

Northwestern University's Virginia Wadsworth Wirtz Center for the Performing Arts

proudly presents

AS YOU LIKE IT

A Musical Adaptation of William Shakespeare's *AS YOU LIKE IT*Adapted by Shaina Taub and Laurie Woolery

Music and Lyrics by Shaina Taub

Director JESSICA FISCH

Stage Manager RACHEL OLKIN

Choregrapher KASEY ALFONSO

Music Direction KEVIN PARK

Set Designer HANNAH CLARK Production Stage Manager VIA GREENE

Dramaturg CHLOË JACKSON

Music Supervisor RYAN NELSON

Lighting Designer
MAXIMO GRANO DE ORO

Stage Manager LAUREN NISHI

Assistant Director
TALIA HARTMAN-SIGALL

Costume Designer KOTRYNA HILKO

Sound Designer MATT REICH









Northwestern SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION

Originally commissioned and produced by The Public Theater Oskar Eustis, Artistic Director; Patrick Willingham, Executive Director

The Virginia Wadsworth Wirtz Center for the Performing Arts is a member of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national organization for the American Theatre.

Program Editor: Haley Groth

Northwestern University Virginia Wadsworth Wirtz Center for the Performing Arts 10 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, IL 60208 Box Office Phone: 847-491-7282 wirtz.northwestern.edu

AS YOU LIKE IT is approximately 90 minutes long with no intermission. Advisories/warnings: Violence, onstage weapons, fog/haze

COVID-19 GUIDELINES: The Wirtz Center complies with COVID-19 guidelines by Northwestern University, as well as local, state and federal governments. For more information, <u>please visit Northwestern University's Covid-19 site.</u>

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: We are on sacred ground. Northwestern University is on the traditional homelands of the people of the Council of Three Fires—the Ojibwe, Potawatomi, and Odawa—as well as the Menominee, Miami, and Ho-Chunk nations. Before it was stolen from them through colonization and forced removal, this land was a site of trade, travel, gathering, and healing for more than a dozen other native tribes. The state of Illinois is still home to more than 100,000 tribal members. In the spirit of healing and making amends for the harm that was done, we acknowledge the native and indigenous peoples who called this land home. And we pledge ourselves as members of the Northwestern School of Communication to turn our statements into action and build better relationships with native and indigenous communities in Evanston, in Chicago, and throughout the region.

For more resources on land acknowledgements, please visit Northwestern's Center for Native American and Indigenous Research site.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

The plays of William Shakespeare are filled with forests—magical (sometimes menacing) places of freedom, transformation and love. And perhaps the most famous of these forests is the Forest of Arden in *As You Like It*. Scholars often draw a parallel between the forest in the play and the real Forest of Arden that covered a vast swath of land steps from Shakespeare's childhood home.

As a parent, I am unsurprised by this deep connection. Do not mistake me for an evangelical for nature. I am a city girl through and through. But when the pandemic left me homebound with a two and a half year old, I saw first hand the magic of "the forest." My husband and I lived in a constant state of, "don't touch that!" "Mask over your nose and mouth!" "Give space!" And "Come and wash your hands!" In an effort to keep our child safe, we made her world smaller, more rigid, and defined by strict rules. As weeks turned into months, we knew we had to find a way to give her space. And that is how the sojourns began, trips to the Chicago Botanic Garden, Walking Stick Woods, state parks, the Chicago beaches (in the early morning hours before the lifeguards arrive), and parks in the sun/rain/wind/snow. The transformation was always immediate, like a butterfly unfurling her wings, my daughter emerged from her cocoon.

The Forest of Arden is not a place, it is a space. A physical, emotional or imaginary sanctuary that is made when one sets aside the constraints and demands of everyday life and makes room for self discovery. I am not alone in thinking that without the forest there would be no Shakespeare. While I make no promises that my daughter will be the next great writer of the Western cannon, I know that the space we found for her was crucial to the development of the person she is becoming. It is my sincerest hope that the next ninety minutes will inspire you to carve out some time to visit your Arden, whether it be a place, an idea, or a group of people.

