

Much Ado About Nothing

Cast

The Household of Leanata

Leanata – Governor of Messina	RACHEL COUTURE
Antonio – Her Brother	RYAN DEPAOLO
Hero – Leanata’s Daughter	CAROLYN HART
Beatrice – Leanata’s Niece	VALERIE UMBRO
Ursula – Handmaid to Hero	SAMANTHA LEONE
Margaret – Handmaid to Hero	NICKE MORRIS

The Company of Don Pedro

Don Pedro – Prince/Commander of the Army	SAMUEL LIFTON
Claudio – Count/Officer in the Army	SAM BOYLE
Benedick – Gentleman/Soldier in the Army	JOHN RUMORE
Don John – Traitor/Brother of the Prince	JOHN FINDLAY
Borachio – Traitor /Attendant to Don John	SCOTT FOISY
Conrade – Traitor/Attendant to Don John	SPENCER BERNARD-KRIEGL
Messenger – Soldier in the Army	GRACE FAY BROOKS
Boy – A Messenger for the Army	ABIGAIL BROOKS

The People of Messina

Dogberry – The Constable of Messina	ETHAN FIFIELD
Verges – The Headbrough of the Watch	KATHERINE PEREIRA
Grace Seacoal – Member of the Watch/Court Clerk	SYDNEY MOQUIN
Hope Oatcake – Member of the Watch/Munitions Worker	JEANMARIE LAPOINTE
Francis Seacoal- member of the Watch & Dairy Farmer	ALYSSA DESAUTELLE
Sexton – Judge in the Court of Messina	ALICIA EDGAR
Sister Francis – Church Officiate of Messina	GRACE FAY BROOKS

Place

Messina, Italy at the end of World War I. The garden of Leanata, Governor of Messina.

Synopsis

Don Pedro's company is hosted by Leanata, friend to Don Pedro and Governor of Messina, on the armies' return from the First World War. Count Claudio, has fallen in love with Hero, daughter of Leanata and asks for Don Pedro's help in winning her hand in marriage. Don John, brother to Don Pedro and a traitor to the army plots with his men to ruin the intended wedding. Don Pedro – with help from Leanata, Claudio, and Hero with her ladies; plans to trick Benedick and Beatrice into falling for one another, although both have vowed to remain single.

The Watch patrols Leanata's garden the night before the wedding and apprehends Don John's men to bring them to trial. Unfortunately, Count Claudio and the Prince have been deceived by Don John into believing Hero has been unfaithful and disgrace her publicly. Sister Francis shields Hero from a true punishment of death and hides her away in the church, while publicly it is released that she has died from shame. In Court, the treachery of Don John's false accusation comes to light. In the end the Watch are rewarded, Hero and Claudio reunited, Beatrice and Benedick decide to marry, and in true Shakespearian fashion the play ends with a dance.

Artistic/Production Team

Producer	PAUL MROCZKA
Director	JESSIE CHAPMAN
Set Designer	MARNI BALINT
Lighting Designer	MATT KIZER
Costume Designer	ARIEL COUTURE
Sound Designer	SAIGE GRANGER
Makeup Designer	MOLLY RICKER
Stage Manager	MADISON D'URBANO
Assistant Stage Manager	NATHANIEL VINSON
Properties Master	ROSE CHAFFEE
Light Board Operator	ALEX BRIAND
Wardrobe/Running Crew	GRACE KUDLA
Publicity	REBECCA BEAULIEU
Program	SHARLEIGH THOMSON

Company Biographies

MARNI BALINT (Set Designer) is a designer and educator. A native of New Hampshire, she graduated in May of 2014 with her MFA in scenic design from The Ohio State University. Marni spent a summer researching and interviewing Czech Scenographers, and she volunteered at World Stage Design 2013 in Cardiff, Wales. She has a BA from Plymouth State University in Theatre Arts with options in Acting and Technology/Design, and a minor in Piano Performance. After graduating with her masters, Marni spent a year teaching English as a Second Language in Israel. She

