

## The 12th Night

# The 12th

Story by  
Mariano Castillo

Photos by  
Guy Rogers



### Theater arts program adds flavor to Shakespeare

A resurgence of Shakespeare is the latest trend in the entertainment business. In the past few months, Shakespeare has been in love, modernized in the movie *Ten Things I Hate About You* and now will be featured by the theater arts department in the production of "Twelfth Night, or What You Will."

This timeless tale is a tangled web of love and deception that revolves around Viola, who gets shipwrecked on the coast of Illyria and assumes her identical twin brother, Sebastian, is dead. Once she situates herself in Illyria, she hears of Olivia, a woman who was saddened over the loss of her own brother. Moved by Olivia's mourning, Viola gets the desire to live with her and share the pain of losing a brother.

Viola's plan to meet Olivia is to disguise herself as a man and work as one of Orsino's pages because they were the only people Olivia would allow to see her.

Laurie White, Viola in the play and a senior theater arts major, said this is the first lead performance she has played and found the hardest thing was to portray Viola's masculinity.

"It was challenging to play a guy," she said. "I had to see how they stand and other gestures."

To execute her plan, Viola enlists help from the captain of the sunken ship, who has a fancy for her. He buys her a wardrobe similar to what Sebastian wore and feigns the name Cesario.

Once Viola secures work with the duke, she falls in love with him, but cannot express it because of her disguise. Viola finally gets a chance to visit Olivia, only to find that Olivia has no

feelings for Orsino and instead is in love with Viola, err, Cesario.

This story is complicated further when Sebastian arrives in Illyria with Antonio, a sea captain who saved him from the shipwreck. Antonio encounters Viola and confuses her with Sebastian, and, after a misunderstanding, almost gets into a fight. Later, Antonio bumps into the real Sebastian and fights with him as a result of the earlier confrontation with Viola.

The fight is stopped by Olivia, who confuses Sebastian with Viola and invites him inside her home, where they are eventually married the same day.

The play climaxes as the entire set of characters end up in the same place at the same time, with everyone wondering how this web was spun.

Joshua Cuttill, a sophomore theater arts major, plays the role of Sebastian, Viola's twin, in the play.

Cuttill said learning his role certainly had some challenges, since this is the first Shakespeare play he has acted in.

"The toughest part was getting past the language," he said. "Once I got the Shakespearean language down, it was easy."

Cuttill said his experience with "Twelfth Night" is one of the best he's had.

"This cast is by far the overall most talented," he said. "As far as skill level, this group is up there with the best I've worked with."

Dr. Michael Greenwald, director of the play and a theater arts professor, said "Twelfth Night" is his favorite Shakespeare work for several reasons.

"It has good roles for 14 actors," he said. "The romantic plot and comic

plot is good for student actors."

This performance marks the second time Greenwald has directed "Twelfth Night" at A&M. Fourteen years ago, it served as a stepping-off point for the newly found department.

The setting has been changed slightly to Spanish-New World surroundings to better complement some of the Hispanic actors being featured. The play also highlights an original score by Penelope Kosztoleynik that includes a tango and other Latin beats.

White said the different setting adds an interesting angle to the play.

"I think Shakespeare wrote plays that can be adjusted to any time period," White said. "[The Spanish setting] enhances the play and makes it more fun."

Dr. James Harner, editor of the *World Shakespeare Bibliography*, said "Twelfth Night" is very typical of Shakespeare's style.

"['Twelfth Night'] is one of the romantic comedies very frequently performed," he said, "but it doesn't get written about too often."

Harner said behind the comedy of the play, it aims at showing not to judge on the basis of appearance.

There will be a pre-show tonight at 8 p.m. at the Rudder Forum, featuring a Latin American/Tango bar. The cast will be there to meet patrons.

Performances will be April 15-18 and April 28 to May 1. General admission tickets are \$8, and tickets for students and seniors are \$5.

"Twelfth Night" will be performed April 15-8 and April 28-May 1 at Rudder Forum. The play by William Shakespeare has been given a Spanish-New World touch.

# TAX FREE DAY!

**APRIL 15TH POST OAK MALL WILL PAY YOUR SALES TAX BACK TO YOU IN MALL GIFT CERTIFICATES!**

Bring your receipts from any Post Oak Mall store (excluding department stores) dated April 15, 1999 ONLY to Customer Service on April 15, 1999 ONLY and you'll get the amount of your sales tax back in the form of Post Oak Mall Gift Certificates! Gift Certificates are good at any of Post Oak Mall's over 100 stores.

## POST OAK MALL

Beall's, Dillard's, Foley's, JCPenney, Sears, Service Merchandise, The Food Court & 100 Specialty Stores.  
Texas 6 Bypass at Highway 30, College Station • Customer Service 764-0777  
Developed, Owned and Managed by CBL & ASSOCIATES PROPERTIES, INC. (NYSE:CBL)

### STILL haven't fixed that hail damage?

Get your vehicle looking great again by calling **AUTOMOTIVE DENT SPECIALISTS** at 574-5200

We will take the dents out using **PAINTLESS DENT REPAIR**, saving you **UP TO 50%!**

Our service is convenient for your busy schedule:

- We do **FREE** mobile estimates at your dorm/home, anytime
- We offer **FREE** pickup and delivery
- You only lose your car for a day!

Plus, we take care of insurance paperwork, even from out of town, so you don't have to! (or your parents)  
**Don't put it off any longer! Call today.**

**574-5200**  
Automotive Dent Specialists

1808 Drillers Drive, Bryan

The Perfect Gifts for Your Aggie Graduation on Christmas.



**ATM**  
(actual size)  
14K Gold Aggie Pendant \$24<sup>95</sup>

Citizen Watches with Official A&M Seal Gold-Tone \$179<sup>95</sup> Two-Tone \$159<sup>95</sup>

Quartz Movement. 3 yr. Warranty. Water Resistant. \*Call for Quantity Prices Available in Mens and Ladies Sizes Sorry no mail orders



John D. Huntley '79 is also an official authorized dealer for Tag-Heuer and Breitling.

