



a comedy by the
LINLITHGOW PLAYERS

based on
**SHAKESPEARE'S
'TWELFTH NIGHT'**



WHAT... YOU WILL?

The Dell

Stratford Upon Avon

26th July 2015

12 noon

in association with



OPEN STAGES



The Linlithgow Players present

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A devised play based on Shakespeare's Twelfth Night

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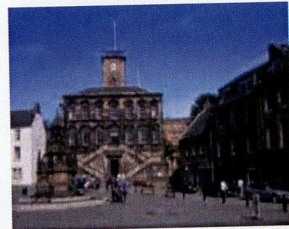
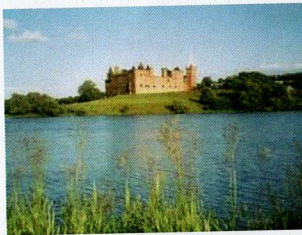
Twelfth Night has been transported to a modern day Scotia (a not very well disguised Scotland) whilst retaining the characters and themes of the original. The cast worked together to re-write their lines in modern speech, except for the two characters who come from 'Shakespeare Land' – Viola and Sebastian – who retain the original dialogue, although it has been shortened somewhat.

Devising a play in this way has proved to be an interesting and exciting experience. The cast has had 'ownership' of the play from the beginning and have developed their characters as they re-wrote their lines. This has meant that the rehearsal period has been more enjoyable for all concerned.

Twelfth Night was Shakespeare's most musical play. Its opening line "If music be the food of love, play on" strongly points to this. Throughout the play, Shakespeare used songs to heighten some of the poignant moments, or to emphasise comedy. In our production, it therefore seemed fitting that *Duke* should be a somewhat faded rock star, seeking solace in music with his musician friends. His household is characterised by a more melancholic musical style reflecting his lovesickness, while *Toby's* debauchery lends itself to a more upbeat soundtrack. We have chosen modern music that we hope reflects Shakespeare's original musical choices and captures the character of the play.

What... You Will? was first performed by the Linlithgow Players as an outdoor production in Linlithgow, Scotland, in April, as part of the RSC Open Stages project. Our delight at being chosen to take part in the RSC Open Stages project has now been surpassed by being given this opportunity to perform our play here in Stratford. We hope you enjoy it as much as we have enjoyed devising, rehearsing and performing it.

Linlithgow is an historic town in central Scotland, best-known as the birthplace of Mary, Queen of Scots



What...You Will ?

Cast List

In order of appearance

VIOLA / WILL ... <i>Sebastian's shipwrecked twin</i>	Liz Drewett
DUKE ... <i>The 'King of Rock'</i>	Gavin Macdonald
KARL ... <i>his sidekick</i>	Charles MacKenzie
TINA ... <i>his other sidekick</i>	Barbara Innes
TOBY ... <i>Olivia's Uncle</i>	Ian Stewart
MARIA ... <i>Olivia's Housekeeper</i>	Sue Spencer
ANDREW ... <i>a friend of Toby</i>	Ray Myers
PHOEBE ... <i>Olivia's friend</i>	Judy Barker
OLIVIA ... <i>a famous actress</i>	Therese Gallacher
MALCOLM ... <i>Olivia's estate manager</i>	Les Fulton
SEBASTIAN ... <i>Viola's shipwrecked twin</i>	Mark Eggeling
TONY ... <i>Sebastian's rescuer</i>	David Wotherspoon
FAY ... <i>Olivia's Personal Assistant</i>	Sue Vizard
POLICE	Charles MacKenzie & Barbara Innes
ALANNA a lawyer.....	Barbara Innes

Production Team

Director	Sandra Moar
Assistant Director.....	Eleanor Bain
Producer.....	Liz Drewett
Sound.....	John Barker
Staging.....	David Wotherspoon & Sue Spencer

The Action

The play is set in the Highlands of Scotia, with the action taking place around Duke's estate and Olivia's estate. Duke, a love-sick rock star, pines for the reclusive American film star, Olivia. Enter Will, a woman disguised as a man, to create a confusing love triangle. Add a mischievous Hungarian housekeeper, a manipulative drunkard with his gormless, gullible sidekick and a pompous puritanical steward. Toss in a measure of mistaken identity to spice things up and you have all the ingredients for a great romantic comedy.

We would like to thank the RSC and Joe Douglas, our Dundee Rep mentor, for the opportunities, support and encouragement they provided throughout the RSC Open Stages project.

