



VISUAL STORY



Oscar Derkx as Orlando de Boys & Chelsea Rose as Rosalind | Photo: Tim Matheson

As You Like It

Relaxed Performance

Bard on the Beach Shakespeare Festival
1695 Whyte Avenue,
Señákw, Vanier Park, Vancouver

bardonthebeach.org | Box Office: 604-739-0559 | 12pm – 6pm daily

About the Performance

What is a Visual Story?

A visual story gives audience members an idea of what the theatre experience will be like. This visual story will tell you what to expect during your performance of As You Like It.

What is a Relaxed Performance?

Relaxed Performances are for everyone, but especially those who may benefit from a more casual theatre environment. During these performances, we have an open and encouraging attitude toward audience members moving, making noise and exiting or entering the auditorium freely.

You are welcome to use phones and electronic devices like iPads and headphones during the show. However, we do ask that you do not take photos of the performers during the pre-show or the performance.

How long is the show?

The performance is approximately 2 hours and 40 minutes long. and includes a 20-minute intermission or break during the show.

If you need to take a break during the show, you can leave the theatre even if it is not intermission.

As You Like It

Play Synopsis



Oscar Derkx as Orlando de Boys & Chelsea Rose as Rosalind | Photo: Tim Matheson

The play begins in 1960s Vancouver, at a wrestling match run by a powerful businesswoman named Dame Frances. Dame Frances has taken control of her family firm and driven her sister, Dame Senior, out of town, but she allows her sister's daughter, Rosalind, to stay because of Rosalind's close relationship with her own daughter, Celia. Oliver de Boys, who manages the wrestler Charles, argues with his younger brother Orlando, who is angry about the way Oliver has treated him. Orlando decides to wrestle Charles for his fortune.

At the wrestling match, Orlando meets Rosalind, and it's love at first sight. Orlando wins the match, but Dame Frances hates Orlando's father, and when she hears who his father is, she refuses to give him the money and orders him killed. Orlando escapes to the Okanagan with Adam, a longtime family employee.

When Dame Frances hears Rosalind and Celia talking about Orlando after the match, she banishes Rosalind from Vancouver. Rosalind and Celia run away to the Okanagan forest with Touchstone, a court jester. Rosalind disguises herself as a young man named Ganymede, and Celia disguises herself as Ganymede's sister, Aliena.

In the Okanagan, Rosalind and Celia, as Ganymede and Aliena, meet two farmers named Silvius and Corin and arrange to buy a farm. Nearby, Orlando and Adam are taken in by Dame Senior, Rosalind's exiled mother, and her companions, the Forest Lords

After leaving love notes about Rosalind throughout the Okanagan forest, Orlando meets Ganymede, who suggests that Orlando practices wooing Rosalind on "him." Touchstone strikes up a romance with a goatherd named Audrey, while Silvius is unlucky in love and pining for a shepherdess named Phoebe.

Orlando starts to lose hope in Ganymede's scheme, while Phoebe, instead of falling in love with Silvius, becomes smitten with Ganymede. On top of all this, Oliver, who has been banished by Dame Frances, arrives in the Okanagan as well. He's made peace with his brother Orlando, and he seems to be interested in Aliena (or Celia)!

How do all these characters find their happily ever afters – especially when everything still thinks Rosalind is Ganymede? Watch and find out!

The Characters

Vancouver



Andrew Wheeler as Mustachio | Photo by Tim Matheson

Mustachio

This is Mustachio, a wrestler that fights Charles in the pre-show performance.



Matthew MacDonald-Bain as Oliver de Boys, Marco Walker-Ng as Charles the Wrestler and Alexandra Lainfiesta as Eleanor Rigby
Photo by Tim Matheson

Oliver de Boys, Charles the Wrestler and Eleanor Rigby

Oliver de Boys, the man on the left in the suit, is Orlando's older brother. He is also the manager of Charles the Wrestler, who is in the middle. On the right is Eleanor Rigby, who is part of Charles' entourage.



Emma Slipp as Lady Danger and Evan Rein & Henry Beasley as the Assassins | Photo: Tim Matheson

Lady Danger and the Assassins

This is Lady Danger. She is the manager of the Assassins, two wrestlers who take on Charles in Act I.

The Characters

Vancouver



Naomi Ngebulana as Celia & Chelsea Rose as Rosalind
Photo: Tim Matheson

Celia and Rosalind

Celia, who is Dame Frances' daughter, is on the left in the dark polka-dot dress. Rosalind, who is on the right in the red polka-dot dress, is Celia's cousin and the daughter of the exiled Dame Senior.



Oscar Derkx as Orlando de Boys | Photo: Tim Matheson

Orlando de Boys

This is Orlando, the younger brother of Oliver de Boys. Note that when you meet him in Act I, he might be dressed a little differently!



Sharon Crandall as Dame Frances' Attendant & Jennifer Lines as Dame Frances | Photo: Tim Matheson

Dame Frances and Dame Frances' Attendant

This is Dame Frances and Dame Frances' Attendant. Dame Frances, who is on the right in the purple dress, is a powerful businesswoman in Vancouver.

The Characters

The Okanagan



Jennifer Lines as Dame Senior | Photo: Tim Matheson

Dame Senior

This is Dame Senior, Rosalind's mother. She lives in the Okanagan with her companions, the Forest Lords, after being exiled from Vancouver by her sister, Dame Frances.



Sharon Crandall as Corin & Ben Elliott as Silvius | Photo: Tim Matheson

Silvius and Corin

This is Silvius and Corin. Silvius has long hair and is wearing a plaid shirt, while Corin is dressed in all denim. They are some of the first people that Rosalind and Celia meet in the Okanagan.



