

# *Twelfth Night*

*by*

*William  
Shakespeare*



28th January - 1st February  
4th - 8th February 2003



Stoke-on-Trent  
Repertory  
Theatre

**£1**

## Welcome

Welcome to Stoke-on-Trent Repertory Theatre! We hope that you enjoy your evening with us. Here's a little information that first-time visitors may find helpful.

The car park will be open from 6.30pm on performance evenings until the theatre bar closes. Overspill parking is available in the Staffs University car park. Neither the Rep nor the University can accept responsibility for damage to or loss of vehicles.

The Bar is open from 6.45pm until 11.00pm on show nights. Drinking-up time is 20 minutes afterwards. Coffee, tea and confectionery are available in the Foyer from 6.45pm. All interval drinks may be ordered before the performance, to avoid having to wait your turn later.

Smoking is not allowed in the auditorium; neither is photography or the taping of the performance.

## Booking Information


Our Box Office is open on the Monday preceding each Rep production from 5.00 - 8.00pm, and during the run of the show.

Tel: 01782 209784.

Tired of talking to an Answer Phone?  
**Save time - save money**  
**BOOK ON-LINE!**

With Internet access, you could place a provisional order AT ANY TIME using the On-line booking facility at [www.stokerep.org.uk](http://www.stokerep.org.uk)

Book tickets in office hours from Music Mania, 4/5 Piccadilly Arcade, Hanley.  
Tel: 01782 206000.



**BBC RADIO STOKE**

BBC Radio Stoke has been at the heart of life in North Staffordshire and South Cheshire for more than 30 years. No-one has a better understanding of local people, local issues and local concerns. From unrivalled coverage of all the most important sporting action to hard hitting news stories and all the local weather, travel and entertainment updates, BBC Radio Stoke has got every angle covered.

Add great music and great conversation from the station that has more local presenters than most you can find, and there's no better station for you and yours in North Staffordshire and South Cheshire.

We are pleased to support the Arts and regularly cover local events on the Barbara Adams programme, Monday to Friday between 3pm and 5pm.

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## The Crew

Director: **Ken Lowe**  
Assistant Director: **Alan Clarke**  
Set Design: **Brian Hadley**  
Musical Advisor & additional music composed by: **Margaret Legge**  
Dances arranged by: **Gill Plant**  
Stage Director: **Richard Masters**  
Construction Manager: **Bill Hancock**  
Stage Manager: **Bill Hancock**  
Scenic Artists: **Brian Hadley, Colin Chesterton**  
Assisted by: **Matthew Armstrong, Paul Cooper**  
Properties: **Janet Clarke, Glennis Rushton**  
Lighting Designer: **Malcolm Rushton**  
Lighting Technician: **Jamie Wood**  
Sound Design: **Paul Jones**  
Sound Technicians: **Paul Jones, Tina Campbell**  
Costume Supervisor: **Georgine Machin**  
Company Photographer: **Peter Croft**

We are indebted to the rest of the Backstage Crew, and to the Front-of-House, Bar and Coffee Bar Staff - Members, Friends, Young Rep members and other helpers. All are volunteers who give up their time week after week, and without whom we could not provide the standard of production and customer service you have come to expect at the Rep.



## In Performance

After suffering a decline in the late 17th and early 18th centuries, the play has since become one of the most popular plays in the repertory. In 1955 at Stratford, Vivien Leigh played *Viola* to Laurence Olivier's *Malvolio* and Keith Michell's *Orsino*; in 1958 Dorothy Tutin and Ian Holm played *Viola* and *Sebastian*; in 1966 Diana Rigg's *Viola* partnered Alan Howard's *Orsino*; in 1969 Judi Dench was *Viola* to Donald Sinden's *Malvolio* (regarded as amongst the finest); in 1971 Ken Dodd played *Feste*; in 1978 Ian McKellern and Roger Rees appeared as *Sir Toby* and *Sir Andrew*; and Bernard Breslaw was very well received in 1989 as *Malvolio*.

