The Adventures of Robin Hood

written by Oliver Emanuel
directed by Omen Sade

A tale that's been told a thousand times — although NEVER quite like this.
Welcome To
The Adventures of Robin Hood
Resource Guide!

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About Filament Theatre

Filament Theatre believes in the transformational power of the performing arts in the lives of young people. To this end, we create immersive and site-specific theatre that inspires, empowers, and activates young people and their communities. We envision a future in which the leaders of tomorrow approach others with radical empathy, serving as ambassadors for their communities and stewards of the Earth.

Now in its tenth season, Filament’s work (16 world premieres and 6 Chicago premieres) includes a play where the audience rides bicycles, a play in a restaurant with a custom menu created by chef Joey Beato, three zero-waste productions, three plays adapted entirely from interviews of Portage Park residents, a play with two actors and 26 characters, a world premiere adaptation of an award winning Tomi Ungerer book, a play with six actors who play 14 musical instruments, and six commissions by Chicago playwrights.

Filament has been recognized for its excellence and unique approach to performance by institutions including American Theatre Magazine, TEDx, wbez, the Joseph Jefferson Awards, the Chicago Tribune and more. In a recent article The Chicago Sun-Times wrote: “Unlike most theaters, Filament’s programming is deeply ingrained in the neighborhood and the people, who live, work and play there.”
About Filament's Robin Hood

The Adventures of Robin Hood is an innovative take on the classic story in which all the show's characters – from the beguiling Maid Marian to the villainous Sheriff of Nottingham – are brought to life by just two actors. Swift and playful, full of sword fights and swashbuckling romance, this inventive, fourth-wall-breaking theatrical event will thrill adults and children alike in Chicago.

So... why do Robin Hood now? Why is this story important to us in Portage Park in 2017? Our director, Omen Sade, says this about the show: "The Legend of Robin Hood is almost a thousand years old, yet its themes are as relevant as ever. Ideas of power, justice, economics, and morality need constantly to be provoked, or questioned. Otherwise these big ideas become rigid, or don't change and grow, and can be used by people in power for help themselves, or to make the vulnerable in our society suffer. The story of Robin Hood provokes important questions in a powerful way: "Are those in power always to be trusted?", "Does justice fall upon us all equally?", "Why should the rich get richer while the poor suffer?", "What happens when "doing the right thing" puts you on the wrong side of the law?". Our actions create the society in which we live. As we find ourselves in a time of vibrant cultural and societal debate, this production asks: "What kind of society are we each creating?"

Above: Robin Hood (Guest) and Little John (Bunder) square off. Photo by Dominick Maino.
Cast & Crew

Robin Hood  
Sheriff of Nottingham et. al.
Robin Hood, understudy
Sheriff of Nottingham et. al., understudy

Playwright
Director
Costume Designer
Set Designer
Lighting Designer
Sound Designer
Associate Costume Designer

Stage Manager
Technical Director
Assistant Stage Manager
Carpenter
Master Electrician

Lobby Exhibit Design
Activity Guide
Creative Play Podcast
Graphic Designer
Photography

Artistic Director
Managing Director
Production Manager
Audience Engagement

Jyreika Guest
Molly Bunder
Lisa Revis
Anna Basile

Oliver Emanuel
Omen Sade
Noël Huntzinger
Brad Caleb Lee
Emma Deane
Michael Huey
Steph Taylor

Elias Nelson
Omen Sade
Caroline Foulk
Matthew T Black, Brandi Alexander
Cedar Larson

Nick Raef
Lucy O. Ahlborn
Alejandro Tey
Jill Arena
Dominick Maino & Les Photography

Julie Ritchey
Christian Libonati
Elias Nelson
Lucy O. Ahlborn
Sound Design

Every theatre production has a team of people who are all working together to build the show you saw today. Some of the people on the team are designers, meaning it is their job to make the set, the structures onstage that the actors walk on, the costumes, all of the clothing the actors wear, the props, any of the things the actors are carry onstage, and the lights and the sound.

Michael, our sound designer, says this about his design: "The director and I created a soundscape that painted big, broad brush strokes in an abstract way. The sounds are not meant to be realistic, or sound like they would in real life, but impressionistic—meaning it makes the audience feel a certain emotion. Our goal with sound and music was to capture the essence of this story of Robin Hood. That’s why the sound in the show is very sparse and deliberate—it is only used when absolutely necessary. Likewise, the music is meant to show the unseen, inner emotions of the characters, rather than the action happening onstage".

Make your own Nottingham Forest Soundscape!

Gather a group of friends together in a circle and pick one person to the the conductor, or leader of your orchestra! Then, brainstorm some ideas of some sounds you might hear in Nottingham Forest. Are there birds? Wind rattling the leaves? Horse drawn carriages? Once you have an idea, raise your hand and the conductor will point to people one at a time to make their noise. You can use your mouth, your hands, your feet, etc. to make your noise! The conductor will add people in one at a time by pointing to them, until everyone is making their noise together. The conductor can then signal to the group to make their sounds louder or softer. Take turns being the conductor and trying new noises! This game works best without talking!
Set Design

Brad Lee, our set designer for Robin Hood, says this about his design: "We wanted to create an intimate, or personal, space that allowed us to be actively telling the story. The large table reminds us of the medieval banquets, or feats where people would tell epic stories, such as this one of Robin Hood. It also reminds us of eating, or in this case, the lack of food and hunger of the peasants Robin Hood defends. We combined natural elements, like wood, against the golden objects found throughout the set, like chandelier and cutlery, which reminds us that this is a story of the "haves" and "have nots."

