

A Hard Day's Twelfth Night Performance Guide

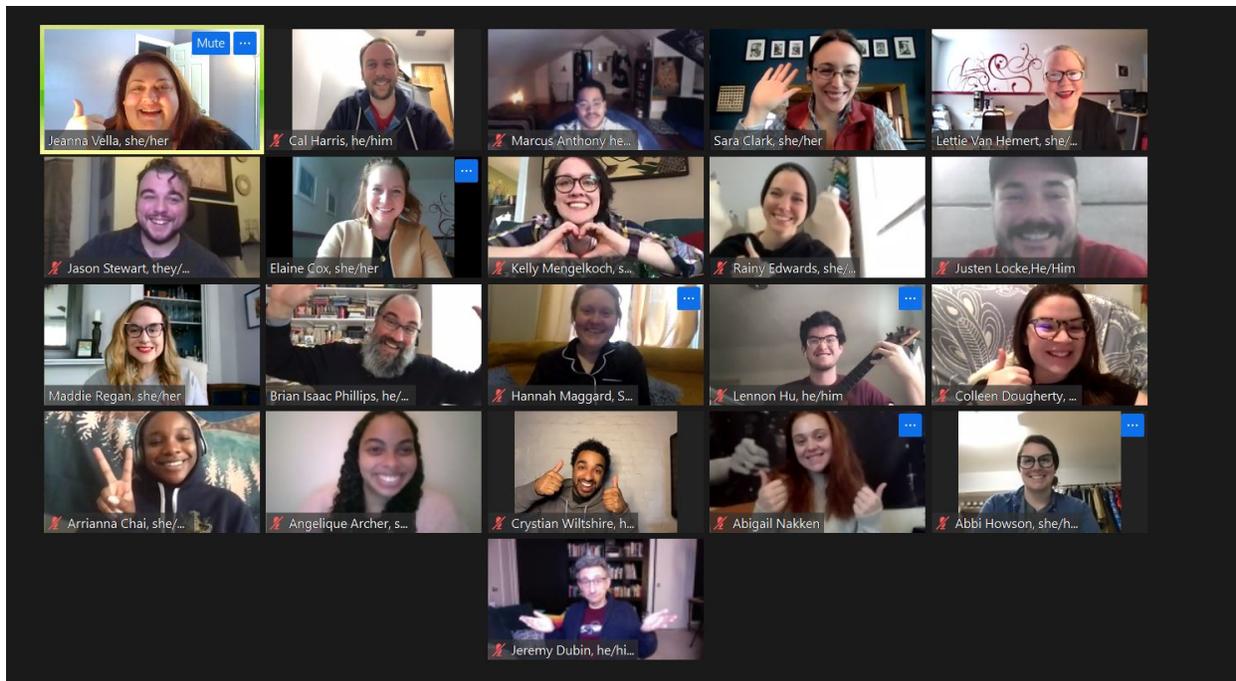
Twelfth Night is one of Shakespeare's most celebratory plays. Full of love, laughter, poetry, pranks, clowns, capers and more music than just about any other show in the canon. This abridged adaptation will combine original text and songs with some decidedly modern touches, and of course, CSC's trademark interactive style. We'll bring the students right into the middle of the action, taking them on a music-filled, whirlwind tour of the wacky town of Illyria, and the even wackier characters who inhabit it.

This guide is divided into three parts:

- **Before the Show:** Learn more about Cincinnati Shakespeare Company
- **During the Show:** Distinguish the multiple roles being played by ensemble players
- **After the Show:** Dive deeper into *Twelfth Night* on Flipgrid

BEFORE THE SHOW:

Meet the Artists



Cincinnati Shakespeare Company is a resident ensemble theatre company bringing Shakespeare and the Classics to life for all. The staging of these plays is thoughtfully crafted to create an engaging experience that will resonate with you, inspire your thoughts and start conversations. Ensemble members are devoted to working with the artistic director to “crack the nut” of each play and reveal the human elements.



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Think and Reflect

The Cincinnati Shakespeare touring company has used contemporary music to help tell the story of *Twelfth Night*. Think about your favorite songs – which of them might lend themselves to a Shakespeare play? Which ones do you hope you’ll hear at the performance?

DURING THE SHOW:

Distinguishing Characters

Most members of the ensemble must play more than one character throughout the performance. What changes do the actors adopt in costume, physical posture and vocal inflection to set the characters apart?

- **Viola and Cesario**

- **Sebastian and Sir Andrew**

- **Duke Orsino and Sir Toby**

- **Antonio and Maria**

- **Feste and Malvolio**

AFTER THE SHOW:



Reflect on Shakespeare's creation of the topsy turvy world of Viola, Sebastian, Orsino and Olivia. This Flipgrid topic can be accessed with the **guest password** `muse123!`. Your responses won't be made public to anyone except Muse Machine. We may like your response well enough that we want to share it with the community, but we will ask your teacher's permission first.

Flipgrid: A Case of Mistaken Identities

<https://flipgrid.com/64889498>



A Hard Day's Twelfth Night is a devised theatre piece that tells the story of Shakespeare's play, *Twelfth Night or What You Will*. To set the play in motion, Shakespeare uses a plot device: twins separated by misfortune. In *Twelfth Night*, the twins are brother and sister.

Refresh your memory of the plot by watching the attached video. Then,

think about the Cincinnati Shakespeare in-school performance and answer:

Do you believe that Viola and Sebastian could be mistaken for one another? Why? How can performers help the audience to accept this convention?

Respond in a short video (2:00 minutes) at the link above.

Attachments

- Plot Summary of *Twelfth Night*:
<https://youtu.be/JPQAU0YRYc>