

FAU SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

Dorothy F. Schmidt
College of Arts and Letters
Florida Atlantic University

THE DEPARTMENT OF
THEATRE
AND *Dance*

SHAKESPEARE'S
**THE TWO
GENTLEMEN
OF VERONA**



February 14-23 | Studio One Theatre

www.fau.edu/theatre

Jean-Louis Baldet | A Note From the Director

Every other year the Department of Theatre and Dance attempts to select one of Shakespeare's works as part of our academic or summer seasons. This year, as we open this production on the day of our national commemoration of love and those we love, it seems most appropriate to offer our audiences a special Shakespeare Valentine.

The Two Gentleman of Verona is by all accounts Shakespeare's first Comedy. It is a youthful tale of the trials and tribulations of being in love and the havoc love often brings to our lives. This tale draws its narrative from a Spanish prose romance called "Diana Enamorada" (Diana in love) which was a well-known story to Elizabethan audiences, as it had been transformed to an English play by the Queen's Men Company and performed in London in January of 1585, under the title "The History of Felix and Philomena", which is now lost. It has been determined that "The Two Gentleman" was first performed by Shakespeare's company between 1594 and 1595, some ten years after the first telling of this story on a London stage. The plotlines of the romance and of the two plays are nearly identical. In structure, content and characters this play is modeled after the Italian comedies that often toured to London in the Elizabethan Period. As there were no copyright laws to protect the artist, stealing, co-opting and copying of material was common in this era. To beg, borrow and steal was a way of life for all of the theatre companies of the Elizabethan Age.

As our company of actors, our text coach and I worked on this production, we became aware of the amazing foreshadowing in this play of some great moments and relationships, which Shakespeare would further develop in his later more mature pieces. I would like to share with you some of our observations. The intensity of language and degree of passion in Valentine's speeches compares well to Orsino's speeches in "Twelfth Night", as concerning love and the ardor it evokes. Similarity relationships are also often common in Shakespeare's works. In the later "Twelfth Night" the charming interaction between Olivia and Viola, are first seen in "Verona's" delightful relationship between Julia and Silvia. In both plays the bonding of these female characters is beautiful, tenuous, and touching. There is also a very strong similarity between, our heroin, Julia and both, Viola in "Twelfth Night" and Rosalind in "As You Like It". All three women dress as young men in pursuit of their love interest and express similar disillusionment and frustration with love. It is also fascinating how Proteus, our antagonist, and the villain Iago, in the later "Othello" share common qualities and tactics of betrayal of their closest friend. Our play, to its credit, has common a Balcony scene with "Romeo and Juliet" except in this play Proteus is rejected by Silvia rather than winning her love. It is the well-known love scene turned on its head. These are but a few of the wonderful revelations in relationship and structure that caught our attention as we worked. So if you are familiar with Shakespeare's work, watch carefully as this charming early work foreshadows the brilliance and later maturity of Shakespeare, once he had completely mastered his craft.

— Jean-Louis Baldet, Director

— Special thanks to Larry Bauman for the generous costume donations. —

Department of Theatre and Dance - School of the Arts
Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters

presents

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S
**THE TWO GENTLEMEN
OF VERONA**

Directed by Jean-Louis Baldet

Scenic Design
Tim Bennett

Costume Design
Tim Dial

Lighting Design
Ariana Chapman*

Technical Director
Thomas M. Shorrock

Stage Manager
Mandalyn Stevens

Sound Design
Azzy Mora*

**Members of Alpha Psi Omega Theatre Honors Society*

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S
THE TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA

– Cast –

Julia, beloved of Proteus.....	Katy Slaven
Silvia, beloved beloved of Valentine.....	Elizabeth Price
Valentine, a gentleman.....	Michael Empson
Proteus, a gentleman.....	Connor Hammond*
Duke of Milan, father to Silvia.....	Scott Wells
Lucetta, waiting-woman to Julia.....	Jenna Wyatt
Antonia, mother to Proteus.....	Sujotta Raquel*
Thurio, a foolish rival to Valentine.....	Jack Kelly**
Innkeeper, of the inn where Julia lodges.....	Katelyn Elliott*
Speed, a clownish servant to Valentine.....	Eduardo Rivera*
Lance, the like to Proteus.....	Wade Appleton**
Panthia, servant to Antonia.....	Marquita Davis*
Outlaw 1.....	Kyle Barrett**
Outlaw 2/Ursula/Servant.....	Paige Belcher**
Outlaw 3.....	Austin Morgan*
Crab the Dog.....	A.J. Taylor

– Setting –

Verona; Milan; the frontiers of Mantua

**Members of Alpha Psi Omega Theatre Honors Society*

***Officers of Alpha Psi Omega Theatre Honors Society*

– Production Staff –

Scene Shop Foreman.....	Chris Evans
Costume Shop Manager.....	Jessica Cowden
Assistant Stage Manager.....	A.J. Taylor
House Managers.....	Melissa Betterly-Sherman, Shannon Ouellette*
Box Office Supervisor	Nikki Horbach
Scenic Artist.....	Tim Bennett, Melina Oikonomou
Text Coach.....	David Meldman
Assistant Text Coach.....	Kayla Smith*
Voice Coach.....	Kathryn L. Johnston
Movement Coach.....	Jana Tift
Fight Choreographers.....	Michael Empson, Connor Hammond*
Properties Master.....	Steven Kennedy**
Master Electrician.....	Lucas Moss*
Sound Engineer.....	Melissa Fiorini
First Hand / Special Costume Construction.....	Larry Bauman
Lighting Assistant.....	Ariana Chapman*
Publicity Assistant.....	Lisa Rosen
Office Assistant	Sujotta Raquel*
Properties Assistants	Elizabeth Price, Mandalyn Stevens
Costuming Assistants	Katy Slaven*, Scott Wells, Jenna Wyatt
Assistant Shop Managers	Jameelah Bailey, Josh Stoughton
Photography	Kenneth Grzymala
Publicity Staff.....	Bradley Wells*
Run Crew	Christian Cooper, Manuel Zaldivar
Properties Crew	Caitlin Brecht
Dresser	Katelyn Elliott*, Hayley Levy
Makeup Crew	Chase Kennedy
Wardrobe	Dianna Addison, Shamariah Renuau
Usher	Natalia Cereceda, Faye Francis Jordan Mack, Andrew Sanders
Golf Carts	Cassandra Glenn, Erica McGriff

– Upcoming Performances 2014 –

FAU Repertory Dance Theatre Ensemble

Directed by Clarence Brooks, the University's professional dance company presents works by emerging and established artists. Tickets \$20; Faculty, and alumni \$15; Students \$12. **University Theatre:**

Friday, February 28, 7pm

Saturday, March 1, 7pm

Saturday, March 1, 1pm

Rhinoceros by Eugene Ionesco

Over the course of three acts, the inhabitants of a small, provincial French town turn into rhinoceroses where ultimately only one does not succumb. This play will take you on a journey of philosophy, mass movements, and morality. Tickets \$20; Faculty, staff and alumni \$15; Students \$12.

Studio One Theatre: April 4 – April 13.

All tickets on sale by phone or online at **800-564-9539** or **www.fauevents.com**

– Studio Two Productions –

Sponsored by Alpha Psi Omega

One Flea Spare by Naomi Wallace

Studio Two Theatre: February 28-March 2

Laughing Stock by Charles Morey

Studio Two Theatre: April 17-April 20

Tickets are free, email **FAUStudioTwo@gmail.com**

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Florida Atlantic University

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Jean-Louis Baldet, Professor
Melissa Betterly-Sherman, House Manager
Clarence Brooks, Associate Professor &
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Judith Page-Sarfati, Program Assistant
Crystal Patient, Adjunct Professor
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Jana Tift, Adjunct Professor

Department of Theatre and Dance Administrative Office

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