If YOU were going to design a set for a show, where would you want it to take place? Grab a piece of paper and draw what your set design would look like!
Sherwood Forest Maze

Robin Hood and his band of Merry Men live in Sherwood Forest, in Nottinghamshire, England. Find your way through the forest maze, making sure to avoid the Sheriff’s soldiers, and deliver the gold Robin has stolen back to the people of Nottingham!
Good Vs. Evil

What does it mean to be a hero? A villain? Create your own definition for what you think a hero, and what a villain is, and write them in the space below.

A HERO IS...

A VILLAIN IS...

In our story, both Robin Hood and the Sheriff think they are the hero, and the other is the villain. Write a letter from either Robin Hood or Sheriff’s perspective about why they think that they are the hero, and the other is the villain. Make sure that you give examples from the play to help support your argument!

Have a classmate or friend write letters from the opposite perspective (the other person’s point of view) and then take turns reading your letters out loud to each other. What do you learn from the two different perspectives?
Breaking the Fourth Wall

Sometimes during our production of Robin Hood, the actors Jyreika and Molly stop playing characters onstage, and talk directly to the audience just as themselves. This is called **breaking the fourth wall**, and is a *theatrical device*, or a tool that theatre plays sometimes use to help connect with the audience and tell a story. Throughout history, starting with Diderot in the 18th century, all the way to 2017, actors have broken the fourth wall to talk to audience members directly, in order to help connect the story to real events happening around the world, and to make the audience feel more included in the story telling.

Now it’s your turn! **Devise**, or come up with your own scene where one of your characters break the fourth wall to help better tell the story! Maybe you need the audience's help to answer a question your character has, or maybe you want their advice on what should happen next? Practice switching between playing a character, and just being yourself.
Robin Hood Word Search

There are 15 Robin Hood words in the word search below. Words can share letters, and appear horizontally and vertically, diagonally, AND backwards! Can you find them all?

ARROW
CHICKENS
DUNGEON
FRIAR TUCK
HOPE

LEGEND
LITTLE JOHN
MAID MARION
MYTH
NOTTINGHAM

PEASANT
SHERIFF
SHERWOOD
THIEF
WOLF

Looking for an extra challenge? Have a friend time you and see how quickly you can find them all!
Sharing

When Little John and Robin Hood first get the gold from the rich traveler in the woods, Robin wants to keep all the money for himself. Little John asks Robin, "Isn't it better to share it with those who need it most...?" and together, they leave gold on the doorstep of every family in Nottingham. Think about a time you decided to share something with someone else. Maybe, like Robin Hood, you didn't want to share at first, but then you changed your mind with the help of a parent or friend. How did it make you feel? How did the person you shared with feel? Did you learn something new about yourself?

Use the space below to write a story about a time you shared something with someone else. Grab some more lined paper if you need more space to finish!
Reading Recommendations

Robin Hood and The Golden Arrow
Written by Robert San Souci,
Illustrated by E.B. Lewis
PreK to 2nd Grade
Acclaimed author Robert San Souci, and Caldecott
Honor illustrator and Coretta Scott King Award
winner E. B. Lewis, retell the classic legend of
Robin Hood and the Golden Arrow. Robin Hood and
his loyal band create a plan to outsmart the
Sheriff of Nottingham by attending an archery
contest in disguise. In the end, it is Robin Hood
and his friends who have the last laugh!

Robin Hood
Written by David Calcutta,
Illustrated by Grahame Baker-Smith
3rd to 6th Grade
The champion of the destitute and downtrodden rides again.
Meet young Robin Hood before he becomes the hero of
Sherwood Forest, and follow along with his band of merry
men as his adventures become the stuff of legend. This
lavishly illustrated picture book features nine tales
including: Robin Becomes an Outlaw, Robin Meets Little
John, Robin and the Widow, and Robin’s Last Battle.

The Sherwood Hero
Written by Alison Price
6th to 8th Grade
"Your Robin Hood thing. Let’s do it for the Novel
"Are you crazy?” Kelly thinks it’s all over-her crazy
effort to feed the poor. At first it seemed so right,
but it became an obsession. And it made her do
something so terrible her parents never spoke
about it afterwards. Now her best friend is about
to start the nightmare all over again.
Next Onstage!

THE VAN GOGH CAFE

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Saturday, March 11 @ 5pm
Sunday, March 12 @ 5pm
Saturday, March 18 @ 5pm
Sunday, March 19 @ 5pm
Saturday, March 25 @ 5pm
Sunday, March 26 @ 5pm

Performances take place at Fannie’s Cafe: 5044 W Montrose Ave, Chicago, IL 60641 (at Montrose & Milwaukee)

Visit www.filamenttheatre.org/vangogh2017 to purchase tickets