Jessica Fisch

CAST

Alex Angrist	Swing
	Adam/others
	Andy/Frankie Flow
Morgan Barber	Agent/others
Eli Blanks	Papa Corin/De Boys Dancer/others
Daniel Calderon	Bronco/De Boys Dancer/others
Sophie Liu David	Celia
	Martext/De Boys Dancer/others
Alex DeVito	William/others
Abraham Deitz-Green	Orlando
Sunnie Eraso	Phoebe
Sadie Fridley	Hisperia/others
Claire Guthrie	Silvia
Lucia Padilla Katz	Jacques
	Oliver
Danielle Llevada	Miss Amiens/De Boys Dancer/others
	Duke Senior
Ryder Dean McDaniel	Duke Fredrick
Esteban Ortiz-Villacorta	Caveman/others
Sofi Pascua	Rosalind
Jared Son	Touchstone
Nicole Streger	Mama Corin/others

SPECIAL THANKS:

Marcus Doshi, Barbara Butts, Deya Friedman, Linda Roethke, Will Wilhelm

PRODUCTION TEAM

Jessica Fisch	
Talia Hartman-Sigall	Asst. Director
Kasey Alfonso	Choreographer
Alex Angrist	Asst. Choreo.
Jyreika Guest	Intimacy Choreo.
Rick Gilbert, Victor Bayona, Nich	olas CabreraFight Choreo.
Chloë Jackson	
Risher Reddick	Text Consultant
Via Greene	
Lauren Nishi	Stage Manager
Rachel Olkin	Stage Manager
Hannah Clark	Set Designer
Grace Kulas	Asst. Set Designer
Kotryna Hilko	Costume Designer
Laila Robinson	Asst. Costume Designer
Lauren Kelly	Asst. Costume Designer
Maximo Grano De Oro	
Alex Branka	
Chelsea Strebe	Asst. Lighting Designer
Matt Reich	Sound Designer

MUSIC TEAM

Kevin Park	Music Director/Conductor/Keyboard 1
Avery Powers	Keyboard 2
	Drums
Austin Aldrich	Bass
Sungbin Yun	Guitar

In Arden

By Sarah Slight

In 1598, under threat of eviction, the Lord Chamberlain's men moved their theater (aptly named The Theatre) board by board from Shoreditch, a north London neighborhood, to the south bank of the Thames River in Southwark. It was freezing, snow was falling. Theaters were constantly under threat of closure from another plague. And Shakespeare and co were determined to keep their company afloat. For them this meant that when their landlord threatened to evict them from The Theatre, the timber the Burbage family had purchased for it had to be reused to make their new theatrical home, the famous Globe Theatre.

As You Like It premiered at the Globe in 1599, one of Shakespere's most prolific years. Unlike Henry V, Julius Caesar, and Hamlet, which he also wrote that year, As You Like It did not receive much praise. In fact, you would be hard pressed to find anything written about the play in its time. The plot comes from Thomas Lodge's story, Rosalynde, which was highly popular when it came out just a few years prior. That work was itself based on a medieval poem called The Tale of Gamelyn by an unknown author. However, neither of those works addresses the political and social climate in the way Shakespeare does.

The economics of 1599 England saw steep tax hikes and significant population growth. For the first time in Shakespeare's life, there was a growing houseless population. People with no money, no work, and nothing to eat, were forced to wander and beg. In As You Like It, Shakespeare imagines Arden for them—a place where all are accepted, fed, and cared for. This theme of care and consideration for our fellow humans is what drove Laurie Woolery and Shaina Taub to adapt the play for The Public Theatre's Public Works program first debuting in 2017 and remounted this summer.

The Public Works production sought to intentionally blur the lines between professional and amateur. Alongside professional actors, community members took the stage at The Delacorte Theatre to present this musical adaptation in Central Park. These community member actors came from all five boroughs, from eight partner organizations, and from so many walks of life; veterans, domestic workers, children, retirees, etc. All in all, more than 200 people performed in Woolery and Taub's As You Like It, making it a truly transformative experience sitting at the intersection of art and community.

