

The Merchant of Venice

Trinity Rep

Sunday, February 26, 2012

2:00pm show



This winter the Trinity Repertory Theatre will stage a production of Shakespeare's "The Merchant of Venice," a comedy with an overtly anti-Semitic theme written and produced from 1594 to 1597.

Temple Habonim has arranged for a block of tickets to the Trinity performance on Sunday, February 26th at 2:00PM. Tickets are \$40 each and may be purchased through the Temple office or via our website. If you are a Trinity subscriber, you may wish to exchange your tickets for the Feb 26th matinee performance and go with our THB community. Prior to the performance, on Monday, February 13 at 7:00pm, Dr. Stephen Kaplan will lead a discussion to address many issues raised by the play including:

- **Since Jews were expelled from England in 1290CE, the first of the western European kingdoms to do so, what is the likelihood that Shakespeare (whoever he or she was) ever met a Jew?**
- **The play was written and performed at a time of heightened anti-Semitism in England. Why would there be a period of heightened anti-Semitism 75 years before a Jewish individual would openly profess their religion in England?**
- **What might Shakespeare know about the Jewish merchants of Venice at the time this play was written and presented? Immediately following the play, Dr. Stephen Kaplan will lead a discussion at the theatre to elicit your reaction to the Trinity production. We are looking for a large turnout and a stimulating discussion.**