

ACTORS ENSEMBLE PRESENTS

**TWELFTH
NIGHT
OR
WHAT YOU
WILL**

By
William Shakespeare

Directed by
Stanley Spenger

Live Oak Theatre
1301 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley
January 20, 2006 to February 18, 2006

CAST

(In Order of Appearance)

Orsino, Duke of Illyria.....Eric Carlson
Curio, gentleman attending the Duke.....Melanie Curry
Valentine, gentleman attending the DukeJoseph Hirsch
Viola, sister to Sebastian.....Wendy Welch
A Sea Captain, friend of Viola.....Jerome Solberg
Sir Toby Belch, uncle to Olivia.....Norman Macleod
Maria, Olivia's woman.....Melanie Curry
Sir Andrew Aguecheek.....Leon Branton
Feste, a clown, servant to Olivia.....Jerome Solberg
Olivia, a countess.....Sonya Kreiden-Karaim
Malvolio, steward to Olivia.....Stanley Spenger
Antonio, a sea captain, friend to Sebastian....Joseph Hirsch
Sebastian, brother to Viola.....Adam D. Channel
Fabian, servant to Olivia.....Adam D. Channel
Officers.....Melanie Curry, Stanley Spenger
Priest.....Leon Branton

Scene: Illyria

Act I

Scene 1: The Duke's palace

Scene 2: The seacoast

Scene 3: Olivia's house

Scene 4: The Duke's palace

Scene 5: Olivia's house

Act II

Scene 1: The seacoast

Scene 2: Outside Olivia's house

Scene 3: Olivia's house

Scene 4: The Duke's palace

Scene 5: Olivia's garden

Act III

Scene 1: Olivia's garden

Scene 2: Olivia's house

Scene 3: The street

Scene 4: Olivia's garden

Act IV

Scene 1: Olivia's house

Scene 2: Olivia's house

Scene 3: Olivia's garden

Act V

Scene 1: Olivia's house

There will be one 15 minute Intermission

PRODUCTION STAFF

Stage Manager.....Kim Stewart
Production Assistant.....Debbie Zike
Set Design.....Rose Ann Raphael
Assistant to the Director.....Jerome Solberg
Scenic Artist.....Rose Ann Raphael
Light Design.....Christine Dickson
Costumes.....Helen Slomowitz
House Manager.....David Cohen
Box Office.....Bill Martinelli, Margaret Gudmundsson
Program.....Margaret Gudmundsson
Publicity.....Ralph Miller, David Stein, Wendy Welch

Director's Notes

I would like to thank Robert Hamm, director, Geoffrey Pond, and the entire cast of Subterranean Shakespeare's 1998 production of *Twelfth Night*, whose work was the inspiration and guiding spirit of this production.

Set Notes

Many graphic elements on the set are from surreal and fantasy prints from the 15th – 17th centuries, printed in the "The Waking Dream" by Edward Lucie-Smith, published by Alfred A. Knopf in 1975.

BIOGRAPHIES

Leon Branton (Sir Andrew Agucheek, Priest) Among the

productions of which Leon is most proud were *Rebecca* as Colonel Julian, performed at the Dean Leshner Theatre For The Arts, and *Looking Glass* as Dean Little with San Francisco City College. Leon balances his interest in acting with hiking, oil painting and West Coast swing dancing.

Eric Carlson (Orsino) A newcomer to Shakespeare, Eric recently played in CCCT's *You Can't Take It With You*, (Kate Culbertson, director), and AE's *A Murder Is Announced* (Margaret Gudmundsson, director). For this production, his wife Anne and daughter Boothe are surprised he's not portraying the Fool - a role he's entirely comfortable playing at home.

Adam Danger Channel (Sebastian, Fabian) Hailing from the frigid wasteland of the north, Adam Channel, today's new and upcoming star is absolutely thrilled to be in this fabulous show with such an amazing director and cast. His previous shows are *Parallel Lives*, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Adam's hobbies include dog-walking, air-guitar, and salad tossing. His educational goal is a teaching career but until then he is thrilled to give his all in this spectacular performance for your viewing pleasure.

