



di Rosa

SHAKESPEARE
NAPA VALLEY

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Shakespeare Summer Stroll, 2021. Photo courtesy of Shakespeare Napa Valley and di Rosa Center for Contemporary Art.

Twelfth Night comes to di Rosa's sprawling grounds with Shakespeare Summer Stroll

The walking tour and performance sets the comedy of mistaken identity against a backdrop of stunning artwork and natural beauty.

Napa, CA (August 21, 2024) – Shakespeare Napa Valley (SNV) and di Rosa Center for Contemporary Art (di Rosa) present [Shakespeare Summer Stroll: Twelfth Night](#), a site-integrated performance of William Shakespeare's comedy interwoven with the sculptures and outdoor spaces at di Rosa. Performances are Thursday – Sunday, September 12 – 22, with evening performances Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays at 5:30 p.m. and matinee performances at 2 p.m. on Sunday, September 15 and Sunday, September 22.

Twelfth Night is a romantic comedy centered on the twins Viola and Sebastian, who become embroiled in a love triangle with the Duke Orsino, Countess Olivia, and each other. The story plays off gender confusion and mistaken identity to raise social critique, all served with a lot of laughs.



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For *Shakespeare Summer Stroll*, SNV presents an abridged version directed by Jennifer King, and with live musical accompaniment arranged by music director Dr. Christina Howell. Audiences will follow a guided walking tour through the plot points of *Twelfth Night*, all set against the incredible artwork and natural backdrop of di Rosa. The production will feature award-winning Bay Area actor Tim Kniffin in the role of Malvolio, along with local professionals Matthew Cowell, Olivia Cowell, and Rio Coddia working alongside apprentice actors from Napa Valley College.

"We selected *Twelfth Night* because of its examination of what it means to belong," said Jennifer King, SNV Artistic Director and Director of *Twelfth Night*. "SNV's heightened depictions of gender, class, and sexuality in *Twelfth Night* will inspire audiences to reflect on their own history, perceptions, and biases, fostering dialogue about exclusivity to promote a celebration of inclusivity and the joy of laughter."

Tickets are \$25 General Admission, \$5 for those ages 5 – 17, and free for di Rosa Members and students and faculty of Napa Valley College. Proceeds from tickets support di Rosa's public programs and community partnerships such as *Shakespeare Summer Stroll*. Tickets are available at dirosa.org.

Shakespeare Summer Stroll is made possible in part by a Collaborative Arts and Culture Grant from the County of Napa Board of Supervisors.

ABOUT SHAKESPEARE NAPA VALLEY

Shakespeare Napa Valley (SNV), a program of the Napa Valley College District Auxiliary Services Foundation, has produced at least one full-scale production each year since forming in 2010, attracting audiences of over 30,000 to see their exciting, interactive, and wildly imagined productions of plays written or inspired by William Shakespeare.

A champion of original work as well as the classics, Shakespeare Napa Valley began a new plays program in 2015, with Reed Martin and Austin Tichenor writing and directing world premiere workshop performances of *Shakespeare's Long Lost First Play (abridged)* with SNV. In 2019, they were in residency again to workshop *Hamlet's Big Adventure*. Both went on to successful runs with the Reduced Shakespeare Company.

Along with new work, SNV has promoted a global presence with productions of *The Comedy of Errors* and *As You Like It* being presented at the UK International Youth Arts Festival in London. SNV's Founder and Artistic Director Jennifer King directed the 2017 Czech premiere of *Shakespeare's Long Lost First Play (abridged)*, as well as *The Comedy of Errors* (2018) and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (2019) for the Prague Shakespeare Company.

These experiences, along with associations with Arts Council Napa Valley, Theater Bay Area, Theater Communications Group, Shakespeare Theaters Association, Earth Shakes, and



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Globetrotting Shakespeare, have positioned Shakespeare Napa Valley as a local, national, and global arts leader.

ABOUT DI ROSA CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY ART

di Rosa is a non-profit art center and nature preserve specializing in the art of Northern California. Located at 5200 Sonoma Highway, on 217 acres in the Carneros region of Napa, di Rosa includes two large art galleries, a beautiful lake, abundant birding, walking trails with vineyard views, outdoor sculptures, and picnic grounds.

di Rosa presents contemporary exhibitions by Bay Area-based artists in addition to maintaining a permanent collection of notable works by artists with ties to the Bay Area from the mid-twentieth century to the early 2000s.

di Rosa offers an array of public programs and events for all ages to inspire creativity and curiosity. di Rosa is open to the public without reservations Thursday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and by appointment Tuesday and Wednesday. Visitors are encouraged to bring picnics. For more information visit www.dirosaart.org.

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