used her background in theater to start an English Speaking Drama Club to bring the arts to underprivileged children. Moving to Chicago, Marni co-created a theater company called Shut Up! which had its world premier at the Chicago Fringe Festival last fall creating an original children's production called *Definitely No Ghosts Here!* They performed again this year with a modern cabaret version of *Titus Andronicus*. She also works at local libraries as a Young Adult Advisory Specialist and a freelance teaching artist; teaching theater workshops for all ages culminating in small performances. Marni designs for local storefront theaters, and works as a freelancer costumer, carpenter, and painter. She became an Artistic Associate with the Right Brain Project and was most recently the designer for the world premiere of *The Dancing Plague*, and the designer for the North American premiere and first English speaking performance of *Electra Garrigò*. Marni most recently worked with Jean's Playhouse as the scenic designer for *The Addams Family*. Marni is about to move to China for a new adventure as a theater teacher and designer in Shanghai. She is excited for the opportunity to bring her love for theater and education to students of other cultures again.

ABIGAIL BELANGER (Boy) is a sophomore Theatre Arts major with an option in Acting, and she is very excited to be in her first production at PSU! She has most recently been seen in the 2016-2017 Playwrights' Showcase, where she played Angela in *When The Tide Comes In*. Other past credits include *HAIR* (Ensemble) and *Almost, Maine* (Marci), both at The Company Theatre Centre for the Arts. She is thankful for the support from her family and for the chance to share the stage with her best friends.

SPENCER BERNARD-KRIEGL (Conrade) is very excited to be performing in his first mainstage show at Plymouth State University. Past performances at Plymouth include *Ragtime* in concert, and the Playwright's Lab Rehearsed Readings Series. This summer he appeared in the Prescott Park Arts Festival production of *Mary Poppins* (Robertson Ay). Past productions include *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Leaf Coneybear), *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*(Charlie Brown). Thank you to everyone who has supported him!

SAM BOYLE (Claudio) is a junior Theatre Arts major with an option in Music Theatre Performance and a minor in Dance at Plymouth State University. Regional Credits Include: Patrick Dorow Productions: *Hairspray*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *American Idiot*; and Derryfield Rep: *Children of Eden*. Past PSU Credits include: *Ragtime* (Harry Houdini), *Cowboys!* (Dance Captain/Ensemble) , *Carrie* (Ensemble), and *A Man of No Importance* (Peter).

GRACE FAY BROOKS (Messenger and Sister Francis) is a 19 year old sophomore, double majoring in Psychology and Theatre Arts with an option in Acting, and a minor in Dance. She is excited to be in her first production at Plymouth State, and would like to thank her friends for getting her through the semester, and her loved ones for coming to see her and always supporting her passion!

JESSIE CHAPMAN (Director) is a PSU MTD Alumna and currently works as a Teaching Lecturer in the department. She also labors as Managing Director of Advice To The Players (ATTP) in Sandwich, NH and as a teaching artist and manager for Shakespeare & Company in Lenox, MA. Jessie holds an MFA in Performing Arts Management from Brooklyn College. While in NYC, Jessie worked for Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts, Theatre for a New Audience, and Lincoln Center Theater. Select Directing Credits include: *Studio Series* (ATTP), *Macbeth* (ATTP), *Much Ado About Nothing* (Lee High School), *A Midsummer Night's Dream*(Andover High School; Mt. Greylock; The Lin-Wood School), *The Wizard of Oz* (The Lin-

Wood School), *A Year with Frog & Toad* (The Lin-Wood School), *Alice in Wonderland* (The Lin-Wood School). Jessie lives in Farmington, NH with her husband Keith.

SAMUEL CLIFTON (Don Pedro) is a junior Theatre Arts major with an option in Acting. He is elated to be in not only his third PSU production, but also his second Shakespeare production with the university. Previous credits include *Oedipus the King* (Shepherd) and the 2016 production of *Romeo and Juliet* (Lord Montague). He is excited to be portraying a character that he would not normally choose for himself.

RYAN DEPAOLO (Antonio) is an Accounting major with a minor in Theatre. This is his first role since his four-year hiatus from the stage and is proud to begin his comeback here. Ryan's favourite past productions include *Singin' In the Rain* (Sid Phillips/Asst. Dir. #1), *The Good Doctor* (Various), *All Shook Up* (Ensemble), and *Much Ado About Nothing* (Watchman #2). Ryan would like to thank Jesse and his fellow cast members for their support in his acting career. He would also like to thank his family for supporting him in his decision to return to the stage that he loves.

