

# TWELFTH NIGHT, *or what you will*



**A HILARIOUS COMEDY BY  
WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE**

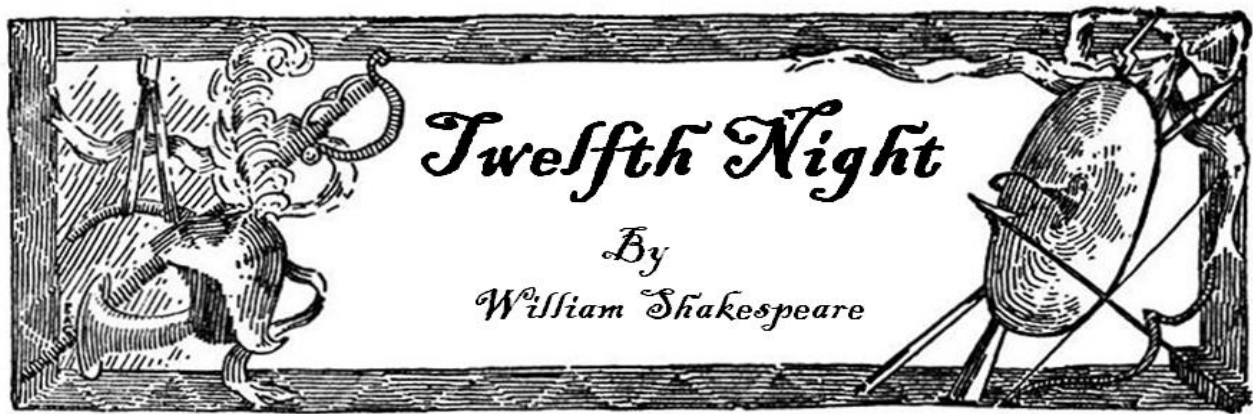
**PRESENTED BY IMPROBABLE FICTIONS  
AND THE HUDSON STRODE PROGRAM IN RENAISSANCE STUDIES**

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**DINAH WASHINGTON BLACK BOX THEATRE  
AT THE TUSCALOOSA CULTURAL ARTS CENTER (612 24TH AVE)**

**WEDNESDAY, OCT. 7<sup>TH</sup> @ 7:30 PM – FREE ADMISSION**

***“Why, this is very mid [autumn] madness!”***



## **Cast & Crew**

**Viola (Cesario) – Elizabeth Bernhardt**  
**Malvolio – Richard LeComte**  
**Maria – Emily Donahoe**  
**Sir Toby – Charles Prosser**  
**Sebastian – Zach Stolz**  
**Curio/Officer – Domicia Herring**  
**Priest – Alanna Fagan**

**Director – Nic Helms**

**Orsino – Matt Smith**  
**Olivia – Gabby Perkins**  
**Feste – Mark Hughes Cobb**  
**Sir Andrew – Molly Page**  
**Antonio – Max Hartley**  
**Ship's Captain – Jack Saraceno**

**Assistant Director – Allison Wheatley**

## **Summary of *Twelfth Night***

Orsino, the Duke of Illyria, is in love with his neighbor, Olivia. She has sworn to avoid men's company for seven years, so rejects him. Nearby a group of sailors arrives on shore with a young woman, Viola, who has survived a shipwreck. Viola mourns the loss of her twin brother but decides to dress as a boy named Cesario to get work as a page in Duke Orsino's court. Despite his rejection, Orsino sends his new page Cesario (Viola in disguise) to woo Olivia on his behalf. Viola goes unwillingly as she has already fallen in love at first sight with the Orsino. Olivia is attracted by the 'boy,' and she sends her pompous steward, Malvolio, after him with a ring.

Olivia's uncle, Sir Toby Belch, her servant Maria, and Sir Toby's friend, Sir Andrew Aguecheek, who is also hoping to woo Olivia, and is being led on by Sir Toby, who is trying to swindle him of his money, all plot to expose the self-love of Malvolio. By means of a false letter, they trick him into thinking Olivia loves him. Malvolio appears in yellow stockings, smiling as they have told him to in the letter. Unaware of the trick, the Countess is horrified and has Malvolio locked away in the dark as a madman.

Meanwhile Viola's twin brother, Sebastian, who has also survived the shipwreck, comes to Illyria. His sea-captain companion, Antonio, is a wanted man for piracy against Orsino for events that happened before the start of the play. The physical resemblance between Cesario and Sebastian leads the jealous Sir Andrew to challenge Cesario to a duel. Antonio intervenes to defend Cesario whom he thinks is his friend Sebastian, and is arrested. Olivia has in the meantime met and become betrothed to Sebastian. Cesario is accused of deserting both Antonio and Olivia when the real Sebastian arrives to apologize for fighting Sir Toby. Seeing both twins together, all is revealed to Olivia. Orsino's fool, Feste, brings a letter from Malvolio and on his release the conspirators confess to having written the false letter. Malvolio departs promising revenge. Maria and Sir Toby have married in celebration of the success of their device against Malvolio. The play ends as Orsino welcomes Olivia and Sebastian and, realizing his own attraction to Cesario, he promises that once she is dressed as a woman again they, too, will be married.

## ***Hamlet* (Coming Soon)**

Wednesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015, also at the Tuscaloosa Cultural Arts Center at 7:30pm, Improbable Fictions will present *Hamlet*, adapted and directed by Jacob Crawford. For more information on Improbable Fictions, including how to participate in *Hamlet* and future productions, visit us at [improbablefictions.wordpress.com](http://improbablefictions.wordpress.com) or on Facebook.