Alexandra Lainfiesta as Phoebe & Ben Elliott as Silvius
Photo: Tim Matheson

Silvius and Phoebe

This is Silvius and Phoebe. Silvius is in love with Phoebe, but Phoebe, who is on the left, is not interested in Silvius at first. In fact, Phoebe falls in love with Ganymede, not knowing that Ganymede is actually Rosalind!

The Characters

The Okanagan



Andrew McNee as Touchstone & Emma Slipp as Audrey
Photo: Tim Matheson

Touchstone and Audrey

This is Touchstone and Audrey, one of the couples in the play. Touchstone, who is on the left, is a jester who used to be in Dame Frances' court. Audrey, on the right, tends goats in the Okanagan.



The Company of As You Like It, 2023 | Photo: Tim Matheson

Jaques and the Forest Lords

The man in the middle wearing a black turtleneck is Jaques, an exiled lord who is known for being melancholy and dramatic. Around him are the Forest Lords, who live with Dame Senior in the Okanagan. Some of the Forest Lords are also Musicians.



Andrew Wheeler as Martext | Photo: Tim Matheson

Martext

This is Martext, a country vicar that comes to marry Touchstone and Audrey.

What to Expect



Jennifer Lines as Dame Frances | Photo: Tim Matheson

On the stage, you will see a set that looks like it is made of brightly coloured tiles. The tiles sometimes flash or change colours during the songs. The set is open at the back and looks out onto Seńákŵ/Vanier Park, so you might see people walking by, dogs playing, kites flying and boats on the water.

There are a few moments in the story, like in the beginning when the characters are wrestling, where it looks like the characters are fighting. All of this is part of the performance, and the actors work together to make sure that everyone is safe and that no one actually gets hurt.

There are also a few moments in the performance where the lighting changes suddenly, usually when a song begins or ends. If you aren't expecting this, it might be a little surprising. Sometimes, there are also projections moving on stage or lights changing colours or flashing.

Content Advisory

Read on for a more detailed list of moments in the play that might be scary, unexpected or upsetting. If you would prefer to be surprised by the story, you can stop reading here and skip to the last page.

Pre-Show:

- When Touchstone introduces the wrestling match, there are bright, flashing lights and spotlights that sometimes move onto the audience.
- Around 5 minutes before showtime, Charles the Wrestler comes on stage. When he enters, there are two cold spark fountains that go off, which might look like fireworks. It is completely safe, but it might be a bit frightening.
- After Charles enters, he and Mustachio wrestle. It might look like they're hurting each other, but everything is carefully planned so that everyone is safe and no one gets hurt.
- When Charles beats Mustachio in the wrestling match, the cold spark fountains go off again. There are also bright, flashing lights and spotlights that sometimes move onto the audience.

Act I:

- Around 1 minute in, there is some non-toxic haze when Lady Danger and the Assassins enter.
- Around 2 minutes in, there is some simulated violence when Charles and the Assassins wrestle. Shortly after, Lady Danger and Eleanor Rigby also join in on the wrestling.
- Around 4 minutes in, the cold spark fountains go off again when Charles wins the wrestling match.

- Around 8 minutes in, Oliver de Boys and Orlando de Boys argue. They push each other around, and Orlando looks like he is choking his brother, but everything is safe and none of the actors are in danger.
- Around 17 minutes in, there are bright, flashing lights and moving spotlights on the audience when Orlando challenges Charles at the wrestling match.
- Around 18 minutes in, there is more simulated violence when Orlando and Charles wrestle.
- Around 19 minutes, the cold spark fountains go off again when Orlando defeats Charles. There are more bright flashing lights and moving spotlights on the audience.
- Around 27 minutes in, Dame Frances raises her voice at Rosalind, which might be a little frightening.
- Around 34 minutes in, there are some projections on stage that move around, which might be a little dizzying. There is also some non-toxic haze.
- Approximately 50 minutes in, Orlando comes on stage and holds a small pocketknife when he asks Dame Senior, Jaques and the Forest Lords for food. The knife is put away quickly, and nobody is in danger.
- Around 1 hour and 17 minutes in, there is a moving spotlight when Orlando and Rosalind are singing.

Act II:

- Around 6 minutes in, Martext looks like he is smoking. This is all simulated, and he is not actually smoking.
- Around 15 minutes in, there is a sudden lighting change when the song starts. There is simulated violence when Phoebe is singing and keeps accidentally hurting Silvius. All of this is planned, and Silvius is not actually being hurt.
- Around 22 minutes in, there is a sudden drumbeat and a dramatic lighting change when Orlando starts singing.
- Around 32 minutes in, Oliver shows Rosalind and Celia a bloody cloth. The blood on the cloth is fake, and nobody is actually hurt.
- Around 35 minutes in, there is a sudden lighting change when Touchstone starts singing. There are some flashing lights during the song.
- Around 49 minutes in, someone walks out on the catwalk. There is a dramatic lighting change and a lot of non-toxic haze.
- Around 54 minutes in, during the final song, there is non-toxic haze and confetti, as well as spotlights that move onto the audience.

The End!



The Company of As You Like It, 2023 | Photo: Tim Matheson

At the end of the play, the actors will sing and dance. Then, they will take a bow to thank you for watching the play.

The audience will clap and maybe even cheer for the performers. Sometimes, they will stand up in a standing ovation.

If you want to, you can also clap and cheer for the actors.

Thank you for coming to
As You Like It!