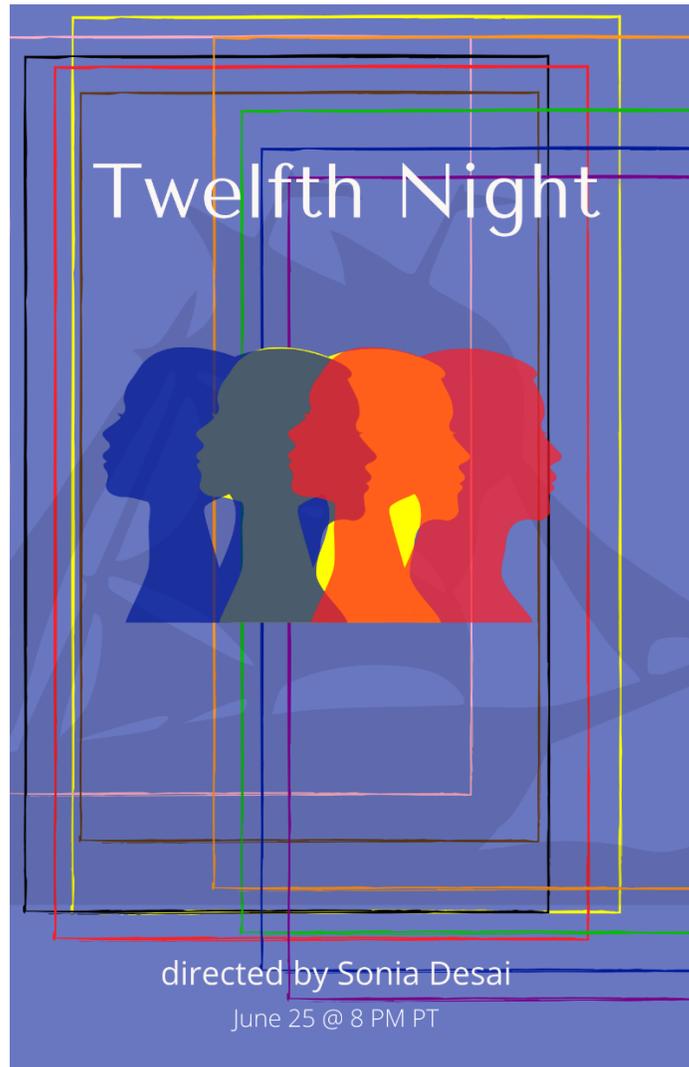


Shakespeare on the Bluff, Loyola Marymount University
The College of Communication and Fine Arts and The Department
of Theatre Arts Presents:

Twelfth Night

Or, What You Will

By William Shakespeare



Support Shakespeare on the Bluff!

Go to <https://cfa.lmu.edu/programs/theatrearts/shakespeareonthebluff/supportus/>.
Your generous support will allow us to continue to keep this tradition free and open to all.



Loyola Marymount University
Theatre Arts

Welcome to LMU Theatre Arts Shakespeare on the Bluff Festival 2021

Welcome to the 4th Season of Shakespeare on the Bluff!

Our LMU Theatre's engagement with the works of William Shakespeare has quickly become, a new tradition. It has made a mark on our neighbors by providing high quality, free, and accessible community-based theatre experiences for all ages. And while, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, and through our abundance of caution—we have been relegated to a web-based delivery system once again this season—we continue our commitment to community, and to the critical and creative engagement of our art and craft that promotes the many talents and skills of our students and faculty.

We hope you will enjoy our first show of the season, *Twelfth Night (or What You Will)*. Our production celebrates Pride Month by showing the limited-ness of love, the twin spiritedness of possibility, and the politics of passing and play—with a few pirates thrown in.

Here is a foreshadowing: While up to this point, we have focused primarily on the plays of Shakespeare, our second production of the season, "Sonnetfest" expands our repertoire. This set of performances will celebrate the reputational capital of Shakespeare as "The Bard of Avon," in his stature as 'great poet' and the unofficial national poet of England. The production will present a diverse set of individuals (alumni, students, faculty and friends) presenting some of the 154 sonnets that Shakespeare wrote and published around the year 1609. His sonnets cover themes such as the passage of time, mortality, beauty, infidelity, jealousy, and of course love. There will be something for all.

And while we enjoy presenting these performances for free to our community, we also invite your support in our efforts to keep the event free (see the link, above).

Enjoy our production of *Twelfth Night*, then comeback for our presentation of "Sonnetfest" on July 23 and then, come back again to join us next summer on the new Drollinger Family Stage. The new 2022 outdoor home of the LMU Shakespeare on the Bluff Festival on beautiful Lawton Plaza at the epicenter of the LMU campus.

