

Department of Theatre and Dance

***Twelfth Night,
or What You Will***

by William Shakespeare



**Twelfth
Night**

November 9–12, 2017

Alexander Kasser Theater



MONTCLAIR STATE
UNIVERSITY

Dr. Susan A. Cole, President
Daniel Gurskis, Dean, College of the Arts
Jedediah Wheeler, Executive Director, Arts & Cultural Programming
Department of Theatre and Dance
Randy Mugleston, Chair

Twelfth Night, or What You Will by William Shakespeare

Director **Mark Hardy**
Composer **Rollie Mains**
Musical Director **Michael Mahadeen**
Vocal Director **Becca McLarty**
Fight Coordinator **Rick Sordelet**
Set Designer **Kiefer Handschuh**
Costume Designer **Amanda Lee**
Lighting Designer **Jorge Arroyo**
Sound Designer **Scott O'Brien**
Hair/Makeup Designer **Jasmin Smith**
Production Stage Manager **Katherine Wainscott**

Cast (in order of appearance)

Viola.....	Giuliana Carr
Sebastian	Henri Zerbib
Antonio	Joseph Respicio
Olivia.....	Eve Brescia
Maria	Mo DeGreen
Sir Toby Belch.....	Bradley Satchell
Sir Andrew Aguecheek	Jesse Castellanos

Fabian.....	Cameron Style
Feste.....	Annelise Lipowitz
Malvolio	James Hooper
Orsino	McGregor Dalton
Curio.....	Michael Palermo
Valentine	Jake Siegfried
Captain/Priest.....	Bradley Carrington
1st Sailor/1st Officer	Alex Reitter
2nd Sailor/2nd Officer	Elmer Maximilian Cruz
Lady 1.....	Jackie McCarthy
Lady 2.....	Raven Smith
Gentleman.....	Ernest Forth
Court Musicians.....	Taylor Randolph, Joe Pandosh, Sarah Gagarin, Brigitte Francis, Anna Klein

Songs

Ben Johnson, “Drink to Me Only with Thine Eyes”

John Dowland, “Come Again, Sweet Love”

Time: When you will **Place:** On the Coast of Illyria

Duration: 2 hours 25 minutes, including one 15-minute intermission.

In consideration of both audiences and performers, please turn off all electronic devices. The taking of photographs or videos and the use of recording equipment are not permitted. No food or drink is permitted in the theater.

Program Notes

Shakespeare surely wrote *Twelfth Night* to celebrate the winter holiday of the same name marked in some branches of Christianity, a night signaling the end of yuletide revelry and feasting. For some, it closes the twelve days of Christmas. We know it was performed in 1602, but it may first have been presented a year earlier. It was included in the First Folio, which appeared in 1623, so perhaps we can trust that we have a fairly accurate version of the text—to the extent that we can trust any of the Folio texts, since the playwright was not much interested in publication. Like most of his plays, this one was not published until several years after Shakespeare's death. We associate a subtitle with this play, but in the First Folio it was part of the title, not an afterthought: *Twelfth Night, Or what you will* (Folio capitalization). Shakespeare doesn't seem to have been fond of subtitles otherwise—and when you consider this phrase in the context of the play, perhaps it was never intended to be one. “What you will” is an enigmatic idea that can be interpreted in subtly different ways: what you wish or desire, what you make happen, what you try to manifest, whatever you make of it. It shares direct address to the viewer with only one other of his titles, *As You Like It* (a play that shares a great deal indeed with *Twelfth Night, or What You Will*). The concept of will may be positive or negative; one may be deeply committed or stubbornly bull-headed. “What you will” seems to challenge the viewer to take part in the proceedings and clearly tells us that we have choices in the matter. We have a say in what occurs. Appropriate to revelry and feasting, surely, but there may be more here for us and for the characters we follow. Set on the seacoast of Illyria (present-day Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Albania, northern Greece—still the unspoiled and wilder side of the Adriatic), it's a tale of loss and desperation, of personal obsession, of hidden identity and concealed gender. It's particularly a story of choice and consequence—characters cross thresholds into new, unexplored emotional territory. Their actions lead to unanticipated, sometimes perilous conflicts. Feeding on romantic love, many allow its passions to control their actions to an absurd degree. In this play, the drug of love is everywhere. Others allow the dangerous fun of pranking, mockery, and comic revenge to get far out of hand. If this begins to sound like an action film or a hit cable adventure/romance series, this is exactly what Shakespeare was up to. He was not writing literature, he was writing

blockbusters aimed at the box office. Capturing an audience was his trade. In doing such a grand job of this, Shakespeare elevated the romantic comedy by equipping it with guts, earthy vigor, and the questing soul of a poet. The whimsy and invitation of “what you will” has guided us in this production. A winter revel is a light amidst dark and cold, an assurance, a deliverance, an assertion of vitality and hope, perhaps even a stand against the dangerously mundane. What will you?

