



AS YOU LIKE IT — SYNOPSIS

Orlando is the youngest son of the recently deceased Sir Roland de Boys. When he challenges the court wrestler to a fight, sick of his position within court, his older brother Oliver intends him to be injured.

Rosalind is the daughter of Duke Senior, who has taken over the role as head of the court from his own brother Duke Frederick. She watches the wrestling competition with her cousin Celia, and is blown over by the victorious Orlando, giving him a chain as a token of her affection and inspires in him a mutual affection.

Despite winning the wrestling match, the threat of his brother's plot against him hangs over Orlando and he escapes to the Forest of Arden to seek refuge. Rosalind banished by Duke Frederick from the court, also rushes to the forest at the same time, wearing the disguise of a young man Ganymede. Her cousin Celia dons the alias of Ganymede's sister Aliena, a shepherdess, and they are joined by Touchstone, the court jester.

Silvius, a lovesick shepherd, is discovered in the forest by the cousins, who decide to set up home

nearby. The exiled Duke Senior also inhabits a corner of the woods with his courtiers and huntsmen and when Orlando stumbles across their camp looking for food, he is welcomed by them. On his journey, Orlando has been writing love-letters to his new beau Rosalind and hanging them in branches of trees. When Rosalind disguised as Ganymede finds these notes, he proposes to cure Orlando of his lovesickness by getting Orlando to woo Ganymede as if he were Rosalind (which he is!).

Ganymede is however gaining attention from elsewhere, as the shepherdess Phoebe pursues him while at the same time deflecting the affections of her former lover Silvius. Touchstone meanwhile has fallen in with a country girl Audrey, who has deserted her suitor William to be with him.

Suspicious of the simultaneous disappearance of Orlando and Rosalind, Duke Frederick sends Oliver into the forest. A chance encounter with Orlando saves Oliver's life, and he runs into the cousins, and Celia (disguised as Aliena) is overcome with love for Oliver. Rosalind as Ganymede decides that the games must end -

she will ensure that both Orlando and Oliver will be happily married.

Consenting to his match with the persistent Phoebe, Ganymede promises to marry, if she still insists upon it in a few hours. Celia will marry Oliver, Touchstone is betrothed to Audrey, and Orlando will marry the curiously absent Rosalind. Phoebe promises that should something intervene in her and Ganymede's union, she will marry Silvius instead. And so, on the day of the wedding, the god Hymen helps Rosalind to shed the disguise of Ganymede and reappear in her female clothes.

With all secrets and plots played out the four couples prepare for their wedding day...

CAST

(in order of appearance)

Orlando, son of Sir Roland de Boys.....James Sheldon

Adam, a faithful family servant.....Matt Pinches

Oliver, Orlando's brother.....Tom Richardson

Rosalind, daughter to the banished Duke Senior....Natasha Rickman

Celia, her cousin, daughter of Duke Frederick.....Rachel Summers

Touchstone, a cabaret clown.....Matt Pinches

Duke Frederick.....Sarah Gobran

Le Beau, an officer to Frederick.....Corey Montague-Sholay

Duke Senior, the banished Duke.....Robert Maskell

Amiens, in attendance on him.....Corey Montague-Sholay

Jaques, also in attendance on him.....Sarah Gobran

Corin, a shepherd.....Robert Maskell

Silvius, a younger shepherd, in love with Phebe.....Tom Richardson

Audrey, a goat herder.....Corey Montague-Sholay

Phebe, a young shepherdess.....Sarah Gobran

The Voice of Hymen.....Hildegard Neil and Rosalind Blessed

Other characters played by members of the cast

Setting

The late 1930s Europe.

Production Team

Director.....Caroline Devlin

Set & Costume Designer.....Neil Irish

Sound Designer.....Matt Eaton

Movement Director

/Choreographer.....Charlotte Conquest

Assistant Designer

/ Costume Supervisor.....Anett Black

Assistant Director.....Indiana Lown-Collins

Company Stage Manager.....Beth Mann

Deputy Stage Manager.....CJ Mitchell

Assistant Stage Manager.....Kim Munroe

Fight Director.....Roger Bartlett

There will be an interval of 20 minutes. Please ensure all mobile phones are switched off and we politely request that you do not take photographs during the performance. The use of video recording is also prohibited.

