

PRESENTS our 2024 RC Rangitahi Initiative

# YOUTH SHAKESPEARE'S TWELFTH NICHT



Written by the Bard, Directed by Geoff Allen Creative Direction / Actors / Crew by Rangitahi

## 15 - 23 March 2024

#### SETTING THE SCENE

Welcome to Illyria Beach Resort, where the sun dances on the waves, and time plays hopscotch with its own rules. Duke Orsino reigns supreme, a king of leisure by day and a hopeless romantic by night. His heart tangled in the sand dunes of unrequited love for the enigmatic Olivia, who sips her mocktails with an air of mystery.

But fate has a jest in store as Viola and her twin brother Sebastian wash ashore, triggering a whirlwind of mistaken identities and beachside escapades. Donning the guise of Cesario, Viola becomes the unwitting messenger of love, only to find herself entangled in a love triangle more twisted than a windsurfing contest.

Amidst the laughter and the lapping of the waves, Sir Toby Belch and Sir Andrew Aguecheek add **a splash of chaos** to the mix, their antics more unpredictable than the tide.

As the night sky twinkles with a thousand stars, the island comes alive with the twinkle of fairy lights and the rustle of palm trees, signaling the arrival of the Twelfth Night FANCY DRESS PARTY...

Here, beneath the moon's enchanting gaze, identities blur and feelings ignite in a kaleidoscope of colors and confetti. With Viola's true identity hanging by a thread, and Sebastian's unexpected appearance throwing a coconut into the mix, the stage is set for a grand finale where love triumphs, and laughter echoes across the sands.

So, grab your jandals, and your sense of adventure, for in Illyria Beach Resort, where the only rule is to dance to the rhythm of your heart, anything can happen, and every night is a Twelfth Night to remember!!!

#### **CHARACTERS & PRODUCTION**

Orsino - Duke of Illyria Max Easey Valentine / First Officer Olivia, a countess Sir Toby Belch, her uncle **Faith Ward** Malvolio, her steward Feste, her fool Maria, her gentlewoman Fabian, a servant Viola, later called Cesario Sebastian, Viola's twin brother Sir Andrew Aguecheek Antonio/Curio, friend to Cesario **Kyla Turner** Sea Captain / Priest

**Oscar Rooney Aimee Waterhouse Bijoux Nortje Kierron Diaz-Campbell** Tanna Van Rensburg **Fletcher Norgrove** Isabella Ciobo Raine Gilchrist **Gigi Albrecht** Harvey Trembath

Director **Directors Assistant Stage Manger** Light & Sound Tech

**Geoff Allen** Valentine Harton **Freya Said Darcy Gray** 





Isabella Ciabo Auckland Uni



Kierron Diaz-Campbelll Kingsland



Bijoux Nortje Belmont



Max Easey Browns Bay



Aimee Waterhouse EGGs



Harvey Trembath TGS



Raine Gilchrist TGS



Oscar Rooney Te Kura



Faith Ward Orakei







**Gigi Albrecht** Carmel



**Kyla Turner** TGS



Tanna Van Rensburg Carmel



Freya Said TGS



Fletcher Norgrove



Valentine Harton TGS



Darcy Gray Long Bay



#### THEIR VISION THEIR VERSION RANGITAHI: THEIR VOICE



>Working on this show has been my most rewarding theatre-related experience thus far. We are so happy to be part of this incredible and wickedly funny cast.

This play has been one of the most entertaining and awesome things to be a part of. We've loved working alongside all the talented people who are a part of this show.

>Every cast member has brought a true sincerity to their role. The friendships and connection that you see on stage are reflective of the real behind-the-scenes bonding between our actors.

There's never been a dull moment with the cast! There's lots of laughs every rehearsal, and we always manage to come up with the **wackiest ideas**.

>A great balance of freedom and guidance, & above all a stupendous amount of fun! Even though we've only been together for a few weeks, we've enjoyed being a part of this blessed and talented team, and am so excited for the final result!

Thank you for this opportunity that everyone, both on/off stage, has provided to us to learn & grow as artists. Love the spin that we have put on the show!!

>It's been an honor working with the cast and crew, & we hope everyone enjoys the show. Illyria is one special place!! Can't wait to see everyone there!!

#### **DIRECTORS NOTE**



Ko ngā kakano o te wā a mua - The seeds of the future.

When we have the means to make dreams a reality, it's important to take the risk – with RC Board supporting my concept, I initiated the search for youth to lead a Shakespearean production at the Rose Centre.

We picked the funniest of his plays. Twelfth Night has been remixed/rehashed/reimagined to a tight 90 minutes of youthful, creative exuburence! This production will have you, as have I, falling in love again with The Bard's depth of ideas, canny wit and imagery.

Corelling this young cast & crew is a roller coaster joy. They are a wonderfully wicked enthusiastic bunch to work with & I believe we have many future directors & stars in our midst to watch & follow.

12th Night is all about love and pretending to be someone else. I hope you love our interpretation of this classic Shakespearean tale!

Nāku noa,

Geoff Allen

Acknowledgements: Pam Fleming, Gigi Albrecht, and Bijoux Norte - THE JIG. Thanks to: Company Theatre. Valentine Harton.

### ROSE CENTRE The Story behind the Show

The Rose Centre is extremely proud to present to you this exciting youth-led production of Shakespeare's 12th night!

Developing an arts environment that encourages inclusive access and participation for our community is one of the main charitable purposes of the Rose Centre . Last year, after the success of our "Golden Screens" theatre collaboration (also local youth led), the RC Board was keen to identify and support further engagement opportunities with rangatahi.

So, we've stepped it up a notch with actually producing 12th Night ourselves – a first! We invited local youth to work alongside seasoned Director Geoff Allen & our dynamo Engagement Manager Abby Jones in all facets of developing this production, from stage managing to props, external PR to plot development, set design to sound and lighting. We have been blown away at the level of creativity, execution and skills of this cast & crew – Whakamihi!

Of course none of this is possible without external support and collaboration. Our heartfelt gratitude to the Devonport-Takapuna board for our annual arts funding, Cast & Crew whanau for supporting your creative tamariki, Restoring Takarunga Hauraki for providing foliage, Devonport Electrical, Company Theatre and of course – Signal Hill Restaurant in Devonport – who are providing wonderful, delicious beverage & snack services prior to performances.

The biggest shoutout is to you, our audience – thank you for coming along and watching and supporting this creative endeavor.

We are super inspired by what our crew & cast have achieved, and we hope you are too. Enjoy!

Ngā mihi nui ki a koe!

**RC Board** 





