



**BRAVE SPIRITS THEATRE  
ARCHIVE**

PRESS RELEASE  
*The Bloody Banquet*  
2015

**Directors:** Casey Kaleba and Charlene V. Smith  
**Dramaturg:** Claire Kimball

**Artistic Director:** Charlene V. Smith  
**Resident Dramaturg:** Claire Kimball

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Brave Spirits Theatre is providing these early modern theatre resources free of charge for educators, students, and theatre practitioners for research purposes only. All design, directing, and dramaturgical work is the intellectual property of the artist who created it. Any use of this work in future productions is forbidden unless the express permission of the artist is obtained.

Scripts in Word document format and scene charts in Excel are available for open source use and adaptation. You are also welcome to consult BST's script edits and doubling tracks for research or production. This page and other identifying markers should not be removed from PDF files.

If you found this document helpful in your research or practice, please consider donating to Brave Spirits Theatre at ([bravespiritstheatre.com/support](http://bravespiritstheatre.com/support)) to help support the company and these archives.



**Brave Spirits Theatre presents *The Bloody Banquet*  
As a part of the 10th Annual Capital Fringe Festival July 9 - 26, 2015**

**First professional performance since the 1600s!**

WASHINGTON - It's the early seventeenth century. It's 2 a.m. and you're in your hotel room flipping channels ... Historical Fantasy. Flip. Erotic Thriller. Flip. Pastoral Comedy. Flip. B-Movie Horror. Flip. ... The channels change but the title stays the same: *The Bloody Banquet*.

This gory tragedy was extremely popular in the early 1600s, remaining in the professional repertoire for three decades. After 1642, however, the play practically disappeared and remained unperformed for over three hundred years. Brave Spirits will be the first professional theatre company to produce this play in the modern era. The play tells the story of a tyrant, Armatrites, who catches his wife committing adultery. He murders her lover, has his quartered body strung up, and tells his wife that she will eat no other food except her lover's body. The plot is ripe with horrific elements: usurpation, revenge, and cannibalism. BST's Artistic Director Charlene V. Smith partners with blood and violence expert Casey Kaleba to co-direct this play.

**What:** *The Bloody Banquet* by Thomas Middleton and Thomas Dekker.

**Featuring:** Brave Spirits Theatre.

**Where:** Anacostia Arts Center: 1231 Good Hope Road SE, Washington, DC 20020.  
Accessible by Metrorail: Green line to Anacostia Station; Howard Rd. to Martin Luther King Ave. SE; turn left on Martin Luther King Ave., walk appr. 10 minutes to Good Hope Rd. SE; turn right on Good Hope Rd. SE and walk a ½ block. Accessible by Metrobus: 92 to Good Hope Rd. SE & MLK Ave. SE; 90 to MLK Ave. SE & U Street SE or Good Hope Rd. & 13<sup>th</sup> St.; P6 to MLK Ave. SE & U Street SE; B2 to Good Hope Rd. SE & 13<sup>th</sup> St. SE or MLK Ave. SE & W Street SE.

**When:** Tuesday, July 14 @ 10 p.m.; Thursday, July 16 @ 6:30 p.m.; Friday, July 17 @ 6:30 p.m. and 10 p.m.; Saturday, July 18 @ 6 p.m.

**Tickets & Passes:** In advance: [CapitalFringe.org](http://CapitalFringe.org) or by calling 866-811-4111. Tickets will also be sold the night of the performances at the door.

**Photos:** For high resolution photos related to our show, please contact Kelly Elliott at [kelly@bravespiritstheatre.com](mailto:kelly@bravespiritstheatre.com).

**The Bloody  
Banquet  
Publicist &  
Contact:** Kelly Elliott  
(240) 516-8745  
kelly@bravespiritstheatre.com

**Fringe Festival  
Press Contact:** Laura Gross, 202-695-8223, c: 202-255-2054, [press@capitalfringe.org](mailto:press@capitalfringe.org)

**Official  
Hashtags** # BSTBanquet #capfringe15 #CapFringeSoldOut

### **About You the Artist or Company**

Brave Spirits Theatre is dedicated to plays from the era of verse and violence which contrast the baseness of humanity with the elegance of poetry. By staging dark, visceral, intimate productions of Shakespeare and his contemporaries, we strive to tear down the perception of these plays as proper and intellectual and instead use them to explore the boundaries of acceptable human behavior.

### **About Capital Fringe**

Capital Fringe is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization founded in the summer of 2005 with the purpose of infusing energy into performing arts in the Washington, DC region through our annual Fringe Festival and year-round Fringe Training Factory. Capital Fringe's vigorous programs ensure the growth and continued health of the local and regional performing arts community by helping artists become independent producers while stimulating the vibrant cultural landscape in our city.

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