

# The New York Times

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## SPARETimes



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**SHAKESPEARE'S 'SCOTTISH PLAY'** (Saturday) What better entertainment for Halloween weekend than a classic tale of murder, ghosts and treachery that carries a curse and opens with a trio of witches? Such a treat will be offered by Shakespeare in the Square, a student group from New York University, giving free performances of "Macbeth" at 2 and 5 p.m. in Washington Square Park; [shakespeareinthesquare.com](http://shakespeareinthesquare.com). (Above, the witches — Anthony Pape-Calabrese, top; Dan Hasse, left; and Jonathan Hess — during a park rehearsal this week.) Adding to the sinister mood of the student production is its setting; the park was once a burial site and is only a stone's throw from Astor Place, where mobs converged in 1849, set off, in part, by fans of competing productions of the play. The park and its surrounding streets will also be alive with walking tours and other Halloween events all weekend, culminating on Monday with the great pumpkin of them all, the Village Halloween Parade. Under an open sky, actors and members of the audience, who are encouraged to provide their own seating, may feel free to say the name "Macbeth," unafraid of the curse said to befall those who utter it indoors. Alas, the weather is a different matter; the performances go on rain or shine. (Anne Mancuso)