

Improbable Fiction
presents

TWELFTH NIGHT
BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

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Improbable Fiction
presents
Twelfth Night

Directed by Bill Van Horn

Mondays, March 5, 12, 19 & 26 at 7:00pm
at Roy Arias Studios & Theatres

Improbable Fiction, a brand-new theatre collective, will present William Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* on Monday evenings this March.

Shakespeare's beloved comedy centers on Viola, a survivor of a shipwreck, who makes her way in Illyria disguised as a man. Her boss, Orsino, is in love with Olivia, who is in turn in love with Viola (thinking she's a he, of course). Add in Sebastian, Viola's brother and doppelgänger, who is shipwrecked on the same island (his whereabouts unbeknownst to Viola; his existence unbeknownst to just about everyone else) and a trio of mischievous members of Olivia's household and, naturally, chaos ensues. Such mishaps have brought ordinary time to a standstill in Illyria, leaving the households in upheaval. In fact, it seems that only Olivia's much-maligned steward Malvolio is all that interested in getting things back on track.

Twelfth Night was a natural choice for this company's inaugural production. It encompasses nearly everything that makes a Shakespearean comedy a Shakespearean comedy - love, mistaken identity, cross dressing, practical jokes, homosexual undertones, heterosexual overtones - but it also happens to include a pair of siblings. This endeavor, much like the play itself, hinged on the physical similarities of two people. In this case, two redheaded coworkers. Director Bill Van Horn's inspiration to cast the central siblings came first; the rest of the production grew up around that concept. He went on to assemble a dynamic cast perfectly suited to both the tone of the play and to his aim of, first and foremost, featuring Shakespeare's words.

Improbable Fiction is a group of actors, directors and designers who are committed to presenting new and classic works in a forthright manner that fully explores a collective love of language. But this is also a group of artists and coworkers inspired to utilize their creative gifts, even in between paying gigs. Performance for the fun of it, for the experience of it, for the love of it.

Directed by Bill Van Horn with costume design by Michael McKenna, **Improbable Fiction's *Twelfth Night*** features Mike Anthony* (Sir Andrew Aguecheek), Mick Bleyer (Sebastian), Kent Burnham* (Orsino), Carie R. Ewers (Antonia/Valentina), Sean Heeney (Feste/Sea Captain), Tracy Liz Miller* (Viola), Erin Roberts* (Olivia), Eadie Scott* (Maria), Augustus Truhn (Malvolio), and Bill Van Horn* (Sir Toby Belch).

Twelfth Night will be performed at the Roy Arias Studios and Theatres, located at 300 West 43rd Street (at Eighth Avenue), Studio 301. Performances will take place at 7:00pm on Mondays in March: March 5, March 12, March 19 and March 26. All tickets are \$15 at the door. Reservations are strongly recommended and can be made at 212.353.6068.

For more information, visit www.improbablefiction.com.

*Appearing courtesy of Actors' Equity