Woolery and Taub wrote their adaptation at a time when uncertainty fueled our country with the election of President Trump and then had their initial rehearsal process shut down by the threat of the coronavirus. They saw those parallels in the story of *As You Like It* and in the life of Shakespeare at the time of his writing the play. If—in moving their theater piece by piece—the Lord Chamberlain's Men built, as noted theatrical historian James Shapiro calls it, "the first theater built by actors for actors," the Public Works production of *As You Like It* created the first version of the play by the people for the people. Now, in production here at Northwestern, director Jessica Fisch and the creative team want you to shed the isolation of the past two years and join us in the forest of Arden. Like Shakespeare, we imagine Arden (or The Globe or The Delacorte or the Wirtz Center) to be a place where we can not only gather again but also a place where all are welcome, where "together, we'll heal our wounds."

The action of this play takes place now and always in a kingdom surrounded by a forest called Arden. Arden is the mythical sanctuary where we all need to travel in order to heal. Arden is here, there and everywhere. No one is an expert in our Arden.

MUSICAL NUMBERS

Prologue: All the World's a Stage	Jaques, Ensemble
The Man I'm Supposed to Be	Orlando
	Rosalind, Ensemble
	Ensemble
	Rosalind, Orlando
In Arden	Duke Senior, Jaques, Ardenites
	Duke Senior, Ardenites
Will U Be My Bride	Orlando, Touchstone, De Boys Dancers
Imagine I'm Your Lover	Rosalind, Orlando
You Phoebe Me	Silvia, Phoebe, Rosalind
	Duke Senior, Miss Amiens, Ardenites
When I'm Your Wife	Rosalind
The Lion and the Snake	Oliver
	Touchstone, Andy, De Boys Dancers
For Real	Orlando
Getting Married Tomorrow	Silvia, Phoebe, Orlando,
	Rosalind, Touchstone, Andy, Celia, Oliver, Ensemble
Rosalind, Be Merry (Reprise)	Rosalind
For Real (Reprise)	Orlando, Rosalind
	Phoebe, Silvia
Under the Greenwood Tree (Repr	ise)Celia, Ensemble
Still I Will Love	Duke Senior, Ensemble
Epilogue: All the World's a Stage.	Jaques

Click here to view the As You Like It synopsis!

(SPOILERS INCLUDED!)

COMPANY BIOS

BOBBY AXELROD (he/him/his) is so excited to be performing in his first Wirtz main-stage production. He is a second-year Computer Science Major from Montclair, New Jersey. Bobby has previously performed on the Northwestern campus in *Mamma Mia, Big Fish*, and *Project NU*.

ALEX ANGRIST (she/her/hers) is elated to be back in the Barber Theater after working as a Swing/Dance Captain on Something Rotten! last year. Highlights include Commonwealth Shakespeare Company (Romeo and Juliet, Much Ado About Nothing), The 91st Annual Waa-Mu Show (Asst. Choreographer), 54 Below, Carnegie Hall, and Disney World. A second year from NYC, Alex is studying Theatre, English, and Dance. Upcoming: The Frogs (Choreographer). EMC.

MATHEUS BARBEE (he/him/his) is overjoyed to be making his Wirtz Center main-stage debut. Originally from North Carolina, he is a junior majoring in Theatre and is part of the Music Theatre Certificate program. You may have seen him on-campus as Eddie in Mamma Mia! (Arts Alliance), Third Man in Baltimore Waltz (Wave), or Rafi in Illest Dance (AMTP). In Chicago, he could be seen as Reuben (u/s) in St. Sebastian (Refracted Theatre Co).

MORGAN BARBER (she/her/hers) is delighted to be making her mainstage debut in As You Like It at the Wirtz Center this fall. You may have previously seen Morgan in the student-led productions of She Kills Monsters or Heathers The Musical. Morgan is a sophomore at Northwestern studying Theatre and she is pursuing the Music Theatre Certificate as well. She would like to thank her production team, fellow cast members, and her family for their support.

ELI BLANKS (he/him/his) is thrilled to make his debut in a Wirtz main-stage production with this show. He hails from Bethesda, Maryland, and is a second-year Theatre major. He has previously been seen on the Northwestern campus as Grover in *The Lightning Thief* (Lovers and Madmen), Josh in *Staring at the Dogwood Trees*, Temier in *The Doors We Close*, and Ensemble in *Escapeland* (AMTP). Thanks to all of his lovely friends and family!

