

## **Crown Crazy**

By Yaakov Shabtai

**Play:** 577

**Opening:** 13/10/2004

**Directed by** Ilan Ronen

**Set and Costumes:** Neta Haker

**Music:** Eran Dinor

**Lighting:** Keren Granek

**Casting:** Ruth Tonn

### **CAST**

**King David:** Yossi Banai

**Nathan the prophet:** Uri Avrahami

**Sraya the Scribe:** Aharon Almog

**Bathsheba:** Idit Teperson

**Abiathar the priest:** Avraham Mor

**Joab, captain of the Army:** Haim Hova

**Adonikah:** Uri Hochman

**Abishag:** Hagar Tapuchi

**Hushai the Archite:** Michael Koresh

**Solomon:** Ezer Kalmovitz

**Servants:** Yaron Hefetz, Michael Perlin, Soli Shabtai

It's King David's last day in power. The first item of the order of the day: Moving his bed, Abishag his giggling companion and the housewares to his throne room. His mind is distracted by the trifles of sovereignty: appointments, dismissals and daily ceremonies. Only one decision is constantly postponed – choosing his heir. After the death of his sons Amnon and Absalom, Adonijah is now next in line to inherit, but David has given oath to Bathsheba that her son Solomon will reign despite David's dislike of him. If it were possible he would have crowned Absalom on the spot, but only the memory of him remains, and the man who killed him – Joab, commander of the army – is now his right hand man. Around him, the Kingdom's stewards are busy promoting a resolution regarding the heir. Bathsheba who is supported by Nathan the prophet displays little warmth towards David when she comes to see him, speaks to him in the third person and insists on the fulfilment of the oath he gave her. Abiathar the high priest, and Joab, friends of the King, are not content with just pleading, and plot to forcefully put Adonikah on the throne.

Caught in the middle are Hushai the Archite who can not decide between the two sides, and Sraya the King's scribe who keeps his time tables and constantly reminds him of the urgency of the heir issue. When David finds out about the plot he is maddened by the thought of the decision being taken out of his hands. While Abiathar and Joab are celebrating the subversive crowning of Adonikah, David hastily puts together a crowning ceremony of his own for Solomon, without anointing oil and horns to show everyone, even on his last day in power, who is the King.