

## DUBROVAČKE LJETNE IGRE DUBROVNIK SUMMER FESTIVAL

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50 SHADES OF BLUE

## Twelfth Night, or What You Will will premiere on Lovrjenac Fort

**Dubrovnik, 19 July 2023** – The second drama premiere of the 74th Dubrovnik Summer Festival is *Twelfth Night, or What You Will* by Grzegorz Jarzyna and Roman Pawłowski, based on William Shakespeare's play of the same name, and a co-production of the **Dubrovnik Summer Festival** and the **Zagreb Youth Theatre**. It will be performed **from 21 July to 25 July at 9:30 p.m. on the Lovrjenac Fort.** 

In Jarzyna's interpretation as a director, *Twelfth Night, or What You Will* becomes a modernist play about fluid sexual identities fighting for the right to exist in an antiquated, patriarchal world. "Guests are just arriving at the luxury hotel Iliria – the famous aristocratic married couple Olivio and Orsina, Olivio's assistant Mario and the performer Feste, Olivio's aunt Tomassa and her friend, the rich Englishwoman Andrea. This weekend the entire hotel is only theirs, and hotel manager Malvolia and waiter Zoran will make sure they get everything they want. But what they really want is completely different from what they think they want, and it may all be exposed by an uninvited guest – Violx. While preparing for the cross-dress party which is the reason why all the characters have gathered at the Iliria hotel, and with the presence of Violx, they will reveal everything hidden inside them, and everything they knew about love, as well as themselves, will be turned upside down overnight."

In addition to the director **Grzegorz Jarzyna**, who together with **Roman Pawłowski** wrote the play's text, the creative team are costume designer **Anna Axer Fijalkowska**, set design team **AAFGJAP**, lighting designer **Aleksandr Prowalinski**, video projections artist **Ivan Marušić-Klif**, music composers **Marko Levanić** and **Ivana Starčević**, sound engineer **Marko Levanić**, **Šimun Stankov** who was in charge of the stage movement, **Petra Prša** the stage management, and **Jelena Kovačič** who translated the text of the play from Polish and also did language adaptation.

The ensemble that embodied the roles of protagonists who engage in a risky game based on power and desires consists of: **Dado Ćosić** in the role of Prince Olivio, later Olivia, **Anđela Ramljak** as Princess Orsina, later Orsino, **Mia Melcher** as the non-binary person Violx, later Cesario, **Katarina Bistrović Darvaš** as the hotel manager Malvolia, **Petra Svrtan** as the performer Feste, **Doris Šarić Kukuljica** as Olivio's aunt Tomassa, later Toby, **Barbara Prpić** as Andrea, later Andrew the tourist, **Mateo Videk** as Olivio's assistant Mario, later Marija, **Toma Medvešek** as Zoran the waiter, and DJ and registrar played by **Ivana Starčević**.

Born in Chorzów in 1968, **Grzegorz Jarzyna** is one of the most popular Polish theatre directors. He graduated from the Faculty of Philosophy, Jagiellonian University in Krakow, and the Ludwik Solski State Theatre Academy in Krakow, where he studied directing. In 1998 he became the Artistic Director of TR Warszawa, one of the most innovative theatres in Poland. Jarzyna has staged classical dramas reinterpreted in a bold and innovative way, adaptations of famous European novels, contemporary European dramas, as well as operas. His international reputation has been established through invitations to various festivals and guest performances in Europe and all over the world. In 2007 he received one of the most prestigious awards of the German-speaking Europe – the Nestroy Award – for his staging of Medea in Burgtheater Vienna.

Tickets for *Twelfth Night, or What You Will* are available via the festival website <a href="https://www.dubrovnik-festival.hr">www.dubrovnik-festival.hr</a> or the service <a href="https://www.ulaznice.hr">www.ulaznice.hr</a>, at the box office in the Festival Palace (Od Sigurate 1) every day from 9:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. and in front of the DTS building (Vukovarska St) from Monday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Dubrovnik Summer Festival – the centre of Croatian and global spirit and culture, a place of creation and not just a place of visit, a place of community, ideas and new artistic expressions, is traditionally supported once again this year by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Croatia, the City of Dubrovnik, the Dubrovnik-Neretva County, Dubrovnik Tourist Board and numerous sponsors Mastercard, Dubrovnik Airport, ACI club, ALH, Euroherc, Studenac, HEP, Croatian Lottery, Coca-Cola, MG Motors, Kraš, Croatia Airlines, and donors OTP bank, Atlantska Plovidba alongside other benefactors who helped bring this most prestigious cultural event in Croatia to fruition.

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