

THE PHILADELPHIA SHAKESPEARE THEATRE

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MEDIA RELEASE

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“THIS IS ILLYRIA LADY. AND WHAT SHOULD I DO IN ILLYRIA” BE SWEEP AWAY IN CARMEN KHAN’S BITTERSWEET *TWELFTH NIGHT*

On March 23, 2012 The Philadelphia Shakespeare Theatre captivates audiences with the comedy, *Twelfth Night*. The production runs through **May 20, 2012** and is directed by **Artistic/Executive Director Carmen Khan**. With inspiration drawn from the surrealism of Renè Magritte and music from the critically acclaimed *Triplets of Belleville*, *Twelfth Night* is subtly immersed in the sights and sounds of the 1930’s.

In this irresistible romantic comedy, **Artistic/Executive Director Carmen Khan** will transport audiences to Illyria - a topsy turvy place, where everything is turned upside down and nothing is what it seems. Viola loves Orsino, who thinks he loves Olivia. Olivia thinks she loves Cesario who is really Viola, dressed as a man. Malvolio thinks he is a gentleman, but he is not. The foolish and foppish Sir Andrew thinks he is a fine match for the Lady Olivia, but he is far from it. There is disguise and impersonation at every turn; even the language is turned upside down. Nobody really knows who they are or what they want.

Our production will be full of the music of love composed by award winning composer **Fabian Obispo**, who brought us the exquisite music of *Pericles*, *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, and most recently, *Hamlet* and *As You Like It*.

Carmen Khan holds a Bachelor of Education from The University of London and a Master of Fine Arts in Acting from The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. For seven years, she was a company member of The Hip Pocket Theatre in Ft. Worth, Texas where she worked as an actor, dancer, and mime in over 26 productions. Khan was co-founder of The Laughing Stock Theatre. She was also Artistic Director of The Red Heel Theatre Company which was devoted to little known classics. She is the Founding Artistic Director of The Philadelphia Shakespeare Theatre. She has directed numerous Shakespeare plays. Favorites include *Twelfth Night*, *Pericles*, *King Lear*, *Othello*, and *The Tempest*.

All performances will be held in the intimate 122-seat theatre at 2111 Sansom Street. For ticket sales and information please call the box office at 215-496-8001 or purchase and print your tickets on the web at www.phillyshakespeare.org.

Press photos will become available March 23, 2012.

Reviewing Press is invited to attend Press Night of *Twelfth Night* on Wednesday, March 28, 2012 at 7pm. Please call Rebecca Gissel at 215-496-9722 ext. 105 or email Rebecca@phillyshakespeare.org for reservations. All other media may arrange for tickets by calling 215-496-8001.

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What: *Twelfth Night*

By William Shakespeare
Directed by Carmen Khan

Summary: In The Philadelphia Shakespeare Theatre's 15th Anniversary Season, Artistic/Executive Director Carmen Khan creates a vast landscape filled with love, melancholy, and joyous confusion.

Where: The Philadelphia Shakespeare Theatre
2111 Sansom St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

When: *Twelfth Night*: March 23 – May 20, Wed - Sat at 7pm, Sun at 2pm

Tickets: Tickets are \$25 Wed and Thurs, \$35 weekends, and \$20 previews. Student, senior, and group discounts are available. Tickets may be purchased online at www.phillyshakespeare.org or by calling 215-496-8001. Tickets may also be purchased at the door. Group organizers are encouraged to call the box office for pricing and availability. Season subscriptions are on sale.

THE PHILADELPHIA SHAKESPEARE THEATRE PRESENTS

***Twelfth Night* by William Shakespeare**

Directed by Carmen Khan

Sets Designed by Lisi Stoessel

Lights Designed by Maria Shaplin

Costumes Designed by Vickie Esposito

Music Composed by Fabian Obispo

Properties by Louise Grafton

Cast – in alphabetical order

	<i>Twelfth Night</i>
Lesley Berkowitz	Feste
Victoria Rose Bonito	Viola
Caroline Crocker	Olivia
Rob Kahn*	Malvolio
Jered McLenigan*	Orsino
Johnny Smith	Aguecheek
Ian Sullivan	Sebastian
J.J. Van Name*	Maria
Eric Van Wie	Sir Toby Belch
Davon Williams	Antonio / Captain

*Member of the Actors' Equity Association

About The Philadelphia Shakespeare Theatre

Since 1996, The Philadelphia Shakespeare Theatre has produced over 30 Shakespeare productions through fresh, muscular, and vivid interpretations that have at their center the actor and the playwright. The Philadelphia Shakespeare Theatre is one of the foremost proponents of text-based theatre.

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Along with annual productions of works written by William Shakespeare, The Philadelphia Shakespeare Theatre's decade long Open Door Project offers the highest quality Shakespeare programming to high school and middle school students including; student matinees, Artist-in-Residence, and professional touring productions. We have served over 40,000 students in the Delaware Valley. We also offer audience enrichment programs including, seminars, reading groups and symposia.

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