Melanie Curry (Maria, Curio, Officer) played Liz in *Present Laughter* with Actors Ensemble last year, and appeared in *Hamlet* and *Julius Caesar* with Subterranean Shakespeare. She studied acting with Ed Hooks. She will not be giving up any of her day jobs, which include mom and magazine editor.

Christine Dickson (Lighting Designer) is happy to be back at Actors Ensemble for her second annual lighting debut. She also collaborated to design lights for Stanley for *Present Laughter*, *Measure for Measure*, *Hamlet*, and another *Twelfth Night*.

Joseph Hirsch (Antonio, Valentine, Servant) is very excited to be making his first appearance at Actors Ensemble. Acting since the age of ten, favorite roles include Peter in *The Diary of Anne Frank*, Tom in *The Glass Menagerie*, and Eugene in *Brighton Beach Memoirs*. Joseph has been nominated for two Shellie awards: Best Actor and Best Supporting Actor. Joseph works at Every Dog Has Its Daycare in Emeryville.

Sonya Kreiden-Karaim (Olivia), a TBA member, is happy to be appearing with AE for the first time. Some of her favorite roles to-date have been Lizzie, *The Rainmaker*; Kate Keller, *The Miracle Worker*; and Caitlin O'Hare in *Over the River and Through the Woods*, because it is just such a fun show to be a part of. She'd like to thank Stanley Spenger, the director, for the opportunity and challenge of being cast in her first ever Shakespearean production, and for his belief that she could do it.

Norman Macleod (Sir Toby Belch) trained as an actor at The York Repertory Theatre, England. For many years he has appeared in Bay Area productions, most recently at The Masquers Playhouse, Point Richmond. Sir Toby Belch is usually described as "crude, fat and very drunk." Norman is somewhat alarmed at the number of his acquaintances who say he is perfectly cast. Norman appears by kind permission and with the support of Dianne, his agent, manager, muse and spouse.

Rose Anne Raphael (Set Designer and Scenic Artist) This is Rose Anne's fourth show with Stanley Spenger, and with AE, where she's on the board of directors. Most recently, she designed the set for *Steel Magnolias* at the Spreckels Theatre in Rohnert Park. A freelance publicist, her art is shown at the Jason Lees Design showroom in Oakland, www.jasonleesdesign.com.

Helen Slomowitz (Costume Designer) is enjoying this, her fifth opportunity as Costume Designer with Actors Ensemble! Helen also, would like to thank the ultimately

grand crew & cast of *Twelfth Night* for all their help, input & for being the marvelous people they are!

Jerome Solberg (Feste, Captain) wants to thank everyone else in this play for putting up with his foolery, and hopes you enjoy the show. He lives in Berkeley with his beautiful wife, Hitomi.

Stanley Spenger (Director, Malvolio) was the founder and artistic director of Subterranean Shakespeare from 1988 to 2003. He recently directed *American Buffalo* and *Phaedra* (by Debra Rogin) for Sub Shakes, *Hamlet* for New Shakespeare Company, and Noel Coward's *Present Laughter* for Actors Ensemble. He appeared in *Much Ado About Nothing* at Shakespeare At Stinson last summer.

Wendy Welch (Viola/Cesario) is super grateful to everyone who makes "playing" possible: director, cast, crew, husband and friends—and very importantly—You. She's co-owner of goodandevilcreative.com, an ad shop specializing in promoting small businesses.

Debbie Zike (Production Assistant) has known Stan for 15 years. She's a graduate of the National Critics Institute, New London, Connecticut. She's also a playwright; one of her plays was selected for the Edward Albee Last Frontier Playwrights Conference, and she's working on a new play now. Debbie is a teacher at the Oakland Adult School, and a wife and mother.

SPECIAL THANKS

Gijs Hooijkaas, Kate Roark, Utrecht Art Supplies, Stan Weitzer

*See our Web Site at www.aeofberkeley.org
Web Master – Wendy Welch*