DANIEL CALDERON (he/him/his) is a third-year theatre major from Miramar, Florida. Previously Daniel was apart of the Waa-Mu Show A Peculiar Inheritance, Vertigo's Centerville, New Jersey Has a Problem with Trout and ImagineU's Tomas and the Library Lady. Daniel would like to thank his amazing family for supporting his dreams.

SOPHIE LIU DAVID (she/her/hers) is thrilled to appear in *As You Like It*! She returns to the Barber theatre after her performance last year as Orangutan in *Water by the Spoonful.* Sophie is a sophomore studying Theatre, with minors in Chinese and Dance. Outside of class, she is an avid member of Graffiti Dancers and Tonik Tap. Sophie is so thankful for her family, friends, and the amazing team of *As You Like It*!

RACHAEL DEC (she/her/hers) is a senior Theatre major in the Music Theatre Certificate program also pursing the Dance minor and Acting for the Screen module. Previous credits include the 91st Annual Waa-Mu Show, Abandon All Hope (Original Cast Album out now!), [re: CLICK], and more. Rachael has also choreographed for two full-length, student-produced musicals: Big Fish and Godspell. "To my friends and my parents- all my love, always."

ALEX DEVITO (they/them/theirs) is a sophomore theatre major at Northwestern, and is very excited to perform in their second Wirtz show! Other Northwestern shows include the 91st Waa-Mu Show, Arts Alliance's Mamma Mia, and Wirtz's Open House. Some favorite credits include Hairspray: In Concert at the Meyerhoff Symphony Hall, Beauty and the Beast as The Beast, and Newsies at Toby's Dinner Theater. They're very excited for you to see the show, and hope you enjoy!

ABRAHAM DEITZ-GREEN (he/him/his) is thrilled to be a part of As You Like It! A second-year from New Jersey, Abraham studies theater, psychology, and dance, and is a part of the Music Theatre Certificate program. He has previously appeared on the Wirtz stage as Kev in Bengal Tiger. A true method actor, Abraham has spent the last few months preparing for this show by wrestling anyone and everyone he's come in contact with. Enjoy the show!

SUNNIE ERASO (any) is a senior in the Theatre, American Studies, and Music Theatre Certificate programs. Favorite performance credits include: Cowboy Bob (Tanya), Expect Victory (Irene), the 89th Annual Waa-Mu Show State of the Art (Ash), and the World Premiere and 54Below Concert Small Town Story (Kristin). Immense thank-you's to Jessica, Kasey, Kevin, Via, and the joy they and their team have imbued into this magical world!

SADIE FRIDLEY (she/her/hers), a second year theatre major in the Music Theatre Certificate program, is so excited to be a part of this show! Recent Northwestern credits include *Something Rotten* and last year's Waa-Mu Show, *A Peculiar Inheritance* (Abigail Lindsey). Sadie would like to thank the fantastic creative team of *As You Like It* for their leadership, the wonderful cast and crew for their incredible work, and her family for their constant support.

CLAIRE GUTHRIE (she/her/hers) is so excited to be a part of this production! She is a junior studying theatre and speech pathology, and she is from Fort Worth, Texas. Recent NU credits include the 91st Waa-Mu Show (Charlie), *Mamma Mia* (Tanya), and AMTP's *Cowboy Bob*. She would like to thank her family for their support and for always sending pictures of the dogs.

LUCIA PADILLA KATZ (she/her/hers) is a junior majoring in Theatre and English Creative Writing, as well as the Music Theatre Certificate program. Past credits include *Delilah* at The Greenhouse Theatre, *Pericles* at The Prague Shakespeare Company, and *Men On Boats* in collaboration with the Northwestern MFA program. She is currently working on a new play that will culminate in a staged reading with the Jewish Theatre Ensemble. Many thanks to her wonderful friends and family.

HARRISON LEWIS (he/him/his) is a Senior theatre major in the Music Theatre Certificate program and Creating the Musical Module. Past NU productions include Something Rotten, Last Stop on Market Street, Assassins, What Did I Miss?, and People You May Know. As a composer, writer, and director, he has worked on many on-campus productions and his original musical, Staring at the Dogwood Trees, was workshopped on campus last spring. He hopes you enjoy the show!



