

STUDIO EAST PRESENTS

WILLIAM
SHAKESPEARE'S



MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

JUNE 3-5 2022

FREE PERFORMANCES
AT JUANITA BEACH PARK!

JUNE 3: 6:30PM › JUNE 4: 2PM & 6:30PM › JUNE 5: 2PM



WWW.STUDIO-EAST.ORG

DIRECTED
BY SIMON
PRINGLE

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

By William Shakespeare

CAST OF CHARACTERS:

| | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Beatrice | Gabi Kotwicki |
| Benedick | Aidan Ramey |
| Claudio | Adrian Colville |
| Hero | Stella Sparkman |
| Don Pedro | Rachel Kelley |
| Leonato | Arden Belinsky |
| Don John | Jason Rickelton |
| Margaret | Natalie Reichlin |
| Borachio | Faustin Harroch |
| Conrade | Lucy Gallagher |
| Dogberry | Lily Luedke |
| Verges | Rory Luedke |
| Antonio/Friar | Siddharth Mulupuru |
| Balthasar/Sexton | Jade Breiding |
| Ursula | Ashlynn Johnson |

Watchmen: Gabi Kotwicki, Natalie Reichlin, Ashlynn Johnson, Jason Rickelton, Jade Breiding

"Sigh No More" melody composed by Studio East alum and former Don John, Kevin Wyatt-Stone.
Used with permission.

ARTISTIC & PRODUCTION TEAM:

SIMON PRINGLE, Director

ERIK EAGLESON, Set & Sound Design, Technical Director

KATIE HART, Stage Manager

ARDEN BELINSKY, Stage Management Intern

LANI BROCKMAN, Costume Designer

NATALIE DION, Costume Assistant

HUGH MACDONALD, Assistant Stage Manager

CASSIE FITZGERALD, Production Manager

Jim Walen and Representative Amy Walen present

STUDIO EAST'S ANNUAL SUMMER TEEN MUSICAL

MAMMA MIA!

AT KIRKLAND PERFORMANCE CENTER

JULY 30 - AUGUST 7, 2022

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY
BENNY ANDERSSON
BJÖRN ULVAEUS
 AND SOME SONGS WITH STIG ANDERSON

MUSIC PUBLISHED BY
 UNIVERSAL MUSIC PUBLISHING
 GROUP AND EMI GROVE PARK
 MUSIC INC. AND EMI
 WATERFORD MUSIC INC

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL & ARRANGEMENTS
MARTIN KOCH

MAMMA MIA! WAS ORIGINALLY PRODUCED IN
 LONDON BY JUDY CRAYMER, RICHARD EAST
 AND BJÖRN ULVAEUS FOR LITTLESTAR IN
 ASSOCIATION WITH UNIVERSAL

BOOK BY
CATHERINE JOHNSON
 ORIGINALLY CONCEIVED BY
JUDY CRAYMER

DIRECTED BY LANI BROCKMAN
 MUSIC DIRECTED BY DAVID DUVAL
 CHOREOGRAPHED BY KAREN OMAHEN

STUDIO EAST

Mission Statement

Studio East works to create confident, compassionate, responsible young people through training in the art and craft of theater.

Studio Philosophy

Studio East is founded on the belief that the performing arts can make a difference in the lives of our children. Children who learn and practice the discipline, dedication, and teamwork required by the craft of theater develop skills that will be valuable assets throughout their lives, no matter what career they choose to pursue.

Welcome Home

We define inclusivity with two words: welcome home. The entire Studio East organization creates and supports an environment that embraces individuals from any background, culture, identity, orientation, or ability and strives to foster a sense of real belonging. Our hearts, minds, and doors are open to ALL.

Land Acknowledgement

Studio East acknowledges that we reside on the traditional lands of the first inhabitants of Seattle: The Coast Salish People which includes, but is not limited to, the Duwamish, Stillaguamish, Snoqualmie, Suquamish, Muckleshoot, and Tulalip Tribes. We extend our respects to the Coast Salish Peoples, their Elders – past, present, and emerging – for their wisdom and we acknowledge their everlasting connection to the land, waters, and culture.

