



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 11, 2012

MATRIX:MIDLAND presents

THE COMPLETE WORLD OF SPORTS (ABRIDGED)

Featuring The Reduced Shakespeare Company's

"Bad Boys of Abridgement"

MIDLAND – No sport is safe from spoof when MATRIX:MIDLAND presents *The Complete World of Sports (abridged)* at Midland Center for the Arts on **Friday, February 3, at 7:30 pm**. From cavemen playing "Neanderthal in the Middle" to your own kid's soccer practice, the history of athletic competition will be regurgitated in this audience-interactive marathon of madness and mayhem that will leave every member of the family cheering.

In a send-up of an ESPN-style broadcast, The Reduced Shakespeare Company's "Bad Boys of Abridgement" poke fun at America's obsession with sports, their celebrities, and the pompous talking heads on TV who love the sound of their own voices! In the process, they answer some of the burning questions from sports, including: Is Bowling really a sport? What about Poker or Competitive Eating? Which is more boring – Baseball or Cricket? Who invented Curling and Synchronized Swimming and why are they in the Olympics? The result is a sharply satiric, tour-de-farce of vaudevillian physical comedy, and an all-out embrace of sports as fun.

Sports fans will like this show. Sports haters will LOVE this show!

Audience members are encouraged to show their team spirit by wearing their favorite sports jersey!

The Reduced Shakespeare Company is a three-man comedy troupe that takes long, serious subjects and reduces them to short, sharp comedies. Since 1981, these "Bad Boys of Abridgement" have created seven stage shows, including their first three shows – "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)," "The Complete History of America (abridged)" and "The Bible: The Complete Word of God (abridged)" – which ran for nine years at the Criterion Theatre in Piccadilly Circus – London's longest running.

Tickets are \$32 for adults; \$18 for students and are available by calling the MCFTA Ticket Office at 800-523-7649 or at mcfta.org. Sponsored by Dow Corning Corporation.

<http://www.reducedshakespeare.com/productions/the-complete-world-of-sports-abridged/>

Information: Call Ticket Office at (989) 631-8250 or (800) 523-7649 or www.mcfta.org
Find this on our website: <http://www.mcfta.org/OnstageGroups.html#sports>

The Reduced Shakespeare Company

The Reduced Shakespeare Company is a three-man comedy troupe that takes long, serious subjects and reduces them to short, sharp comedies. Since 1981, these "Bad Boys of Abridgement" have created seven stage shows, two television specials, several failed TV pilots, and numerous radio pieces – all of which have been performed, seen and heard the world over. The company's itinerary has included stops at the White House, the Kennedy Center, Lincoln

Center, London's West End and Montreal's Just For Laughs Festival, as well as performances in Australia, Hong Kong and Bermuda – plus countless civic and university venues. They have condensed literature into a 90-minute roller coaster ride in "All the Great Books (abridged)" and applied their fast, funny and physical approach to World History in "Western Civilization: The Complete Musical (abridged)." The company's first three shows, "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)," "The Complete History of America (abridged)" and "The Bible: The Complete Word of God (abridged)" ran for nine years at the Criterion Theatre in Piccadilly Circus – London's longest running.

MATRIX:MIDLAND presents professional, world-class entertainment to the mid-Michigan region. For over 30 years, Matrix has hosted an extraordinary schedule of cutting-edge entertainment including cinema, music, comedy, family programs, world-renowned authors and more.

Midland Center for the Arts, Inc. is a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation formed under the laws of the State of Michigan incorporating six groups: Alden B. Dow Museum of Science and Art, Center Stage Choirs, Center Stage Theatre, MATRIX:MIDLAND, Midland County Historical Society, and Midland Symphony Orchestra.

Activities at Midland Center for the Arts are supported in part by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts. For the latest Center news, visit our web site at www.mcfta.org.

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