ALYSSA DESAUTELLE (Francis Seacoal) is a sophomore Theatre Arts major with an option in Dramatic Writing. She is excited to be in her first production at Plymouth State. She would like to thank her family and friends for their support.

ALICIA EDGAR (Sexton) is a sophomore Performing Arts Administration major at Plymouth State University. She is very excited to be part of her first mainstage production at Plymouth. Past credits include *CATS* (Cassandra) at Interlakes Summer Theatre, *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* (Snoopy), *Gypsy*, *Addams Family*, *Spamalot*, and *Disney's The Little Mermaid*. She has also had many years of dance experience and is an active part of the dance department at Plymouth State

ETHAN FIFIELD (Dogberry) is a Theatre Arts major with an option in Acting. Ethan previously studied theatre at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. He has a strong interest in theatre as a storytelling medium. In addition to his performance and backstage work at PSU, he has previously performed at Littlechurch Theatre and Jean's Playhouse. His most recent performances include *2016-2017 Plawright's Showcase* (*Brian, Mason, Mr. Peters, and the Voice in the Vent*) and PSU's Fall 2016 production of *Stage Kiss* (Adrian Schwalbach).

JOHN FINDLAY (Don John) is a senior Theatre Arts major with options in Acting and Theatre Design/Tech and a focus in Lighting Design. He is ecstatic to be performing in his first Shakespeare production. He returns from his 10th professional summer stock season, most recently working with Broadway professionals at The Cape Playhouse. Past Credits: PSU: *A Funny... Forum* (Ensemble), *The Wedding Singer* (Billy Idol/ Ensemble), *Stage Kiss* (Lighting Design), and *Carrie* (Freddy). He thanks his friends for their continued support and his mother for all the years she sat through rehearsals so he could get a ride home afterward!

DEBRA FREDERICK FISHSTICK (Topiary) is a veteran topiary hailing from Lennox, Massachusetts. She has appeared in numerous shows in her lengthy career. She has enjoyed this lovely process, working with her wonderful cast. Let's not ignore the elephant in the room mainly because she's the star of the show.

MATT KIZER (Lighting Designer) has been the resident designer for Plymouth State since 1996. He has presented workshops on projections for performance nationally and internationally, including the National Opera Association in New York, and The Cyprus Theatre Organization in Nicosia. His work has been presented at the Kennedy Center in D.C., and with A-Fortiorni dance company in Germany. He designed for two years with Operafestival Di Roma in Italy with the Orchestra Sinfonica dell' International Chamber

Ensemble at Sant'Ivo alla Sapienza in central Rome. He has a B.A. from Purdue University, and an M.F.A. from The Ohio State University.

JEANMARIE LAPOINTE (Hope Oatcake) is thrilled to be taking the stage for her first production at Plymouth State. She is a sophomore Theatre Arts major with options in Music Theatre Performance and Tech/Design with a focus in Costume Design. Past Credits: History Alive!'s *Cry Innocent* (Bridget Bishop/All Women) Educational Theatre Collaborative's *Fiddler on the Roof* (Featured Soloist) Marblehead Little Theatre's *Billy Elliot* (Clipboard Woman/Ensemble), and *Into the Woods* (The Witch). Jeanmarie is also a proud member of Plymouth State's only improv troupe, Plymprov! She sends her love to her parents, friends, and boyfriend for their constant love and support.

SAMANTHA LEONE (Ursula) is a junior Theatre Arts major with an option in Music Theatre Performance. This production will be her third show with Plymouth State University and she is so thrilled to be a part of this process with such a talented cast and crew. Past performances include *Cowboys! The Musical* (Toadsticker/Judge Mean Boss Lynch III), *Carrie* (Ensemble), *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Rona '14, Olive '12), and *Pippin* (Berthe). She would like to thank her family for always supporting her in everything she does.

PAUL MROCZKA (Producer) has written numerous plays, including *The Watercress* and *Hero by Proxy*, both produced at Plymouth State University. Paul, who serves MTD as Director of Theatre, has had his plays produced by numerous companies including Latino Flavored Touring (NYC), Off Square Theatre (WY), and La MaMa La Galleria (NYC). Awards include NEA Playwriting, Shubert, and Time-Warner Fellowships, as well as numerous commissions. Works he's developing include the drama *Smart Money*, and the musical *Where Two Rivers Meet* with composer Andrew Morrissey. This summer he directed *Wittenberg* (Advice to the Players), and last year *Brilliant Being* (PSU).

