



**PLAYING
FOR
GOOD**

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Marin Shakespeare Company Announces *As You Like It*

Love. Out loud. Under the stars. Beginning June 19 at the Forest Meadows Amphitheatre.

San Rafael, CA — MAY 20, 2026 — Love takes center stage under the summer sky as Marin Shakespeare Company presents *As You Like It*, adapted and directed by Evren Odcikin and running June 19 through July 19 at the Forest Meadows Amphitheatre.

A dazzling, music-filled, fashion-forward romp through the Forest of Arden. Joyous and romantic, this reimagining leans into the comedy’s delicious fluidity of gender and identity. Join the celebration of love, out loud, in all its forms.

Odcikin’s vibrant production opens during Pride Month and invites audiences into one of Shakespeare’s most playful explorations of love and desire. In Odcikin’s vision, Arden is not simply a place of exile or escape. It is a world where people find the language, the community, and the courage to say who they are out loud.

“This play has always held queer multitudes,” says adaptor and director Evren Odcikin. “For me, Arden is not where these characters discover who they are. It’s where they finally get to say it out loud. This production is about community, self-articulation, and the kind of joy that is chosen, defiant, and hard-won.”

The production draws a vivid contrast between the polished danger of the court and the liberated world of Arden. The court is sleek, status-obsessed, and tightly controlled; Arden is colorful, communal, musical, and alive — inspired less by a traditional pastoral fantasy than by the backyard of a queer Bay Area gathering place where “weirdos and outsiders can breathe.” With high fashion, music, movement, and the expansive beauty of MSC’s outdoor summer amphitheatre, this *As You Like It* trades the usual forest fantasy for something stranger, sharper, and more celebratory.

“Evren’s vision expands the play in exactly the way great Shakespeare should,” says Artistic Director Jon Tracy. “It is deeply thoughtful, wildly theatrical, and full of life. This is a production about love, identity, community, and the courage it takes to be fully seen — all set inside one of Shakespeare’s most joyful comedies.”

The production also brings two extraordinary guest artists to Marin Shakespeare Company’s summer stage. Lady Zen, appearing as Amiens and serving as composer and music director, is a Fulbright mezzo, poet, librettist, actor, and genre-defying entertainment artist whose Lyric Fusion Poetics blends opera, jazz, photography, and spoken word. Based in Mexico, she has toured and taught across Central America and Europe, and previously composed music for MSC’s *Hamlet*. Lisa Wolpe, appearing as Jacques, is one of the world’s great Shakespeare artists: a performer, director, educator, and founder of the all-female, multicultural Los Angeles Women’s Shakespeare Company. She has performed and directed at major Shakespeare companies across the world, and her acclaimed solo work *Shakespeare and the Alchemy of Gender* has toured internationally — making her presence especially electric in this gender-fluid reimagining.

The cast also features two acclaimed Bay Area performers at the heart of Shakespeare’s great comedy: Jeunée Simon as Rosalind and Adam Magill as Orlando. They are joined by Stevie DeMott as Olivia, Dave Maier as Charles/Oliver Martext, Fatemeh Mehraban as Celia, Cathleen Riddley as Adam/Duke Senior, David Sinaiko as Touchstone, and Chris Steele as Le Beau/Audrey.

At the center of the story are Rosalind and Orlando, two outsiders who recognize something true in one another before the rest of the world catches up. Around them, Shakespeare’s beloved comedy unfolds with mistaken identities, romantic confusion, sharp wit, music, movement, and a joyful collision of hearts. In Odcikin’s adaptation, the ending becomes not simply a set of marriages, but a communal celebration of love in its many forms.

Performances run June 19 through July 19 at Forest Meadows Amphitheatre, located on the campus of Dominican University of California in San Rafael. Performances are Thursdays through Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 5 p.m.

Tickets are available now at:

<https://www.marinshakespeare.org/as-you-like-it/>

Performance Details

As You Like It

June 19 – July 19, 2026

Thursdays – Saturdays at 7:30 p.m.

Sundays at 5 p.m.

Forest Meadows Amphitheatre
890 Belle Ave, San Rafael, CA

Tickets \$0 - \$49

June 19 - “Preview” (Discount Tickets from \$10-\$25)

June 21 - “Senior Matinee” (\$20 Tickets for Seniors 65+)

June 27 - “Full Moon” (Enjoy a full Moon rising above the stage!)

June 28 - "Family Day" (FREE Admission for youths age 25 and under)

July 2 - "Pay-What-You-Will" (Choose your own price!)

About Marin Shakespeare Company

Stories live at Marin Shakespeare Company, constantly reimagined and renewed through the bold choices of the artists who shape them. We strive to be a hub for connection, using the complexity of world stories—past and present—through multiple theatrical forms to open space for questions, reflection, and action. Our productions invite audiences into worlds that are alive, urgent, and fully human, where laughter, wonder, and challenge coexist.

Marin Shakespeare Company *is* Playing for Good.

THE CAST:

Stevie DeMott — Olivia

Lady Zen — Amiens / Composer / Music Director

Adam Magill* — Orlando

Dave Maier — Charles / Oliver Martext / Fight Director

Fatemeh Mehraban — Celia

Cathleen Riddley* — Adam / Duke Senior

Jeunée Simon* — Rosalind

David Sinaiko — Touchstone

Chris Steele — Le Beau / Audrey

Lisa Wolpe* — Jacques

THE CREATIVE TEAM:

Evren Odcikin - Director

Aejay Antonis Marquis - Choreographer

Philippa Kelly - Dramaturg

J.J. Van Name - Text Coach

Elana Kepner - Voice Coach

THE DESIGN TEAM:

Ben Euphrat - Sound Designer

Jenna Forder - Props Artisan

Spense Matubang - Lighting Designer

Maggie Whitaker - Costume Designer

Randy Wong-Westbrooke - Scenic Designer

THE PRODUCTION TEAM:

Leontyne Mbele-Mbong - Production Manager

Jackson Currier - Technical Director

Michael Suenkel* - Stage Manager

Nick Reulbach* - Assistant Stage Manager

** Member Actor's Equity Association*

FOR MARIN SHAKESPEARE COMPANY:

Managing Director: Lesley Currier

Artistic Director: Jon Tracy

Education Director: Elana Kepner

Director of Marketing & Communications: Hunter F. Roberts

Business Manager: Noah Rohas-Domke

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INTERVIEWS AVAILABLE WITH THE CREATIVE TEAM UPON REQUEST.