Special Thanks: Dianna Caley as Technical Sponsor, Laurence “larz” Nefzger, City of Kirkland, Explore Kirkland, Arden Belinksy

DIRECTOR'S NOTES:

Welcome to the Teen Ensemble's *Much Ado About Nothing*! This is my second outing with this play at Studio East, my second year bringing Shakespeare's wonderful stories and characters to the beautiful Juanita Beach Park, and my thirteenth production at Studio East with "Lord Pringle's Men."

It has been an absolute joy directing this production, and I couldn't be prouder of everything this cast has achieved. This production has demanded unprecedented emotional highs and lows from many of the performers, and I believe further strengthened life-long friendships between these incredibly talented young people.

Sincere thanks to Studio East and all the people who make it the amazing place it is for young people. Getting to direct and teach at the Studio is one of greatest privileges of my life, and I treasure every memory of the journey.

Thanks also to the City of Kirkland for their help and support in making this happen two years in a row.

Simon Pringle, Director

SYNOPSIS:

The play begins with the arrival of Don Pedro and his officers Benedick and Claudio at the house of Leonato, governor of Messina. Upon returning to Messina, old feelings are rekindled for the young and headstrong Claudio, who falls in love with Leonato's daughter, the fair and virtuous Hero. Benedick and Beatrice recommence their 'merry war', sniping at each other in a hilarious battle of wits. Leonato decides to hold a masquerade ball in honor of his guests.

Under the cover of his mask, the distinguished and elegant Don Pedro woos Hero on behalf of his officer, Claudio. Hero and Claudio then decide to marry and set the date for their wedding in one week's time.

With time to kill before the wedding, Don Pedro, Claudio, Hero and Leonato hatch a plan for their own entertainment to bring the feisty Beatrice and rakish Benedick together. However, the misanthropic and villainous Don John, half-brother to Don Pedro, decides to bring the wedding plans to an abrupt halt!

Don John's servant, the drunkard Borachio, has a liaison with Hero's maidservant (whom he convinces to wear Hero's clothing) at Hero's bedroom window, in full view of Claudio, Don Pedro, and Balthazar, who were preparing to serenade Hero from under her window by moonlight. Claudio and Don Pedro fall for the trap and assume Hero to be disloyal to her betrothed. They decide that they will shame her at the altar for her supposed affair with Borachio.

Meanwhile, the profoundly silly constable Dogberry and his henchman Verges uncover the villainous plot, as their watchmen overhear Borachio drunkenly telling his partner in crime, the sinister Conrade, about the plan to ruin Hero and Claudio and boasts of the money he has received from Don John in reward.

All gather at the church, and Claudio denounces Hero as an adulterer and liar, and refuses to wed her. Hero, who rightly feels she is blameless and guiltless, faints to the floor and the groom's party storm out. Friar Francis believes that Hero has been falsely accused and convinces Leonato and the others to make it known that Hero has died from shock until it can be proved that she is innocent.

Upon hearing of Hero's death, Borachio feels enormous guilt for his villainy, and confesses what he and Don John have done to Leonato. Claudio and Don Pedro are stunned and grief stricken when they are led to believe their false accusation has cost an innocent young girl her life. Claudio agrees that he will marry the girl of Leonato's choosing in return for the part he played in Hero's 'death', and that he will spread the word of her innocence throughout Messina.

Of course, all things turn out for the best in the end! The girl Leonato brings to Claudio is really Hero under cover of a mask. Claudio and Hero are reunited and their marriage will go ahead as planned. Benedick and Beatrice, under duress from their friends, finally admit their love for each other and Balthazar tells us that Don John, the author of all of this trouble, has been arrested and is being brought back to Messina for trial.

