

Thalian Theatre Company Presents

A Musical Adaptation of William Shakespeare's

TWELFTH **NIGHT**

Conceived by Kwame Kwei-Armah and Shaina Taub

Music and Lyrics by Shania Taub



21st to 25th May 2024, 8pm

Director: Darren Barsby

Musical Director : David Meek

£18



This amateur production of Twelfth Night is presented by arrangement
with Concord Theatricals Ltd. www.concordtheatricals.co.uk

Thalian Hall, 64-68 Bridge Road East, Welwyn Garden City, AL7 1JU
www.thaliantheatrecompany.co.uk

PRESIDENT Brian King MBE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chair:	Mandy Sayers
Vice Chairman:	Tim Spink
Treasurer:	Angela Monaghan
Secretary:	Alison Downes
Committee:	Tammy Wall, Colleen Town, Martin Lester and Louise Bateman.

Message from the Chair

As the new Chair of the Thalian Theatre Company I would like to welcome you to our production of Twelfth Night the Musical. We are very excited to be performing this as we believe we are the first UK company to have the amateur rights to do so. If you enjoy the beautiful language of Shakespeare interwoven with an original jazz funk score then you are in for a treat! This show stays faithful to the original Twelfth night story complete with the twists and turns always necessary to find true love. I think Shakespeare himself would be pleased with this latest adaptation of his work, after all he did say 'if music be the food of love, play on'.....we are just following his instructions.

Mandy Sayers, Chair

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Meet the Directors



Darren Barsby

Director

Darren has directed many shows and musicals at The Barn Theatre Club (The Complete Works of Shakespeare, Peter Pan, Honk), four and five star reviewed professional shows Off West End with Sense of Player Theatre Company, co-directed with Shattered Windscreen at the Minack Theatre and Theatre Week award winners with the Company of Players (Six Dead Queens and an Inflatable Henry).



David Meek

Director of Music

David has worked as Pianist, Teacher, Musical Director & Accompanist for many different organisations, schools, choirs, rehearsals, pantomimes, shows and concerts for almost 50 years. In 1975 he began a dancing school in WGC, a few years later he'd played for Thaliens, and MD for the Barn Theatre.

Find out more at <https://tinyurl.com/XtraMusic>



Ashleigh Bassett

Choreographer

Ashleigh is a choreographer and performer training at CPA studios in Professional Musical Theatre. She has choreographed Captain Correlli's Mandolin with Shattered Windscreen at the Minack Theatre and for the past six years, has worked as a Junior Ensemble Director for Theatre Train, Welwyn and regularly performs with the Company of Players in Hertford.

PRINCIPALS



Viola | Cesario

Emma Gilby

Emma is super excited to be playing the lead in this brand new musical! This is her first time attempting Shakespeare and she is loving the challenge. This is Emma's fourth Thalian production and she can't wait for more to come!



Countess Olivia

Amy Knowles

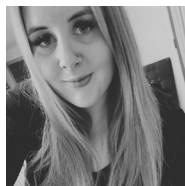
This is Amy's third show with Thaliens. She is looking forward to bringing Countess Olivia's unique style to life. Music is definitely the food of love! Wish her luck.



Duke Orsino

Carl Robinson

This will be Carl's sixth production with the Thaliens. He also appears with SMTC & HMTC and first started performing over 15 years ago. Doing Shakespeare for the first time has been an exciting challenge, working with Darren & David has been great. Enjoy Orsino!



Feste

MJ Scott

MJ has been performing with Thalian Theatre Company since 2018 and has most recently appeared as 'Polly' in Jack the Ripper and 'Pugsley' in the Addams Family. She is very excited to be playing the role of Feste with such a talented bunch!



Malvolio

Clive Dancey

Clive most recently played the 'lovestruck' Uncle Fester in Addams Family. He has also directed previous Thaliens shows such as Chicago and Calendar Girls and is looking forward to welcoming you to the world of 'twelfth night' and bringing to life Malvolio, where nothing in his world is quite what it seems.

PRINCIPALS



Sir Toby

Pip is performing in his first Thaliens production after completing a drama degree and many years with the Digswell Players. He has a number of acting credits including a run at the Edinburgh Festival with the Lightbulb Theatre Company.



Sir Andrew

Vinnie is often found backstage but has also been treading the boards. Recently he has appeared as Dinky in Jack the Ripper and as Lurch in The Addams Family. In this show he plays Sir Andrew Agucheeek, a gullible fool. An ideal part for him!



