

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



**CAST AND CREATIVE TEAM ANNOUNCED FOR ACT
CONTEMPORARY THEATRE AND SEATTLE
SHAKESPEARE COMPANY'S FIRST JOINT PRODUCTION**

TWELFTH NIGHT

*Directed by Annie Lareau and playing June 7 – 22; tickets on sale now
at acttheatre.org.*

*Twelfth Night marks the beginning of two companies' official merger
effective July 1, 2025.*



SEATTLE, WA (May 1, 2025) — ACT Contemporary Theatre and Seattle Shakespeare Company announced today the cast and creative team of William Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*, directed by Annie Lareau and playing at ACT June 7 through June 22. *Twelfth Night* represents the debut of Seattle Shakespeare Company at ACT and their first joint production ahead of [their official merging](#) on July 1 of 2025.

Set in hopeful post-WWII Italy, this gender-fluid romp and treasured comedy explores the diversity of love, reminding us how relevant Shakespeare remains today.

"*Twelfth Night*, one of Shakespeare's greatest comedies, is a play steeped in laughter and love," said **SSC Managing Director John Bradshaw**. "But it is also a play of change, of transformation, of new beginnings, which seems especially apt as the first joint production of ACT and Seattle Shakespeare."

Twelfth Night plays in ACT's Falls Theatre June 7 – 22, 2025, with an opening night celebration on Thursday, June 12. A full list of events can be found below and at acttheatre.org.

MEET THE CAST AND CREATIVE TEAM

The cast of *Twelfth Night* features:

- **Alegra Batara** as Viola / Cesario
- **Rhys Daly** as Sebastian / Lady in Waiting
- **Sarah Harlett** as Maria
- **Tim Hyland** as Sir Toby
- **Cassi Q Kohl** as Feste
- **Benjamin Neil McCormack** as Antonio / Captain
- **Pilar O'Connell** as Fabian / Curio / Lady in Waiting
- **Peter Dylan O'Connor** as Sir Andrew
- **Arjun Pande** as Orsino
- **Malex Reed** as Valentine / Priest / Officer
- **Jasmine Jean Sim** as Olivia
- **Amy Thone** as Malvolio

The creative team includes **Annie Lareau** (Director); **Malex Reed** (Music Director & Composer); **Parmida Ziaei** (Scenic Designer); **Danielle Nieves** (Costume Designer); **Ahren Buhmann** (Lighting & Projection Designer); **Robertson Witmer** (Sound Designer); **Amy Thone** (Text Coach); **Eva Gil** (Intimacy Director); **Ian Bond** (Fight Director); **Pilar O'Connell** (Casting Director); **Margaret Layne** (Additional Casting); **Melissa Y. Hamasaki** (Stage Manager); and **Larcyn Burnett** (Assistant Stage Manager).



ABOUT ANNIE LAREAU (Director)

Annie Lareau has been directing regionally for the past 25 years. She currently serves as the Producing Artistic Director of Madison Street Theatre Company after spending the last 8 years as the Artistic Director of Seattle Public Theater. Past productions at Seattle Public include *Admissions*, *The Call*, *Vanishing Point*, and *Grand Concourse*. Other Seattle productions include *The Tempest*, *Pericles*, *As You Like It*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *Macbeth* for Seattle Shakespeare Company; *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* and *My Antonia* for Book-It Repertory Theatre; and *The Little Dog Laughed* and David Henry Hwang's *Chinglish* for ArtsWest Playhouse. Other directorial work has been seen at The Kennedy Center for the Arts, ACT Contemporary Theatre, Cornish College of the Arts, Seattle Children's Theatre, among others. Annie holds a

BFA in Acting and Directing from Syracuse University, an MEd from Harvard University, and an MFA in Creative Writing from Cedar Crest College.

FOR EDITORS/PRODUCERS:

WHAT:

Twelfth Night

By William Shakespeare

Directed by Annie Lareau

A Seattle Shakespeare Company and ACT Contemporary Theatre Joint Production

Viola is in love with Duke Orsino, who is in love with Olivia, who is in love with Cesario, who is actually...Viola. Seattle Shakespeare Company makes its debut at ACT Contemporary Theatre with a new joint production of this gender-fluid romp and treasured comedy, set in a hopeful post-WWII Italy. Director Annie Lareau explores the diversity of love, reminding us how relevant Shakespeare remains today.