—Mark Hardy, Director

Production Biographies

Mark Hardy (Director) is delighted to be working on *Twelfth Night, or What You Will* with this talented cast and crew. An associate professor teaching acting and musical theatre performance in the Musical Theatre BFA program at MSU, he has directed *West Side Story*, *Triumph of Love*, *The Threepenny Opera*, *Take Flight*, *The Wild Party*, and *City of Angels* here. Recent directing credits include *Fiddler on the Roof* and *Hairspray* for the Mac-Haydn Theatre; *The Graduate*, *Into the Woods*, and *The Music Man* at Forestburgh Playhouse; and *Carousel* for The Carnegie in Cincinnati, OH. He won a League of Cincinnati Theatres award for his direction of the Alice Childress play *Trouble in Mind* and an Acclaim Award for directing *The Women*. Other notable directing credits include *On the Town*, *Loot*, *A Chorus Line*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Sweet Charity*, and *Titanic*. A professional actor for many years, Hardy appeared on Broadway in *Les Misérables*, *Titanic*, and *Children and Art* (Sondheim 75th birthday tribute) and in the national tours of *Sunset Boulevard*, *The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber*, and *Les Misérables*. He appeared Off-Broadway in *A New Brain* at Lincoln Center, *Juba* at the Vineyard, *Helluva Town* at Rainbow and Stars, and the acclaimed revival of *The Rothschilds* at Circle in the Square Downtown. Recent performance credits include Sweeney in *Sweeney Todd*, Higgins in *My Fair Lady*, Emile in *South Pacific*, and Dan in the regional premiere of *Next to Normal*. Other regional credits include roles for Denver Center Theatre, Williamstown Theatre Festival, GeVa, Long Wharf, and Houston Grand Opera. He played Quixote in *Man of La Mancha* at the Sibiu International Theatre Festival in Romania. Hardy has worked across the US and Canada as a guest artist with numerous symphonies and performing arts

series. His international teaching has taken him to England, Greece, China, Romania, and Croatia.

Rick Sordelet (Fight Coordinator) and his son, Christian Kelly-Sordelet, are the creators of Sordelet, Inc., an exciting new stage combat company bringing more than 30 years of action movement experience to the entertainment community. Sordelet has worked on 72 Broadway productions, including *Disney's The Lion King* and *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*, as well as the national tours of *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* and *Les Misérables*. His credits include 52 first-class productions worldwide. Opera credits include *Cyrano* (starring Plácido Domingo) at the Metropolitan Opera; *Don Carlo* (directed by Nicholas Hytner) and *Heart of the Soldier* at San Francisco Opera; and *Cold Mountain*, *Don Giovanni*, *Roméo et Juliette*, and *La Funciulla del West* at Santa Fe Opera. He has worked on films such as *The Game Plan*, *Dan in Real Life*, *Brave New Jersey*, and *The Sounding*. On television, he and his son worked as stunt coordinators for the hit CBS comedy series *Kevin Can Wait* and spent 12 years as stunt coordinators for *Guiding Light*. He is an instructor at the Yale School of Drama and a board member for the Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey. Sordelet received the Edith Oliver Award for Sustained Excellence at the Lucille Lortel Awards from the League of Off-Broadway Theatres and Producers, and a Jeff Award for Best Fight Direction for *Romeo and Juliet* at Chicago Shakespeare Theater. He is the author of the play *Buried Treasure* and the cowriter of the upcoming feature film *20,000 Leagues under the Sea*, directed by Bryan Singer. www.sordeletink.com.