Antonio

This is Harrison's first ever production in theatre! A new member of Thaliens - he is relishing the chance to learn and develop his acting skills alongside some wonderful people. He is thrilled to have been cast in a principal role, as well as tackling the challenge of Shakespeare head on!



Sebastian

Alex first joined Thaliens in 2004 as Oscar in Sweet Charity and has been an on and off member ever since. More recently he 'Freddy' in Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, 'John' in Calendar Girls and Gomez in The Addams Family.



Fabian

Jenny joined Thaliens in 2019 after a 13 year break from musical theatre. Since then she has played Morticia in the Addams Family, Dorothy in The Wiz and Lizzie Stride in Jack the Ripper. Jenny is really looking forward to a new challenge playing a male character.

Philip Gray

Vincent Clemmens

Harrison Huntley

Alex Ryde

Jenny Lewin



Maria

Mary has directed, choreographed and acted for Digswell Players for a number of years. She has appeared in several Barn productions, such as Steel Magnolias and Glorious. She also appeared in Follies and 9 to 5 with Harpenden Musical Theatre Company.

Mary Goodfellow



Officiant, Illyrian

Claire is brand new to the Thaliens Theatre family, having made a recent return to the stage for the first time since she was a teenager. She is honoured to playing a featured role alongside such talented cast mates. Here's to the first of many performances with Thaliens Theatre Company!

Claire Kula

Ensemble

Annette Leishman

Claire Kula

Colleen Town

Jackie Radford

Martin Lester

Zara Stuart

Publicity Team

Adam Beckman, Amy Knowles, Avril Robinson, Claire Kula, Hannah Robinson
Louise Bateman, Martin Lester.

🏆 COMPETITION WINNERS 🏆

Shout out to Emma (Viola) and Harrison (Antonio) for selling the most tickets for the show, as part of a competition we ran with the cast and crew. They get the opportunity to welcome you all to our performance this evening, enjoy their introduction.

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT 1

Play On

Let Us See The Caper

Word on the Street

Tell Her

If You Were My Beloved

If You Were My Beloved (Reprise)

Viola's Soliloquy

You're the Worst

Is This Not Love?

Count Malvolio (Part I)

Count Malvolio (Part II)

Feste, Viola, Orsino, Illyrians

Sir Andrew and Company

Illyrians

Orsino, Viola

Viola, Olivia, Orsino

Antonio

Viola

Feste, Andrew, Fabian, Toby,

Maria, Malvolio, Illyrians

Feste

Malvolio

Malvolio, Illyrians

ACT 2

I Am She

Word on the Street II

Count Malvolio (Reprise)

What Kind of Man R U Gonna Be?

Viola's Soliloquy (Reprise)

Greatness

Sebastian's Soliloquy

Word on the Street III

Viola's Soliloquy (2nd Reprise)

Tell Her (Reprise)

I Am She (Reprise)

Malvolio's Exit

Is This Not Love? (Reprise)

Eyes of Another

Olivia, Viola

Illyrians

Malvolio

Viola, Toby, Andrew, Illyrians

Viola

Malvolio

Sebastian, Olivia

Illyrians

Viola, Sebastian

Orsino, Viola

Olivia, Viola

Malvolio

Illyrian Officiant, Company

Viola, Orsino, Olivia, Sebastian,

Feste, Malvolio, Antonio, Company

Synopsis

Twelfth Night is a rousing contemporary musical adaptation of Shakespeare's classic romantic comedy about mistaken identity and self-discovery. It tells the story of Viola, a young heroine who washes up on the shores of Illyria, disguises herself as a man, is sent to court a countess and falls hard for a Duke. As she navigates this strange and wonderful new land, she finds her true self and true love in the process.

Featuring an original pop-soul-jazz-funk score by Shaina Taub, Twelfth Night is appropriate for all audiences.

Past Performances

Why not visit our archives web page to see photos from our productions over the last 20 years. You can find programmes too for most of the shows. Visit www.thaliantheatrecompany.co.uk/archive/ or scan this QR code on your phone.



31st May, Thalian Hall

22nd June, Civic Centre, Welwyn

Tickets available from our website.