DANIELLE LLEVADA (she/her/hers) is a senior Theatre major and Business Institutions minor. Her Northwestern credits include: Late, A Cowboy Song (RED), AMTP Escapeland (Gloria), Songs for a New World (Woman 2), AMTP People You May Know (Elizabeth). Danielle is also a screenwriting fellow in the Pritzker Pucker Studio Lab and student in the Musical Theatre Certificate Program. She thanks to the cast and team for their hard work and dedication.

WILKE MACARIOLA (he/him/his) is thrilled to be back in the Barber! He was previously in this past year's Waa-Mu Show playing Damien and the Dolphin Show's Merrily We Roll Along playing Charley. He would like to thank his family, Kelli Morgan McHugh, Billy Siegenfeld, and Gail Shapiro for their support and wisdom. Wilke is extremely passionate about wildlife and conservation when not acting or singing. For professional inquiries please email him at wilkedmacariola@gmail.com.

RYDER DEAN MCDANIEL (he/him, they/them) is currently a senior at NU studying Theatre with the Music Theatre Certificate program. He has been in multiple Northwestern productions and independent films, as well as worked with the LA Opera and The National Children's Chorus. His favorite roles have been: The Witch in Into the Woods, Jean Val Jean in Les Miserables, and Captain Von Trapp in The Sound of Music. Ryder is excited to bring Duke Frederick to life! rydermcdaniel.com

ESTEBAN ORTIZ-VILLACORTA (he/him/his) is from Seattle, Washington and studies Theatre and History at Northwestern. In addition to some student theatre credits, he has previously been seen on the Wirtz stage as Guitarman in *The Last Stop on Market Street* as well as Jack in the AMTP *Illest Dance*. Besides performing, Esteban enjoys writing plays and music, (sometimes at the same time), playing gigs with his band Blue Boy, and skating around the lakefill. Enjoy the show!

SOFI PASCUA (she/her/hers) is a sophomore theatre and music major in the Music Theatre Certificate Program. She is thrilled to return to the Wirtz stage after appearing in Imagine U's *The Ballad of Mu Lan* as Xi Xia King/Advisor last Winter. Sofi is an executive member of both the Northwestern Treblemakers a cappella group and Vibrant Colors Collective theatre board. Sofi would like to thank her family for their constant love and support.

JARED SON (he/him/his) is a third-year Theatre major studying the Creating the Musical Module, and the Musical Theatre Certificate program at Northwestern. Previously, he has been a musician and fight captain for *The Ballad of MuLan*. Favorite characters he has played are Claudio from *Much Ado About Nothing*, and Tom from *The Glass Menagerie*. Jared is thrilled to be playing Touchstone in this production of the Public Works' Musical Adaptation of *As You Like It*.

JESSICA FISCH is director, educator, and creator based in Chicago. She is dedicated to the creation of new plays, original content and bold reinterpretations of classic texts. She has had the privilege of working on and developing work across the country with companies such as Actors Theatre of Louisville, Goodman Theatre, Steppenwolf Theatre, Victory Gardens, Writers Theatre, Northlight Theatre, Rivendell Theatre Ensemble, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Drury Lane Theatre, Windy City Playhouse, Playwrights' Center Minneapolis, Playwrights Realm NYC, Public Theater's Emerging Writer's Group, and Ensemble Studio Theatre's Youngbloods, among many more. Productions she has directed have twice been named to the Chicago Tribune's "10 Best Shows in Chicago" list (Cry it Out and Every Brilliant Thing), and one of her productions was named to the Chicago Sun-Times "Decade's Best" list for the 2010s (Every Brilliant Thing). In addition to her theatre work, Jessica, with her co-creator Grace McLeod, is the co-writer and co-director of the original scripted podcast series Two Truths and a Lie which is in development with creative producer Temple Hill Entertainment and Picturestart. Jessica is a proud member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society (SDC) and a mom to two awesome kids. More info and upcoming projects: jessicafisch.com