MEET THE CAST:



Jade Breiding



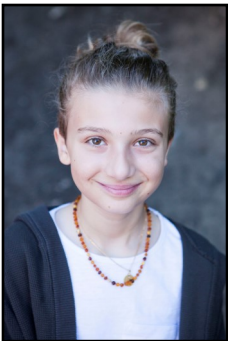
Arden Belinsky



Adrian Colville



Lucy Gallagher



Faustin Harroch



Ashlynn Johnson



Rachel Kelley



Gabi Kotwicki



Lily Luedke



Rory Luedke



Siddharth Mulupuru



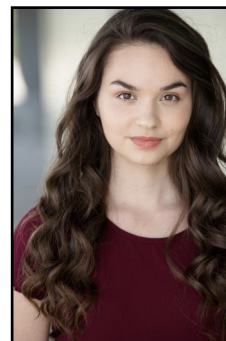
Aidan Ramey



Natalie Reichlin



Jason Rickelton



Stella Sparkman

Jade Breiding (Balthasar/Sexton) age 12, is honored to make this her 8th Mainstage show at Studio East and 1st Shakespeare in the Park. Previous roles include Dorothy in *The Wizard of Oz*, Goose in *Charlotte's Web* and Beth in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. She would like to thank her parents and directors for all their support and hopes you enjoy the show.

Arden Belinsky (Leonato) age 19, is excited to be back on stage again after two and a half years of sitting in their room. You might have seen them play Ferdinand in *The Tempest* back in 2020, but probably not. Arden is very proud of all the work that this amazing cast has done.

Adrian Colville (Claudio) age 14, goes to the Northwest School. He has been working with Studio East for 3 years now. You may have recently seen him in *James and the Giant Peach* as a Narrator, Chip in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* and heard him in *Todd* as Toby. Adrian is very excited to be in his second Shakespeare show and can't wait to see how it turns out. Adrian thanks his family, friends, and everyone else supporting him.

Lucy Gallagher (Conrade) age 13, attends Kamiakin Middle School. Previous Studio East credits include *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* as an Ozian/Munchkin, *'Twas the Night...Reimagined* as Dee, and *Oliver* as an Urchin. She has enjoyed acting in Studio East summer camps since she was five years old. She thanks her family and Studio East for this opportunity.

Faustin Harroch (Borachio) is thrilled to be in the show.

Ashlynn Johnson (Ursula/Watchman) age 13, attends Timbercrest Middle School. Previous Missoula acting credits include *The Wizard of Oz*, *Sleeping Beauty*, *Jack and the Beanstalk*, as well as *Lewis and Clark*. When not onstage, Ashlynn enjoys writing stories and playing video games. She thanks her family, friends, and Studio East.

Rachel Kelley (Don Pedro) age 14, is a freshman at LWHS and is excited to be in her ninth Mainstage show. She is a second-year SE Intensive student and was recently seen as Mrs. McCarthy (*The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*). She would like to thank the Studio East staff and hopes you enjoy the show!

Gabi Kotwicki (Beatrice), age 18, has been acting since she was seven years old. Some of her past shows include *Les Mis*, *Clue*, and *Theory of Relativity*. Most recently she played Wednesday in *The Addams Family*. In her free time, Gabi loves practicing aerial and circus arts.

Lily Luedke (Dogberry) age 14, is elated to return to Shakespeare in the Park! In her free time, Lily enjoys swimming, reading books, playing tabletop games, and spending time with her siblings. Lily thanks Simon, Cassie, Katie, Arden, and the rest of the cast for their support, encouragement, and sharing their knowledge. Enjoy the show!

Rory Luedke (Verges) age 12, is ecstatic to be in her first Shakespeare show at Studio East! When she is not at theater, she loves reading, playing outside with her siblings and pets, baking, writing, singing, and swimming. She thanks her family for driving her and hopes you enjoy the show!

Siddharth Mulupuru (Friar/Antonio) age 14, attends Inglewood Middle School. He has participated in numerous Studio East shows in the past including *Seussical*, playing the role of Jojo, *Hammered*, playing the role of Young Thor, and more. He thanks his family, friends, and Studio East for supporting him in his dreams of becoming a brilliant actor!

Aidan Ramey (Benedick) age 18. This past year Aidan has spent auditioning for colleges and rehearsing in his garage. You might have recently seen him as Chip Tolentino in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. He enjoys painting mini-figures and singing songs far out of his range. And he is thoroughly ecstatic to tackle Shakespeare.