## The Cast

### ORSINO'S COURT

ORSINO, Duke of Illyria  
CURIO, a courtier  
VALENTINE, a courtier  
VIOLA, disguised as Cesario  
1st LORD  
2nd LORD

**John Wicks**  
**Johnny Davis**  
**Peter Snee**  
**Sam Sutton**  
**Paul Cooper**  
**Alex Bradford**

### OLIVIA'S HOUSEHOLD

OLIVIA, a countess  
SIR TOBY BELCH, her uncle  
SIR ANDREW AGUECHECK  
her suitor  
MARIA, her gentlewoman  
FESTE, her clown  
MALVOLIO, her steward  
FABIAN, her gentleman  
1st LADY  
2nd LADY

**Katie Lockett**  
**Derek Yeomans**  
**James Freeman**  
**Alison Wicks**  
**David Bryan**  
**Brian Hadley**  
**David Wheat**  
**Sara Holmes**  
**Samantha Rushton**

### ILLYRIA

SEBASTIAN, Viola's twin brother **David John Bird**  
ANTONIO, a sea captain **Max Tebbitts**  
SEA CAPTAIN/1st OFFICER **Steve Damjanovic**  
2nd OFFICER **Johnny Davis**  
PRIEST **Peter Snee**

## 'TWELFTH NIGHT' or 'WHAT YOU WILL'

It is now thought that Shakespeare wrote the play at Queen Elizabeth's express command, as a celebration on Twelfth Night in 1601 for her guest, the Duke Virginio Orsino. Samuel Pepys saw the play at the Duke's Theatre in 1663, commenting, "Though well acted, it is but a silly play and not relating at all to the name or date". There is certainly no reference to Christmas in this play set in the remote coast far beyond the Adriatic, though Twelfth Night is the ancient feast of Saturnalia, when servants change places with their masters, being free to say what they wish about them; a time of revelry, pranks and gambols, no-one, whatever his or her rank, free from abuse. The order of the world is turned upside down, but all has to be accepted with good humour. Hence the alternative title, 'What You Will'. The play may have a 'silly' plot but the richness of the characterisation, the gender tensions set up by Viola's disguise as a boy, the farcical plot to undermine Malvolio's pride and the melancholic tone of Feste's songs all add up to make a wonderful theatrical experience, clearly one of Shakespeare's masterpieces.

## 'The Story'

Viola and her twin brother, *Sebastian*, have suffered shipwreck off the coast of Illyria, each believing the other drowned. Alone and unprovided for, Viola disguises herself as a boy, *Cesario*, and enters the service of *Count Orsino*, a man deeply in love with the idea of Love but paying court to the *Lady Olivia*, who is in deep mourning for her brother, and living a cloistered life. This has little effect on her boisterous uncle, *Sir Toby Belch* who, with his side-kick *Sir Andrew Aguecheek* and *Maria*, Olivia's companion, plan to humiliate *Malvolio*, Olivia's proud and ambitious household steward. Meanwhile Viola's brother has also been rescued, his likeness to his sister confusing everything.



## Set Design

It was a great honour to be asked by Ken Lowe (Director) and Richard Masters (Stage Director), to design the set for 'Twelfth Night'. It is a play with which I have had a long association. As a young boy of thirteen it was my first 'Shakespearian experience' when I saw a production of the play at the RSC. I have also acted in the play twice before.

There were two strong influences on my set design which you will see on stage tonight. Firstly, I wanted to give Ken the full flexibility of the Elizabethan stage; entrances down right and left, the inner stage up centre with the gallery above and, of course, the physical intimacy of the apron stage.

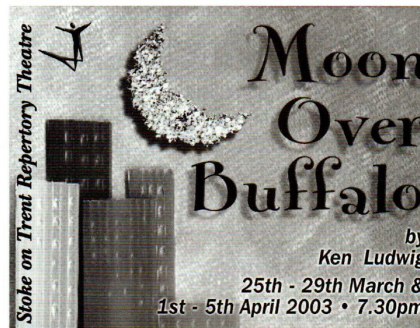


Secondly, I wanted to create the atmosphere and feel of a warm Mediterranean town in the ancient region of Illyria. My travels in Greece have given me a great feel for the area, the small towns with cramped buildings, the labyrinth of alleyways which all lead to a central square, the balconies and flat roofs.