Kiefer Handschuh (Scenic Designer) is a senior in the Theatre Production/Design major with a concentration in scenic design, technical direction, carpentry, and fabrication. Previous work includes scenic design for *Michigan Murders* (MSU) and *The Drowsy Chaperone* (NMHS); lighting design for *Peter and the Starcatcher* (UCHS), *The Drowsy Chaperone* (NMHS), and *Legally Blonde* (NMHS); technical direction for *AIDA* and *The Drunken City* (MSU); carpentry/fabrication for *West Side Story* (MSU), *Punk Rock* (MSU), *The Mikado* (New York Gilbert and Sullivan Players), *The Producers* (MSU), *Triumph of Love* (MSU), and *Pride & Prejudice* (MSU). Other work includes Muni 98th season carpentry intern, stagehand, and local rigging crew (IATSE Local 6); Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade (2015, 2016, 2017 parade staff, 2017 float technician); and freelance stagehand (IATSE Local 1).

Amanda Lee (Costume Designer) comes to Montclair State University from Trumbull, CT. She is a current junior earning her BFA in Theatre Production/Design with a focus on costume design and technology. Recent design credits include *The Snow Queen*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Stuart Little*, and *Seussical* (New London Barn Playhouse), the premiere performance of Larry Keigwin's dance piece "Mad Rush" (MSU), *Once on this Island Jr.*, and *The Sound of Music Jr.* (Broadway Boot Camp). Recent credits as assistant designer include *AIDA* (MSU), *Porgy and Bess* (Utah Festival Opera and Musical Theater), *99 Ways to F*%k a Swan*, and *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas* (MSU).

Katherine Wainscott (Production Stage Manager) is currently finishing her final year at Montclair State University, where she will be receiving a BFA in Theatre Production/Design with a concentration in stage and production management. Notable stage management credits include *Elton John and Tim Rice's AIDA* and *Twelfth Night* (Production Stage Manager), and the Mac-Haydn Theatre summer season 2016 (Assistant Stage Manager). In addition to being a full-time stage manager, Wainscott works under the MSU Department of Theatre and Dance as an assistant in the production office. Her assistant production management credits include *West Side Story* and *Michigan Murders* (a new work). This past summer she worked at the Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey as a production management intern, where she production-managed the apprentice company's production of *Two Noble Kinsmen* as well as two of the performances of the *Late Nite* series. Wainscott continues to expand her horizons by exploring regional theaters across the country and has even traveled internationally to participate in a theater study abroad program in Santiago, Chile.

Cast Biographies

Eve Brescia (Olivia) is a sophomore in the BFA Acting program and is making her debut in this production. She has been singing and acting for years in countless community and scholastic productions throughout New Jersey. Some of her favorite credits include *The Crucible* (Abigail Williams), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Puck), and *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Millie). Brescia has performed and competed in

several international theater festivals and won “Best Actress” in the state of New Jersey in 2014. She aspires to work professionally on Broadway and film.

Giuliana Carr (Olivia) is a senior BFA Acting major. Previous MSU credits include *Michigan Murders* (Genevieve), *The Lost Ones*, *Pride and Prejudice* (Miss De Bourgh), and *Breaking the Cycle*.

Jesse Castellanos (Sir Andrew Aguecheek) is originally from Miami, FL, and is a sophomore at MSU. Castellanos recently was a part of MSU’s Theater on the Move project *Breaking the Cycle*. @thejessecastellanos

Elmer Maximilian Cruz (2nd Sailor/2nd Officer) is a sophomore BFA Acting student. He has previously been seen with The Dirty 9 comedy troupe at MSU. *Twelfth Night* is his first main-stage show here, but he has been seen in *West Side Story* (Action), *The Comedy of Errors* (Balthazar), and more across the New Jersey/New York City area. IG: @elmermaximiliancruz

McGregor Dalton (Orsino) is a senior Musical Theatre major from Houston, TX. He has previously been seen at MSU in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Chip Tolentino), *Hair* (Berger), *West Side Story* (Big Deal), *The Producers* (the Stormtrooper Tenor), *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas* (Senator Wingwoah), and *The Klemperers’ New Clothes*.

Mo DeGreen (Maria) is a sophomore Musical Theatre major originally from Cincinnati, OH. *Twelfth Night* is her second production at MSU (the first being *Into the Sun*) and her first production in the Alexander Kasser Theater. Past roles include *The Diary of Anne Frank* (Mrs. Frank), *The Good Doctor* (The Governess) and *Crimes of the Heart* (Chick).

