sale Friday, December 13 and can be purchased online at www.sfstl.com/dressthepart. Single tickets prices range \$20-35 and each Wednesday night performance will be "Pay What You Can." For more information, contact Shakespeare Festival St. Louis at 314-631-9800 or visit sfstl.com.

The Q Brothers partnership is generously funded by Terry & Sally Schnuck and the Whitaker Foundation. Leadership support for all of Shakespeare Festival St. Louis' new work initiatives comes from Karen & Mont Levy.

ABOUT:

Q Brothers

Award-winning and internationally acclaimed theater artists, the Q Brothers generate original work fusing hip hop and theater, adapting classic stories to a wholly original, entertaining and fast-paced style of comedic performance that has been energizing audiences for over two decades. The Q Brothers conceived the term add-RAP-tation in 1999 with their Off-Broadway hit *The Bomb-itty of Errors*. MTV has called the Q Brother's "Nothing short of brilliant."

Jordan Moore is an actor, singer, and beat boxer from the suburbs of Chicago. He is a recent graduate from Northwestern University where he studied Theatre and Acting for the Screen. In Chicago he has been seen in *Holding the Man* (Pride Films & Plays) and just finished understudying for Lyle, *Lyle Crocodile* (Lifeline Theatre). At Northwestern he appeared in *Cabaret* (Emcee), *In the Red and Brown Water* (Egungun), *Spring Awakening* (Moritz), and *Fuente Ovejuna* (Barrildo). IG: themooreyoukn0w

Crim Dollar Cray (DJ) spins an eclectic, electric vinyl collection of late '60s and '70s disco, funk, rock and soul. Sounds include everything from slow jams on roller skates to uptempo party boogie. It's music to make you dance.

Garrett Young Recently seen as Dorian in *PYG or the Mis-education of Dorian Belle* (Jackalope Theatre), Orestes in the U.S. Premiere of Robert Icke's *Oresteia* (Theatre School at DePaul) Upcoming: *My Father's War* (TheatreSquared), *Everything That Never Happened* (Oregon Shakespeare Festival) Film/TV: *Chicago Med*, *Chicago Justice*, *Thicker Than Water*, *Godless* Training: BFA in Acting, The Theatre School at DePaul University; British American Drama Academy (Oxford), i/a with Yale School of Drama. @garrettryoung

Shakespeare Festival St. Louis

Shakespeare Festival St. Louis presents Shakespeare and works inspired by his legacy of storytelling. Since 2001, the festival has grown from producing a single production of Shakespeare in the Park to a year-round season of impactful theater in exciting and accessible venues throughout the St. Louis community. The festival's artistic and education programs reached over 50,000 patrons and students during the 2018 season and have reached over one million since 2001. In 2019, the Festival received a "What's Right with the Region" award from Focus St. Louis.