[Show Details >>](#)

[Ticket info >>](#)

WHEN:

June 7 – 22, 2025

Evening performance times are at 7:00 p.m (Tues, Wed, Sun), 7:30 p.m. (Thurs, Fri, Sat), and matinees are at 2 p.m. A full performance schedule can be [found here](#).

Key Dates:

- **First Preview:** Saturday, June 7 at 7:30 p.m. [Tickets>>](#)
- **Industry Night:** Tuesday, June 10 at 7:00 p.m.
 - Theatre industry professionals receive \$25 tickets. [Get Industry tickets here>>](#)
- **Opening Night:** Thursday, June 12 at 7:30 p.m.
 - Join us before the show at 6:30 for our Opening Night celebration featuring music, photos, and fun. [Get Opening Night tickets here >>](#)
- **ASL (American Sign Language) Interpreted & Audio-Described Performance:** Saturday, June 14 at 2:00 p.m.
 - Special seating is reserved for patrons requesting live ASL interpretation of the spoken English performance. Seats are held for patrons during select performances to guarantee optimal viewing of both the interpreters and the stage. [Get ASL tickets here >>](#)
 - Complimentary audio description is available for patrons who are blind, who have low vision, or who may benefit from having the unspoken action

of a play narrated for any reason. See any front-of-house team member before the performance to receive your headset. [Get audio-described tickets here >>](#)

WHERE:

ACT Contemporary Theatre's Falls Theatre, located at 700 Union Street in Downtown Seattle.

TICKETS:

Tickets start with Pay What You Choose starting at \$5 to all performances. We are proud to offer a range of ticket prices and discounts for all our plays in our goal to make theatre affordable for everyone. [See all of our discount offerings here.](#)

To purchase tickets, visit acttheatre.org

PRESS ROOM:

Pre-production images will be available in the coming weeks. For available artwork and headshots, [please visit our Press Room online >>](#)

CONNECT:

acttheatre.org

seattleshakespeare.org

Facebook - [/ACTtheatreSeattle](#) [/seattleshakespeare](#)

Instagram - [@ACTtheatre](#) [@seattleshakespeare](#)

TikTok - [@actseattle](#)

LinkedIn - [/act-theatre](#)

ABOUT ACT CONTEMPORARY THEATRE

Steadfast in its dedication to producing work that sparks an authentic curiosity about the human condition, ACT produces bold, audacious works of contemporary theatre from its home in Seattle. Over the last 59 years, ACT has remained the voice of contemporary theatre in the Pacific Northwest, presenting necessary and relevant works on current themes and producing more than 300 plays and musicals, including 49 world premieres. Currently led by Interim Producing Artistic Director [Elisabeth Farwell-Moreland](#), ACT nurtures theatre-makers of the next generation, with a mission to be a contemporary theatre where artistic ambition and civic engagement unite.

ACT is here to challenge how stories are told. For more information on ACT Contemporary Theatre please visit acttheatre.org.

Thank you to our Theatre and Season Sponsors: 4Culture, ArtsFund, Katharyn Alvord Gerlich, The Shubert Foundation, Nesholm Family Foundation, Trial and Error Productions.

ABOUT SEATTLE SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

With the plays of William Shakespeare at our core, Seattle Shakespeare Company engages our audiences, our artists, and our community in the universal human experience inherent in classic drama. SSC is committed to “Shakespeare for everybody.” As the Puget Sound region’s year-round, professional, classical theatre, the company’s growing success stems from a deep belief in the power and vibrancy of the time-tested words and ideas of Shakespeare and other classical playwrights. SSC is committed to artistic excellence on stage, and accessibility through education outreach programs, state-wide touring, and free Wooden O performances in regional parks. The results have been provocative performances that both challenge and delight audiences while fostering an appreciation for great stage works. For more information on Seattle Shakespeare Company, please visit seattleshakespeare.org.

Thank you to our Season Sponsors: ArtsFund, The Norcliffe Foundation, Office of Arts & Culture, 4Culture, DSquared Hospitality Company, The Morgan Fund, and Treeline Foundation.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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