

# Coming in from the storms

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First things first, I want to mention a couple of plays still running you might want to catch before they both end Aug. 16.

Repercussion Theatre in Montreal is offering up *The Tempest* at locations throughout the Island. I saw it opening night and, believe me, it was a tempest for the outdoor performance as rain pelted down. In one of my past lives, I was employed as the company's administrator/publicist, and I doled out the (very meager) paycheques.

Never stopped them from performing to great aplomb though and this time was no exception. Greg Kramer, as Prospero (who conjures up a storm in the play), was amazing and almost seemed to draw upon the inclement weather. Check [repercussiontheatre.com](http://repercussiontheatre.com) for performance details.

I was also in Prescott for the opening night of *The Merchant of Venice*, produced by the St. Lawrence Shakespeare Festival. Now the SLSF has a slight advantage over Repercussion -they have a lovely tent where the shows can be held if the weather gods are disgruntled.

Such was the case that night. Ten minutes before performance time, stage manager Sarah Cutfield informed director Ian Farthing that, "Ian, we should head inside." Certainly, it's a disappointment for all involved, but what a wise call. No sooner did the performance begin, than did a huge storm begin raging.

But the show went on, and didn't miss a beat.

In fact, David Adams as Shylock (worth the price of admission alone) was positively outstanding. His big monologue, "Hath not a Jew eyes?" couldn't have been timed more perfectly as thunder rumbled louder and louder, almost egging him on.

Strangely enough, when I spoke to David later, he hadn't even heard the storm. I guess that's what it really means to be "in the moment" when you're an actor.

What a performance. And just think what it would have cost if you had to pay for those special FX!

For more info, check out [stlawrenceshakespeare.ca](http://stlawrenceshakespeare.ca) - and remember, they're rain or shine.

Of course, we all know it will be sunny now that my holidays are over. To sleep, perchance to dream.