Natalie Reichlin (Margaret/Watchman) age 16. Previous shows include Wendy in *Peter Pan*, Crutchie in *Newsies*, and Young Cosette in *Les Misérables*. When not onstage Natalie loves playing guitar, drawing, and taking care of her plants. She thanks her family, friends and Studio East for all of their support.

Jason Rickelton (Don John) is excited to perform in *Much Ado About Nothing*, his eighth production at Studio East. Other productions include *Teen Cabaret*, *Hammered*, *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*, and *Todd*. He would like to thank his directors for their help and has had fun rehearsing with the other cast members.

Stella Sparkman (Hero) age 18, is delighted to be a part of another show at Studio East! Stella is a two time YAPI graduate whose recent roles include Morticia in *The Addams Family* and Mrs. Peacock in *Clue* at Inglemoor High School. She would like to thank Simon, Katie, Arden, and her castmates for all of their support.

ABOUT THE ARTISTIC TEAM:

SIMON PRINGLE (Director) Simon is delighted to be directing his thirteenth Shakespeare production at Studio East with “Lord Pringle’s Men.” Past credits as a director include *The Taming of The Shrew*, *The Comedy of Errors*, *As You Like It*, *Twelfth Night*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Macbeth* and *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*. Simon trained at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama and has an MA in English from St. Andrews University. As a performer, Simon has worked locally at Seattle Children’s Theatre, Taproot Theatre, Storybook Theater, Centerstage and Harlequin Productions. Simon served as a YAPI faculty instructor over multiple summers at Studio East, specializing in movement, combat, Shakespeare, and clowning, and has worked as a dialect coach for several local theaters.

ERIK EAGLESON (Set, Lights, Sound Designer & Technical Director) has designed and built all Mainstage shows for the last six years at Studio East. He has also built and designed sets for Centerstage Theater, Iam8bit, and Events on the Edge. Love to his wife Abby, son Ezra, and his Families!

LANI BROCKMAN (Costume Designer) is the Founding Artistic Director at Studio East where she directs, teaches and works with a fantastic team full of talent and passion for children’s theater! In addition to being the Founding Artistic Director, Lani jumps at the chance to costume shows when needed. Recent shows include *The Wizard of Oz*, *Charlotte’s Web*, *I Never Saw Another Butterfly* and *Hammered*.

KATIE HART (Stage Manager) Katie Hart is a stage manager, actor, and lighting and sound designer in the Seattle Area. After a few years without live theater, Katie is beyond excited to make her return to in-person performances. A lifelong Shakespeare fanatic, Katie is delighted to cross *Much Ado About Nothing* off her list and come one step closer to performing the complete works of William Shakespeare. Much love to her wonderful husband Joe!

CASSIE FITZGERALD (Production Manager) has worked for Studio East for five years and is enjoying her new role as Production Stage Manager this season. Cassie has worked at Second Story Rep, The Phoenix Theatre, The Fifth Avenue, Seattle Public Theatre, and Seattle Musical Theatre. She loves watching the kids at Studio East learn and grow over the course of a production(s) and is looking forward to many more. Love always to her husband James.



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STUDIO EAST SUMMER THEATER CAMPS
JUNE 20 - AUGUST 26
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INTRODUCING STUDIO EAST'S 2022-23 MAINSTAGE SEASON



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Marketing ManagerAshley McCuen
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Thank you to our sponsors for making our '21- '22 season possible!



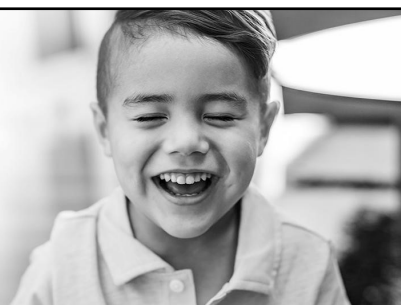
CULTURE



www.tulalipcares.org

Bravo!

Premera applauds Studio East and all of their talented performers.



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