SYDNEY MOQUIN (Grace Seacoal) is a Sophomore Theatre Arts major with an option in Music Theatre Performance. She last performed in Plymouth State's production of *Oedipus the King* (Chorus). This summer she performed in *Sister Act* (Sister Mary Robert) at the Franklin Opera House. She is super excited to be playing a comedic role this semester!

KATHERINE PEREIRA (Verges) is a senior Theatre Arts major with options in Dramatic Writing and Acting. The first act of her play *Game Night* was featured in the Playwrights' Lab Showcase last semester. She is ecstatic to make her Hanaway debut! Past PSU Credits: *The Trial* (Stage Manager), *Oedipus the King* (Assistant Stage Manager), *We Think It's Funny* (Various). Past Shakespeare credits: *Romeo and Juliet* (Nurse), *Much Ado About Nothing* (Leonata), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Hippolyta), and *Comedy of Errors* (Abbess/Ensemble).

JOHN RUMORE (Benedick) is a fourth-year Theatre Arts Major with options in Acting and Dramatic Writing. His past credits include *The Wedding Singer*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *Oedipus The King*. The first act of his show *Fighting* was featured this past April in the *Playwright's Lab Showcase*. He would like to thank all his friends and his family for their continued support and thank Val Umbro for being the Beatrice to his Benedick.

Special Thanks to: Christian Carmago, Juliet Rylance, Advice To The Players, and Shakespeare & Company

Photography By:

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Up Next:

Merrily We Roll Along

Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

Book by George Furth

November 16 – 18 at 7:00pm

November 18 – 19 at 1:00pm

Based on the 1934 stage play by the inimitable writing duo of George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart, the 1981 Stephen Sondheim and George Furth musical *Merrily We Roll Along* is still an innovative and intriguing work. The musical starts in the present and proceeds to move back in time as it chronicles the life of wealthy, jaded composer, Franklin Shepard and his two estranged friends. The trio revisits each milestone of their personal and professional lives, as they eventually go back to their beginnings when the three best friends were starting their careers and brimming with promises of brilliant futures. *Merrily We Roll Along* is directed by PSU Professor Beth Daily, Choreographed by PSU Director of Dance Amanda Whitworth, and Music Directed by PSU alumnus Andrew Morrissey.

PSU Choirs: *A Joyful Noise*

December 3 at 1:00pm

Begin the holiday season with the PSU Choirs, guest orchestra, and Dan Perkins. Featuring excerpts from Karl Jenkins' "The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace," and seasonal favorites.

Contemporary Dance Ensemble

December 8 & 9 at 7:00pm

PSU's dance performance group showcases original works by faculty and students in various dance genres along with special guests and community partners.

Silver Center Staff

Director	Stuart Crowell
Events/Business Coordinator	Sureya Ennabe
House Manager	Susanne Hastings
Assistant House Managers	Deb Esposito, Tracy Dickson, Claire McIver
Technical Director	Bob Bruemmer
Assistant Technical Director	Heather Manfredi
Box Office Manager	Trudy Pelletier
Box Office Staff	Katherine Bullen, Jordan Ditore, Taylor Fournier, Serena Gorham, Luke Nicolo, and Kara Pedro
Ushers	Sam Boyle, Caitlyn Button, Sean Dezurik, Larysa Marienko, Katie Servant, Nicole Tartagni, Sharleigh Thomson
Master Carpenters	Kellyjo Boland
Master Electrician	John Findlay
Audio Leads	Sarah Daley and Jacob Kallander
Production Staff	Becca Beaulieu, Kelly Boland, Cameron Brand, Alex Flammia, Tyler McCarthy, Clay Harbert, and Nathaniel Vinson

Theatre Costume Staff

Costume Shop Manager/Resident Designer	Daneé R. Grillo
Costume Technicians	Rose Chaffee, Rowan Cummings, Nick Cochran, Jeanmarie Lapointe, Sydney Moquin