

LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE ANNOUNCES CAST AND CREATIVE TEAM FOR *AS YOU LIKE IT*

**PRODUCED IN ASSOCIATION WITH DIVERSIONARY THEATRE , RE-IMAGINED
SHAKESPEARE CLASSIC TO BE CO-DIRECTED BY CHRISTOPHER ASHLEY AND WILL DAVIS,
FEATURING A COMPANY OF TRANS, NON-BINARY AND QUEER PERFORMERS**

La Jolla, CA – La Jolla Playhouse announces the cast and creative team for its production of *As You Like It*, by **William Shakespeare**, co-directed by Tony Award winner **Christopher Ashley**, the Rich Family Artistic Director of La Jolla Playhouse, and Helen Hayes Award winner **Will Davis**. Produced in association with **Diversionsary Theatre**, *As You Like It* will run **November 15 – December 11** (press opening: November 20) in the Playhouse's Sheila and Hughes Potiker Theatre. For tickets and information, please visit LaJollaPlayhouse.org.

The cast features **Jess Barbagallo** as "Silvius," **Rachel Crowl** as "Duke Frederick/Corin," **Esteban Andres Cruz** as "Hymen," **Alanna Darby** as "Phoebe," **David Greenspan** as "Duke Senior/Adam," **Esco Jouléy** as "Orlando," **TaiReikca L.A.** as "Oliver," **Rami Margron** as "Jaques," **Jen Richards** as "Celia," **T. Carlis Roberts** as "Musician," **Cody Sloan** as "Touchstone," **Peter Smith** as "Rosalind" and UC San Diego MFA candidate **Taiwo Sokan**, as part of the ensemble, along with **Allison Husko** and **Kai Justice Rosales** as understudies.

The creative team includes: **Emmie Finckel**, Scenic Designer; **Mel Ng**, Costume Designer; **Cha See**, Lighting Designer; **ien DeNio**, Sound Designer; **T. Carlis Roberts**, Music Director and Arranger; **Regina Victor**, Dramaturg; **Chelsea Pace**, Intimacy and Fight Staging; **Caparelliotis Casting** (David Caparelliotis, CSA/Joe Gery) and **Jacole Kitchen**, Casting; **Charles Means**, Stage Manager and **Matthew Bantock**, Assistant Stage Manager.

Featuring a cast of trans, non-binary and Queer performers, Christopher Ashley and Will Davis's re-imagined *As You Like It* is a celebration of limitless love and humanity. In Shakespeare's classic romantic comedy, Rosalind and Orlando meet by chance in court and have an immediate connection. When they are both banished, fate brings them together again in the Forest of Arden. Far from the restrictions of court life, we find ourselves in a vibrant new world, where identities can be fully explored and romance can blossom in multiple forms. This bold and beautiful production inhabits a wonderful, 'gender-ful' world – a sensuous place that embraces the full spectrum of gender possibilities. Evoking the heady experience of falling in love, and underscored by heart-thumping live music, there are no boundaries in *As You Like It*, just endless complexities, infinite love and the joyful expression of true selves.

"What a privilege it is to work with acclaimed director Will Davis, our amazing producing partners at Diversionsary Theatre, and this astonishingly talented company. We couldn't ask for a better group to bring Shakespeare's enduring work to joyous life," said **Ashley**. "*As You Like It* inherently embodies an irrepressible spirit of playfulness and an exploration of love, gender and self-discovery."

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FACT SHEET

WHAT: *As You Like It*
By William Shakespeare
Co-Directed by Christopher Ashley and Will Davis
Produced in association with Diversionary Theatre

WHEN: **November 15 – December 11 (Press Opening: November 20 at 7pm)**
Tue/Wed at 7:30pm; Thu/Fri/Sat at 8pm; Sun at 7pm; Sat/Sun at 2pm

WHERE: **Sheila and Hughes Potiker Theatre, La Jolla Playhouse**
2910 La Jolla Village Drive, La Jolla, CA 92037

WHO: Scenic Design: Emmie Finckel
Lighting Design: Cha See
Wig Design: Alberto Alvarado
Dramaturg: Regina Victor
Casting: Caparelliottis Casting, Jacole Kitchen
Assistant Stage Manager: Matthew Bantock

Costume Design: Mel Ng
Sound Design: ien DeNio
Music Director/Arranger: T. Carlis Roberts
Intimacy/Fight Staging: Chelsea Pace
Stage Manager: Charles Means

Cast:	<i>Silvius</i>	Jess Barbagallo
	<i>Duke Frederick/Corin</i>	Rachel Crowl
	<i>Hymen</i>	Esteban Andres Cruz
	<i>Phoebe</i>	Alanna Darby
	<i>Duke Senior/Adam</i>	David Greenspan
	<i>Orlando</i>	Esco Jouléy
	<i>Oliver</i>	TaiReikca L.A.
	<i>Jaques</i>	Rami Margron
	<i>Celia</i>	Jen Richards
	<i>Musician</i>	T. Carlis Roberts
	<i>Touchstone</i>	Cody Sloan
	<i>Rosalind</i>	Peter Smith
	<i>Ensemble</i>	Taiwo Sokan

Understudies Allison Husko, Kai Justice Rosales, Taiwo Sokan, Regina Victor

SPONSORS: Denise & Lon Bevers; Sheri L. Jamieson; Karen & Jeff Silberman; Morrison Foerster

TICKETS: (858) 550-1010; LaJollaPlayhouse.org

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