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THE GAMM STAGES SHAKESPEARE'S BELOVED COMEDY *TWELFTH NIGHT*

WARWICK, RI (February 21, 2024) – **The Sandra Feinstein-Gamm Theatre** (The Gamm) presents William Shakespeare's ***Twelfth Night*** – a web of misdirected love and unexpected poignancy woven by a cast of unforgettable characters. **Gamm Artistic Director Tony Estrella** and **Associate Artistic Director Rachel Walshe** co-direct the Bard's famous comedy.

Twelfth Night runs **March 21-April 14** at The Gamm Theatre, 1245 Jefferson Blvd., Warwick, R.I. Tickets: \$55-\$65; preview performances (March 21-24) just \$38 at **401-723-4266** or gammtheatre.org/twelfth. Information about Friday night pay-what-you-wish tickets, as well as discounts for seniors, students, groups and more at gammtheatre.org/discounts.

Alison Russo (Dora in *An Octoroon*) and **Michael Liebhauser** (Isaac in *Describe the Night*) are shipwrecked twins Viola and Sebastian, the characters at the core of this convoluted romantic comedy. **Donnla Hughes** as Olivia (Yevgenia in *Describe the Night*), **Cedric Lilly** as Duke Orsino (Yeshua in *Paul*), **Deb Martin** as Malvolio (Oberon in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*), and **Jeff Church** as Sir Andrew Aguecheek (Vova in *Describe the Night*) are all players in a hilarious game of unrequited love. More Gamm favorites, old friends, and newcomers make the play's oft-quoted line, "If music be the food of love, play on," ring truer than ever.

Estrella said he is eager to revisit ***Twelfth Night*** after having directed The Gamm's critically and popularly acclaimed 2005 production.

"Almost two decades later, it is past time to revisit Shakespeare's greatest comedy, and I mean comedy in the most expansive sense. It is the funniest, most delightful, most powerfully moving and true play about love ever penned."

Shakespeare's timeless comedy still has the power to entertain and enthrall modern audiences, Walshe said.

"You would be hard pressed to find another play that hits the high notes of joy and hilarity as fully as it hits the deep notes of pain and loss. Never bound by the limits of genre, Shakespeare has crafted a story that remains as moving as it is funny, as silly as it is revelatory. I can't wait to share it with our audiences."

ABOUT *TWELFTH NIGHT*

Mistaken identities, gender bending, and twins lost at sea! Love unrequited and love triumphant! This buoyant comedy, populated with some of Shakespeare's most memorable characters and clowns, has something for everyone. Penned in the celebratory spirit of Tudor England's post-Christmas Twelfth Night festival, the Bard's brilliant satire explores the mutable nature of gender, sexuality, and social standing with heart and humor. Experience The Gamm's signature take on Shakespeare, in a production laced with melancholy and peppered with mirth. *Twelfth Night* is a song of love and laughter for all.

Support for this production from:



Shakespeare in American Communities is a program of the **National Endowment for the Arts** in partnership with **Arts Midwest**.

This production is generously sponsored by **Navigant Credit Union**.

Rhode Island State Council on the Arts is a season supporter.

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

Twelfth Night

By **William Shakespeare**, directed by **Tony Estrella** and **Rachel Walshe**

CAST

Viola.....**Alison Russo***
Sebastian.....**Michael Liebhauser***
Olivia.....**Donnla Hughes***
Duke Orsino.....**Cedric Lilly**
Feste.....**Nora Eschenheimer***
Sir Andrew Aguecheek.....**Jeff Church***
Valentine.....**Omar Laguerre-Lewis**
Sea Captain/First Officer.....**John Cormier**
Sir Toby Belch.....**Kelby Akin***
Maria.....**Rachel Dulude***
Malvolio.....**Deb Martin***
Antonio/Ensemble.....**Ben Pereira**
Fabian.....**Jason Quinn**
Curio/2nd Officer.....**Jared Nobrega**
Sailor/Viola's Gentlewoman.....**Mireya Celine Hoffens**

CREW

Set Design **Patrick Lynch⁺**
Costume Design **David T. Howard**
Lighting Design **James Horban**
Sound Design **Hunter Spoede**
Music Design **Milly Massey**
Director of Production **Jessica Hill Kidd**
Stage Manager **Anais Bustos***
Assistant Stage Manager **Jessica Chace***

*Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

⁺Member of IATSE, the union representing Scenic, Costume, Lighting, Sound and Projection Designers in Live Performance.

ABOUT THE GAMM THEATRE

Founded in 1984, the non-profit Gamm Theatre is proud to tell stories that entertain, provoke, and engage seriously with the most important issues of our time. The Gamm further serves the public with educational programming that enriches the cultural and civic life of our community. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Tony Estrella and Executive Director Jason Cabral, The Gamm is a regionally recognized, award-winning theater and a proud member of New England Area Theatre (NEAT), a bargaining unit of the Actors' Equity Association.

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