Sincerely,

Bryant Keith Alexander, PhD
CFA Dean

Shakespeare on the Bluff 2021

Twelfth Night or, What You Will

By William Shakespeare

Directed by Sonia Desai

Designed by Kelvin Rim

Stage Managed by Audrey Szot

Technical Direction by Rob Hillig

Virtual Scene Design by Louie Enriquez

Assistant Directed by Lolly Johansen Sheppard

Props by John Burton

Graphic Design by Olivia Oreskovich

CAST

Joshua Merwise as Orsino

Sarah Jost as Viola

Joey Freid as Curio/2nd Officer

Dwayne Cox as Valentine/Servant/1st Officer

Eibhlin Brennan as Captain/Priest

Anthony Topsfield as Olivia

Emma Hvizsak as Maria

Laura Fern as Sir Toby

Cecille Forsyth Rios as Sir Andrew

Zoe Carr as Feste

Lucy McNulty as Fabian

Sam Pribyl as Malvolio

Niall Sulcer as Sebastian

Patrick Koocheradis as Antonio

Video contribution powered by ZoomISO

A Note from the Director

Happy Pride Month! Thank you for joining us for our production of *Twelfth Night*! We have transported this Shakespearean gender bending fairy tale to modern times and placed it in the world of queer Ballroom culture. Ballroom is an underground movement started by the Black and Latinx LGBTQ community in New York as a way of creating a place of safety and celebration. It is a space of creativity and performance. This culture was the birth place of many aspects of our contemporary pop culture; terms like “voguing,” “sipping the tea,” “slay,” “throwing shade,” and many others come from Ballroom. Ballroom also incorporated references to pop culture, for example, many Ballroom Houses were named after high fashion brands. At a ball, Houses perform in different categories for prizes and money. Performing in these Houses is a way of forming family outside of the heteronormative ideology which often reject and punish queer BIPOC. As Stasha Garçon, Mother of House of Garçon from Season 2 of the HBO show *Legendary* says, ballroom is a place where “people of different walks of life come together to live out a fantasy of what we thought during those times [1960-1980] that could never be for us.” It was a way for those who were pushed to the margins of society to imagine a world in which they were accepted and celebrated. Ballroom and Ballroom Houses are still a refuge for many queer people today. We hope you enjoy our homage to this beautiful, vibrant, and creative community. As we celebrate this Pride month, I encourage us to remember the queer BIPOC of the Stonewall Riots and their sacrifice which paved the way for the LGBTQ+ community today.

Much love,
Dr. Sonia Desai, Director

A Brief Note from Shakespeare on the Bluff Artistic Director, Kevin Wetmore

Welcome, and thank you for joining us for the first show of our fourth season! I want to thank Dr. Sonia Desai, the director of *Twelfth Night*, for marshalling this wonderful production under the challenging circumstances of zoom theatre with a cast all over the globe. I also want to thank Rob Hillig, Kelvin Rim, Louie Enriquez, and John Burton, who are responsible for the designs you see tonight. Lastly, I wanted to invite you to join us in person next summer when we proudly present our fifth season on the Drollinger Family Stage. Thanks for coming, hope to see you next year in person!

Shakespeare on the Bluff 2022

***The Tempest* (June)**

Directed by Jane McEneaney

***Richard II* (July)**

Directed by Catharine Christof Dada

LMU Theatre Arts 2021-22 Season

Twilight Los Angeles 1992 by Anna Devere Smith

October 7-10 and 14 -16, 8pm

Directed by Jon Lawrence Rivera

Acclaimed as “an American masterpiece” TWILIGHT: LOS ANGELES, 1992 is a stunning new work of “documentary theatre” in which Anna Devere Smith uses the verbatim words of people who experienced the Los Angeles riots to expose and explore the devastating human impact of that event.

Haunting of Hannon IX: Last Ride on the Cyclone

October 23-24 - 8pm

Written and directed by Kevin Wetmore

The annual haunted house takeover of Hannon Library by Theatre Arts

Everybody by Branden Jacobs-Jenkins

November 4-7 and 11-13 - 8pm

Directed by Daphnie Sicre

Everybody is a 2018 play based on the medieval morality play *Everyman* (or *The Summoning of Everyman*), *Everybody* is an allegorical quest in which the title character “Everybody” pleads with his companions—with names like “Kinship,” “Friendship,” “Stuff”—in the hope that one of them will accompany him to his appointment with Death.

Barbecue by Robert O'Hara

February 18-20 and 24-26 - 8pm

Directed by TBD

The grill is hot, the beer is chilled and the table is set for a typical O'Mallery family barbecue. But when their drug-addicted sister Zippity Boom arrives strung-out and out of control, her siblings have finally had enough. Their ham-handed intervention ignites the fuse of this raucous and rollicking comedy that skewers our warped view of the American family.

Men on Boats by Jaclyn Backhaus

March 17 – 20 and 23 – 26 - 8pm

Directed by Katharine Noon

Choreography/Movement Director - Rosalynde LeBlanc Loo

Ten explorers. Four boats. One Grand Canyon. MEN ON BOATS is the true(ish) history of an 1869 expedition, when a one-armed captain and a crew of insane yet loyal volunteers set out to chart the course of the Colorado River.

When We Were Young and Unafraid by Sarah Treem

April 1-2 - 8pm

Directed by Amanda Hallman (MFA Thesis Project)

In the early 1970s, before Roe v. Wade, before the Violence Against Women Act, Agnes has turned her quiet bed and breakfast into one of the few spots where victims of domestic violence can seek refuge. But to Agnes's dismay, her latest runaway, Mary Anne, is beginning to influence Agnes's college-bound daughter Penny. As the drums of a feminist revolution grow louder outside of Agnes's tiny world, Agnes is forced to confront her own presumptions about the women she's spent her life trying to help.

Octagon - Staged Reading - by Kristiana Rae Colon

April 16-17 - 8pm

Directed by Kennedy Smith

Octagon is a story told through poetry. A group of young artists come together on their journey to the Octagon; the supreme spoken word poetry slam. In this journey of artistry and love, everyone is reminded of the importance of their voices and the power that can come from them.

New Works Festival

April 27-30 - Times TBD

One Act Plays written, directed and acted by LMU students.