Ernest Forth (Gentleman) is a sophomore BFA Actor from Mount Royal, NJ.

Brigitte Francis (Court Musician) is a junior BFA Musical Theatre major at MSU, where she has been seen in *Perfectly Frank*, *AIDA*, and *West Side Story* (Rosalia). This past summer she worked at Interlakes Summer Theatre, where she appeared in *CATS* (Jennyanydots). Past shows include *Mary Poppins* (Mary Poppins), *Into the Woods* (Little Red), and *42nd Street* (Peggy Sawyer).

Sarah Gagarin (Court Musician) is a sophomore in the BFA Acting program. Previously she was a member of the Bully Tour ensemble; upcoming work includes the New Works Initiative production of *Civics and Humanities for Non-Majors*.

James Hooper (Malvolio) is a senior BFA Acting major at MSU. Previous shows include *Clybourne Park* (Karl/Steve) and *Henry V* (Bardolph/Montjoy).

Anna Klein (Court Musician) is a junior BFA Acting major. She has previously been seen at MSU in Theatre on the Move, *Iphigenia at Aulis*, and in The Dirty 9. She was in *The Tempest* this past summer with the Commonwealth Shakespeare Company apprentice program. Next semester she will appear in MSU's New Works Initiative production of Jeff Talbott's new play, *Civics and Humanities for Non-Majors*.

Annelise Lipowitz (Feste) is a senior Acting major in her second year here after a mid-undergrad transfer from the University of the Arts (Philadelphia). There, she appeared in *A Chorus Line* and as a resident actor and writer in the Speakeasy 932 New Works Collective.

Michael Palermo (Curio) is a junior BFA Acting major with a love for all things storytelling. Palermo has the pleasure of fully indulging himself in Shakespeare's works this year.

Jackie McCarthy (Lady 1) is a sophomore BFA Acting major at MSU and is making her second appearance on the Montclair stage. Previous work at MSU includes *Michigan Murders* (Mary) and Montclair's comedy/improv troupe The Dirty 9. Previous roles include *Legally Blonde: the Musical* (Elle), *All Shook Up* (Miss Sandra), and various roles in *The Laramie Project*.

Joe Pandosh (Court Musician) is a sophomore at MSU, where he is a Musical Theatre major. He is ready to pursue his role as a minstrel in his first show ever at MSU.

Taylor Randolph (Court Musician) is a senior BFA Acting major. She was last in the Alexander Kasser Theater as the dramaturg on last fall's production of *Iphigenia at Aulis*, directed by Heather Benton.

Alex Reitter (1st Sailor/1st Officer) is a sophomore BFA Actor at MSU. Reitter was seen in the critically acclaimed production of *Seussical the Musical* (Cat in the Hat) when he was a senior at Robbinsville High School. He was also part of MSU's anti-bullying project, *Breaking the Cycle*.

Joseph Respicio (Antonio) is a junior BFA Acting major at MSU. His other roles at MSU include Soldier in *Iphigenia at Aulis* (2016) and Gunner in *Misalliance* (2017).

Bradley Satchell (Sir Toby Belch) is a sophomore BFA Acting major from Port St. Lucie, FL. He studied at the Stella Adler Studio of Acting in New York City and the Jersey City Arts High School theater program, and attended the Rutgers Summer Acting Conservatory in 2014. Last semester, he was in the Bully Tour.

Jake Siegfried (Valentine) is a sophomore Acting major and is looking forward to his first main-stage production at MSU. He has recently been seen as swing for Theatre on the Move, and you can always find him tapping in the studios of life. Good luck and a great run to the whole cast of *Twelfth Night!*

Raven Smith (Lady 2) is a sophomore BFA Acting major at MSU. Acting has been her passion from a young age, and growing up she performed in various school and church productions. Recently, she played Tituba in the MSU Players' production of *The Crucible*.

Cameron Style (Fabian)—from pulling cards out of thin air to making coins disappear right under your nose—has made his transition to theater throughout years of performing magic professionally. For Style, deception isn't the most important element in magic, it is the wonder. In high school he realized that this wonder can be given to people, and theater justifies his reason to do so.

Henri Zerbib (Sebastian) is a sophomore at MSU. This production is his first time working on Shakespeare. His past shows include *Misalliance* (Bentley), *Weirdo* (Gus), and *Michigan Murders* (Slim).

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