Production

Director	Darren Barsby
Musical Director	David Meek
Choreography	Ashleigh Bassett
.....	Emma Gilby
Production Support	Alison Downes
Costumes.....	Louise Bateman
With thanks to Harlequin Costumes and Limitless	
Set Design and Build.....	Tim Spink
	Martin Lester
Lighting Design.....	Andy Barker
With thanks to Nick Mogg and Clifton Hoyle	
Sound.....	James Rowles
	Tim Spink
Stage Manager	Mandy Sayers
Back Stage	Tara Norman
Props.....	Vanessa Baker
	Nick Baker
Programme.....	Martin Lester
Treasurer.....	Angela Monaghan
Social Media Marketing.....	Adam Beckman
	Louise Bateman
	Jenny Lewin
	Claire Kula

Musicians

MD and Keyboard 1	David Meek
Keyboard 2	Graham Thomson
Electric Guitar.....	Kester Tunstall
Bass Guitar	Gareth Covey-Crump
Trombone	Aidan Collins
Percussion.....	Les Arnold

Performing is Fun

Don't delay – Join today. We meet on Monday and Thursday evenings at Thalian Hall directly opposite B&Q in Bridge Road East. For further details contact our wonderful membership secretary Colleen Town on Tel: 07901 518695.

Past Productions

2000	Oklahoma	2011	Half A Sixpence
2001	The Pajama Game	2012	Fiddler on the Roof
2001	Guys and Dolls	2013	Oliver
2002	Jack the Ripper	2014	Little Shop of Horrors
2002	Anything Goes	2015	Guys and Dolls
2003	Cabaret	2016	Oklahoma
2003	The Wizard Of Oz	2017	Sleeping Beauty
2004	Call Me Madam	2018	Made in Dagenham
2004	Sweet Charity	2019	Pirates of Penzance
2005	Pirates of Penzance	2019	Dirty Rotten Scoundrels
2005	Kiss Me Kate	2020	Chicago
2006	Little Shop of Horrors	2022	Jack The Ripper
2006	Annie Get Your Gun	2022	Calendar Girls
2007	South Pacific	2023	The Wiz
2008	Hot Mikado	2023	The Addams Family
2009	Calamity Jane		
2010	My Fair Lady		

Thalian Theatre Company – A Short History

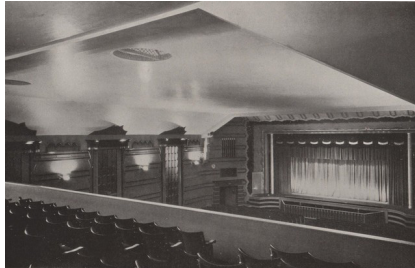
Formed in 1929 from a merger with two other amateur societies, the Barnstormers (drama) and the Operatic Society (music). The Old Welwyn Theatre in Parkway, later the Embassy Cinema, was the first venue. Most of the early shows were Gilbert and Sullivan productions. Dame Flora Robson, an early and active supporter, can still be remembered sweeping down the aisles. In those days ticket prices were 2/4d to 5/9d and a special London train, the 10.52 pm, was put on to take patrons back to the city.

The society's first producer was A W Richardson and it wasn't long before

musical shows and 'straight' plays poured out in succession while the reputation of the Thaliens grew. A large-scale production of St Joan was reported favourably at length in the Daily Telegraph no less. Festival triumphs took the society as far as America, where the 'Lord Howard De Warden Cup' was won with Not This Man by Sidney Box. The Thaliens were also first at the Letchworth Festival. Before closing down for the duration in 1939 they presented the world



The Welwyn Theatre, 1930



The Welwyn Theatre Opened
27th January 1928

première of Castles in the Air written for the society by Sidney Box and Montgomery Tully with music by May H Brahe. This South American romance starred Mildred Thompson in her debut as a dark-haired señorita. After the war, in 1947, the Thaliens were back in business with The Gondoliers and continued filling the Welwyn Theatre until in 1962 when, after a successful opening performance of Carousel, a fire broke out and

the stage was destroyed. The members pulled together, and the remaining performances were completed at a local school. When the Hawthorne theatre opened the Society moved in and have been performing happily there with many a good production until making Thalian Hall their permanent home in 2020.

More recently in 2023 the society changed its name from the Welwyn Thalian Amateur Operatic & Dramatic Society to the Thalian Theatre Company.

Why not become a Friend of Thaliens?

Get an email now and then to let you know what we are doing and dates for our upcoming auditions and shows. Just go to our website and on the home page, enter your email address.

Our 2024 Season of Shows



The Musical

**Divorced, beheaded, died, divorced,
beheaded, survived.**

21st to 24th AUGUST 2024



**The story of Evita Peron's
early life, rise to power
charity work and death.**

5th to 9th November 2024