The Two Gentlemen of Verona
By William Shakespeare
Directed by Drew Barr
Bing Theatre
February 21–24, 2019
The Two Gentlemen of Verona

By William Shakespeare

Directed by Drew Barr

Bing Theatre
February 21–24, 2019

CAST OF CHARACTERS
(in order of appearance)

Valentine  Pantino/Duke
Sherrick O’Quinn  Deja Thompson

Proteus  Antonio/Turio
Nona Johnson  Brent Grimes

Speed/Hostess  Lance
Abigail Coryell  Lea Marina Lanoue Timm

Julia  Sergio/ Crab/Silvia
Atiya Walcott  Austen Parros

Lucetta/Eglamour  Outlaws
Troy Walcott  All

Time: Now
Place: Here

There will be one 15-minute intermission.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Technical Director Jordan Fox | Hair & Make-up Design Ellie Solomon
Dialect Coach Natsuko Ohama | Dialect Coach Lauren Murphy Yeoman
Fight Choreography Edgar Landa | Assistant Stage Manager Isabella Gomez
Assistant Stage Manager Janet Zhu | Assistant Lighting Designer Yiyuan Li
Production Engineer Alex Atalla | Sound A2 Caroline Goldsmith
Crew Tomine Bergseth, John Garcia, Madison Hookway, Cassie Howell, Ramzy Ibrahim, Ruby Marker, Alissa Marlow, Emily Morris, Elisa Rocha, Giovana Valente, Thomas Winter

The Director is a member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society, a national theatrical labor union.

This production uses the Artist Engagement Services of the University Resident Theatre Association.
DIRECTOR’S NOTE

It’s hard to know what to take seriously in *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*. For, the further we travel — geographically and psychologically — with Valentine, Proteus, Julia, Sylvia, Speed, Lance and Crab, the more we must reconcile contradictory, nonsensical and off-putting twists of plot and character. These contradictions have led critics to dismiss the play as a somewhat embarrassing preview of Shakespeare’s masterpieces to come, best enjoyed for its glimpses of nascent themes, dramatic situations and characters.

Perhaps most prominent of these is Shakespeare’s fascination with the mystery and mutability of identity. The experience of selfhood is very much a journey in *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*: through time, as one progresses from childhood through adolescence into adulthood; through space, as one leaves home to acquire education and expertise in the world; through consciousness, as one navigates inner landscapes, gauging intense personal feelings against idealized conceptions of human experience. As his characters grapple with challenges of becoming and knowing, Shakespeare investigates the ways in which we construct ourselves. He delights in the theatrical possibilities of disguise, cross-dressing, gender-bending and all the existential questions these practices provoke. He experimentally juxtaposes the real and the make-believe: pitting full-blooded and hormonally-supercharged feeling against fairy-tale settings and situations.

Emotions are extreme in *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*. Tempers run high; tears flow freely. Everything’s a matter of life and death. If nothing seems to matter to us as much as it does to the characters, perhaps it’s because Shakespeare invites his audience to consider how much the high drama of human life stems from a ridiculous propensity to view our ever-changing, gloriously unpredictable and ultimately unknowable selves as conventional and fixed.
MFA Acting YEAR 3
Repertory
SDT Feb 1-Mar 3, 2019
Children of the Sun
By Maxim Gorky
In a new version by Andrew Upton
Directed by Kate Burton
Gnit
By Will Eno
Directed by Andrei Belgrader
Swimmers
By Rachel Bonds
Directed by David Warshofsky

The Two Gentlemen of Verona
By William Shakespeare
Directed by Drew Barr
BT Feb 21-24, 2019

Holy Ghosts
By Romulus Linney
Directed by Jay Lee
MT Feb 28–Mar 3, 2019

The Busybody
By Susanna Centlivre
Directed by Louise Peacock
SDT Mar 28-31, 2019

Sunday in the Park with George
Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim
Book by James Lapine
Directed by Kelly Ward
BT Mar 28-Apr 7, 2019

Rough Magic
By Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa
Directed by John DeMita
SDT Apr 18-21, 2019

Queen Margaret
By William Shakespeare
Edited by J. Steven White
Directed by Kathleen Dunn-Muzingo
MT Apr 18-21, 2019

New Works Festivals
YEAR 1
New Play Readings
Presented in association with Playwrights’ Arena
April 2019

YEAR 2
Playwrights Workshop
Presented in association with Latino Theatre Company
MASSMAN THEATRE Apr 5-14, 2019

YEAR 3
Play Project
Presented in association with The Pasadena Playhouse
May 17 & 18, 2019

KEY:
SDT = Scene Dock Theatre
BT = Bing Theatre
MT = McClintock Theatre

Ticket Prices: Plays: Gen $15, USC Students/Faculty/Staff with ID $8, Musicals: Gen $20, USC Students/Faculty/Staff with ID $10
Performances: Thurs & Fri at 7:30 p.m., Sat at 2:30 & 8 p.m. and Sun at 2:30 p.m. (Except where noted)