



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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San Francisco Shakespeare Festival Announces Dates and Cast for Free Performances of *As You Like It: a new musical*

With Original Music by The Kilbanes and Phil Wong

The San Francisco Shakespeare Festival announces the dates and cast for Free Shakespeare in the Park performances of *As You Like It: a new musical*. This year, the Festival will present an original musical featuring nine songs by The Kilbanes. The duo of Kate Kilbane and Dan Moses are a Bay Area favorite acclaimed for powerful story-telling indie rock. An additional two songs are provided by Festival Resident Artist, Phil Wong. Music direction is by Brenden Getzell, who also plays multiple instruments in the production.

Directed by Artistic Director Rebecca J. Ennals, the play will feature Regina Morones as Rosalind, Michael Barrett Austin* as Orlando, Anne Yumi Kobori as Celia, Norman Gee* as Adam/Touchstone, Maryssa Wanlass* as Jaques/Lady, Rondrell McCormick* as Oliver/Corin, Dave Sikula as Duke Frederick/Duke Senior, Akaina Ghosh as Dennis/Silvius, Gwen Loeb* as Le Beau/Audrey, Andrea J. Love* as Charles/Phebe, performance interns Skylar Adams, Griffin O'Connor, Peter Stielstra, and Danielle Ferrer as ensemble, and Adam Thompson as bassist. Will Shattuc is the show's Assistant Director. The production features costume design by Susan Szegda, set design by Neal Ormond, fight choreography by Sydney Schwindt, and lighting design by John Bernard. The cast includes returning favorites from past Shakespeare in the Park productions, including Festival Resident Artists (Ghosh, Kobori, Morones, and Wanlass) and talented newcomers to the company.

"While developing this new musical version of *As You Like It*," explains Ennals, "we asked ourselves and our community, 'What does the Court represent? What does it mean to go into the Forest? What does it mean to be exiled, now and in the near future?' and most importantly 'What does it feel like to experience love – this feeling that all human beings, no matter their circumstances, seem to have in common?' We are enormously grateful to our neighbors experiencing homelessness who have shared with us, in workshops and in rehearsals, their own humanity and their own stories."

This comedy is about the love between Rosalind and Orlando, young lovers who meet in the corrupt Court of Duke Frederick. To avoid unjust political persecution, both must flee separately into exile before they have a chance to explore their budding relationship. They cross paths once again in the Forest of Arden, but this time Rosalind is disguised as a boy named Ganymede, and Orlando is unable to see through her disguise! Will Rosalind-as-Ganymede find a way to reunite Rosalind and Orlando? Come to Free Shakespeare in the Park to find out the fate of these lovers in exile.

The production will travel to Pleasanton, Cupertino, Redwood City, and the Presidio and McLaren Park in San Francisco. Bring your family, your friends, a blanket, and a picnic to enjoy this classic Shakespeare comedy brought to you free by the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival.

****denotes members of Actors' Equity Association***

2019 Performance schedule for *As You Like It: a new musical*

Pleasanton, Amador Valley Community Park, Santa Rita Rd and Black Ave

- Saturday, June 29 at 7:00 pm - Preview
- Sunday, June 30 at 7:00 pm - Preview
- Saturday, July 6 at 7:00 pm - Preview
- Sunday, July 7 at 7:00 pm - Opening
- Saturday, July 13 at 7:00 pm
- Sunday, July 14 at 7:00 pm

Cupertino, Memorial Park Amphitheater, Stevens Creek Blvd and Mary Ave

- Saturday, July 20 at 7:00 pm - Preview
- Sunday, July 21 at 7:00 pm - Opening
- Thursday, July 25 at 7:00 pm
- Friday, July 26 at 7:00 pm
- Saturday, July 27 at 7:00 pm
- Saturday, July 28 at 7:00 pm
- Thursday, August 1 at 7:00 pm
- Friday, August, 2 at 7:00 pm
- Saturday, August 3 at 7:00 pm
- Sunday, August 4 at 7:00 pm

Redwood City, Sequoia High School Grounds, 1201 Brewster Ave at Broadway

- Saturday, August 10 at 7:00 pm - Preview
- Sunday, August 11 at 4:00 pm - Opening
- Saturday, August 17 at 7:00 pm
- Sunday, August 18 at 4:00 pm
- Saturday, August 24 at 7:00 pm
- Sunday, August 25 at 4:00 pm

San Francisco, Presidio Main Parade Ground, Graham St. between Lincoln Blvd and Moraga Ave

- Saturday, August 31 at 2:00 pm - Preview
- Sunday, September 1 at 2:00 pm - Preview
- Monday (Labor Day), September 2 at 2:00 pm - Opening
- Saturday, September 7 at 2:00 pm
- Sunday, September 8 at 2:00 pm

San Francisco, McLaren Park, Jerry Garcia Amphitheater

- Saturday, September 14 at 2:00 pm - Preview
- Sunday, September 15 at 2:00 pm - Opening
- Thursday, September 19 at 10:00 am
- Friday, September 20 at 10:00 am
- Saturday, September 21 at 2:00 pm
- Sunday, September 22 at 2:00 pm – Closing

Admission is free. For more information, call the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival at (415) 558-0888, or visit www.sfshakes.org

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Note to Editor: artists and staff are available for interviews at (415) 558-0888; photos are available at <http://www.sfshakes.org/media/photos/free-shakespeare-in-the-park-2019>

About San Francisco Shakespeare Festival: The mission of the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival is to make the words and themes of Shakespeare accessible to everyone, regardless of age, ethnicity, financial status, or level of education. We accomplish this through our flagship program of **Free Shakespeare in the Park** and a wide variety of education programs: **Shakespeare on Tour**, **Tailor-Made Residencies**, **Bay Area Shakespeare Camps**, and **Midnight Shakespeare**. *Shakespeare on Tour* performs abridged Shakespeare plays at schools, libraries, and community centers all over the state. *Tailor-Made Residencies* connect teaching artists with classroom teachers for in-class theater enrichment specifically tailored to curricular learning objectives. *Bay Area Shakespeare Camps* for ages 7-13 and 12-18 are affordable two-week theater camps held throughout the Bay Area. *Midnight Shakespeare* brings theater education to underserved Bay Area youth.