It has been a very rewarding experience and I hope I have been able to give justice to the play and to this production of it.

*Brian Hadley*

## Coming Up Soon....



## Artist in the Gallery

### Howard Ramsey

Howard Ramsey was born in Lancashire and started his art education at Bolton Art College, followed by North Staffordshire Polytechnic (which is why he is here today, of course). He went on to do a BA(Hons) at the Royal College of Art, followed by an MA RCA. His other awards include the Berger Paint Company award for Colour, a Madame Tussaud's Award for Figurative Art and the third Prize in Manchester's Croal & Irwell Valley's 'Art and the Countryside'. From 1973 to 1984 he taught Fine Art in Adirondak's, New York State, Preston University and Cleveland Art College. After that, he became a Decorative Arts dealer and then set up workshops restoring antique marine models for clients worldwide.

He has had some 25 exhibitions all over the U.K. including one at the Burslem Art School in 2001, where we spotted his work. We are very grateful to Howard for the loan of this exhibition - particularly since he has hired a truck to bring it all down from Hebden Bridge!

The exhibition of Boxed Textiles and Watercolours is called "SEA TALES"

## Friends of the Rep

Friends of the Rep have raised thousands of pounds for our theatre over the past five years. Their gifts to the Rep include the computerisation of the Box Office and our revolving stage.

The Friends Committee is eager to enrol enthusiastic people on to the team which organises these fund-raising schemes. To share your ideas, or maybe join the Committee, please contact Brian Harvey on 01782 393026.

If you're interested in reserving advertising space in our next programme, please ring Alison Wicks on 01782 619921.

## Rep Gift Vouchers

Make a gift of a ticket for an evening at the Rep. Please ask at the Box Office.

**The Rep Mailing List: Want to know more about forthcoming productions? Join our FREE mailing list. Ask at the Box Office for details.**

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MOBILE PHONES ARE  
SWITCHED OFF  
DURING THE PERFORMANCE**

THE  
ARTS  
COUNCIL  
OF ENGLAND

*We are indebted to the  
St. John Ambulance  
Brigade, whose  
members voluntarily  
attend all our  
performances.*

## Spotlight on a Member

### Lyndsay Rushton

At present I attend Fenton Sixth Form College, studying for an AVCE in Travel and Tourism. I joined the Rep in 1997, aged 13, when I helped move from the 'old' in Beresford Street, to the 'new' here on Leek Road. Six years on, I'm still here and enjoying every minute. I was the youngest Stage Crew member until Jamie Wood joined the team in 2000. I helped with props for shows including: *Noises Off*, *Ring Round The Moon*, *Murderer* and *The Cemetery Club*. Since then my duties have changed as I have ventured on to experience other interesting aspects of the theatre.



Besides helping my dad with lighting on numerous occasions, I have also assisted with 'flying' for a couple of dance schools. Then, only two nights before the final dress rehearsal, I was asked to be 'head' fly person for *Stepping Out*. Although I was a nervous wreck, I got on with it and enjoyed working alongside both the cast and stage crew. Other duties include helping my dad to stock and clean the bar, selling programmes and most recently becoming a member of the Box Office team. You may have seen me behind the glass screen, operating the relatively new computerised booking system. Of the few theatre members who can operate the system, I am by far the youngest. Working in the Box Office gives me direct contact with audiences, which I enjoy, and complements my college course. Being in the backstage crew is also very enjoyable, but you never see the audiences; only hear them applauding or laughing - hopefully - as they enjoy the shows.

I thank all at the Rep who have given me support, confidence and encouragement. In particular a BIG thank you to Malcolm Rushton (my dad), Richard Masters and Stella Woolliscroft who have given me opportunities to succeed in important areas of the theatre. Hard luck, I won't be disappearing just yet! Finally, I mustn't forget those 'certain' Stage Crew members who have also made my time down here enjoyable and worthwhile - thank you!!! I have had many good laughs, and I've got some very pleasant memories from behind the scenes and front of house and I hope to enjoy many more years in the friendly environment at Stoke Repertory Theatre.