KEVIN PARK is a fourth year studying Theatre, as well as the Music Theatre Certificate and the Creating the Musical module. Previously, on Northwestern's campus, he has music directed shows like *Daddy Long Legs, Songs for a New World,* and *Spring Awakening.* In 2021, he music directed *RENT* with Chicago's Possibilities Theatre Company. Next year, his projects include *Matilda* (The Dolphin Show), *Lucy and Charlie's Honeymoon* (Lookingglass). He is thrilled to be a part of the *As You Like It* team and is grateful for the opportunity to learn and grow alongside such

with NU for the first time on As You Like It! A choreographer, performer, business owner, and educator, her choreography has been seen at Teatro Vista, Griffin Theatre, Firebrand Theatre, Kokandy Productions, Grelley Duvall, The Fly Honey Show, and more. In addition to these credits, she is a choreographer for the Chicago Academy for the Arts, where she is also a teaching artist. Lastly, Kasey self-produces a class series called Move | ICONIC, where she teaches choreography from iconic music videos (IG: @kase_face89). Love to Max + Banksy.



VIA GREENE (she/her, they/them) is a senior studying Theatre Management and Global Health. Previous Wirtz credits: Peerless, Abandon All Hope: A Musical Comedy, Legally Blonde, Tomás and the Library Lady, and What Did I Miss?. Professional credits: The Old Globe's Come Fall in Love: The DDLJ Musical, Chicago Immersive's WANDER: Lincoln Square and Possibilities Theatre Company's Rent. StuCo credits include Spring Awakening, Joni: Busy Being Free and Mamma Mia!. Off headset, she is Stage Management Chair of Lovers & Madmen. Thanks to Dan, Angelo, Barbara and Mark!

theatre major excited to be involved in her first production at NU! Previous acting credits include Matilda (Agatha Trunchbull), The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (Olive Ostrovsky), and The Spongebob Musical (Swing). Backstage credits include Shrek the Musical Jr. (Choreographer/Lighting Designer) and The Spongebob Musical (Assistant Choreographer/Lighting Designer). Thank you to Barbara, Deya, Via. and Rachel!

RACHEL OLKIN (she/her, they/them) is a sophomore studying Theatre and is thrilled to be working on a full Wirtz mainstage slot. Previously at NU, she produced the Freshman Musical, lighting designed *The Lightning Thief*, and stage managed *Ordinary Days*. Currently, she is the Production Manager for The 80th Annual Dolphin Show, and is one of Arts Alliance's Technical Directors.

HANNAH CLARK (any) is a 3rd MFA scenic design candidate. Their previous work at Northwestern includes Co-designing *The Battlefields of Clara Barton*, and assistant design work on *Last Stop on Market Street* and *Mulan*.

KOTRYNA HILKO (she/her/hers) is a Chicago based costume designer and theatre artist, having designed for theatres including A Red Orchid Theatre, Firebrand Theatre, Definition Theatre Company and The New Colony, Haven Theatre, and Porchlight Music Theatre. Recent Northwestern credits include Water by the Spoonful and Late, A Cowboy Song. She holds a BFA in Performance and BA in Costume Design from University of Illinois at Chicago and is currently an MFA Stage Design Candidate.



MAXIMO GRANO DE ORO (he/him/his) is a Lighting Designer for theater, opera, and dance originally from New Jersey. He received his BFA in Theatre Design from Rutgers Mason Gross and is currently an MFA candidate at Northwestern University studying Lighting Design, expected in June 2023. Recent design credits include Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo, In His Hands (Northwestern Wirtz), The Medium (Northwestern Opera), Much Ado About Nothing, The Tempest (Commonwealth Shakespeare Company).

R&D CHOREOGRAPHY (Rick Gilbert, Victor Bayona, and Nicolas Cabrera- he/him/his) are filled with the joys of Spring to be working with Northwestern again after having so much fun designing *Bengal Tiger* and *Water by the Spoonful.* Founded in 1997, R&D has designed violence for over three hundred productions at dozens of Chicago area theatres, including ATC, Griffin, Goodman, Lifeline, Metropolis, Oak Park Festival, Paramount, Pegasus, Steep, Strawdog, Theo Ubique, Trapdoor, and Vitalist. We have taught and designed at universities all around Illinois.



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