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***Great Performances* Presents World Premiere of The Public Theater's Star-Studded *Twelfth Night* November 14 on PBS**

The cast includes Lupita Nyong'o, Junior Nyong'o, Peter Dinklage, Sandra Oh, Jesse Tyler Ferguson, and Daphne Rubin-Vega

Great Performances continues its partnership with The Public Theater's Free Shakespeare in the Park at The Delacorte Theater with ***Great Performances: Twelfth Night***, premiering Friday, November 14 at 9/8c on PBS ([check local listings](#)), on pbs.org/gperf and the [PBS App](#). The Shakespearean comedy of mistaken identity tells the romantic misadventures of twins Sebastian and Viola after they survive a shipwreck, including revenge plots and tricks of love. Recorded this summer at the newly renovated Delacorte Theater in Central Park, the production is directed by Tony Award nominee **Saheem Ali**. The show follows previous Free Shakespeare in the Park productions broadcast on ***Great Performances*** including ***Hamlet***, ***Richard III***, ***Merry Wives***, and ***Much Ado About Nothing***.

"Presenting the works of Shakespeare on *Great Performances* is a tradition that began over 50 years ago," said *Great Performances* executive producer David Horn. "We are pleased to help bring the Public's diverse and contemporary productions to a national audience also for free."

Oskar Eustis, The Public Theater's Artistic Director, shares, "WNET is more than just a partner to the Public Theater; they are an ally in our constant struggle to make sure the culture belongs to everyone. The greatest artistic beauty, the most profound poetry, the most extraordinary actors- they belong to all Americans, regardless of their ability to pay. WNET and the Public know that a shared culture is essential to a healthy democracy."

The cast also features John Ellison Conlee (Sir Toby Belch), b (Antonio), Khris Davis (Orsino), Ariyan Kassam (Curio), Moses Sumney (Feste), Kapil Talwalkar (Fabian), and Joe Tapper (Sea Captain). The ensemble includes Dario Alvarez, Jania Rose Jallow, Valentino Musumeci, Precious Omigie, Chinna Palmer, Nathan M. Ramsey, Jasmine Sharma, Julian Tushabe, Adrian Villegas, Ada Westfall, and Mia Wurgaft.

For more than 50 years on PBS, **Great Performances** has provided an unparalleled showcase of the best in all genres of the performing arts, serving as America's most prestigious and enduring broadcaster of cultural programming. Showcasing a diverse range of artists from around the world, the series has earned 67 Emmy Awards and six Peabody Awards. The [Great Performances website](#) hosts exclusive videos, interviews, photos, full episodes and more. The series is produced by The WNET Group. **Great Performances** is available for streaming concurrent with broadcast on [PBS.org](#) and the [PBS App](#), available on iOS, Android, Roku streaming devices, Apple TV, Android TV, Amazon Fire TV, Samsung Smart TV, Chromecast and VIZIO.

Great Performances: Twelfth Night is a production of The WNET Group with The Public Theater. Directed by Saheem Ali and directed for television by Matthew Diamond. For **Great Performances**, Mitch Ofgang is producer, Bill O'Donnell is series producer and David Horn is executive producer. **Jerome L. Greene Foundation** is the proud season sponsor of Free Shakespeare in the Park.

Series funding for **Great Performances** is provided by The Joseph & Robert Cornell Memorial Foundation, the Anna-Maria and Stephen Kellen Foundation, the LuEsther T. Mertz Charitable Trust, the Thea Petschek Iervolino Foundation, S. Irving and Anne Nevard Sherr Foundation, Jody and John Arnhold, the Kate W. Cassidy Foundation, the Abra Prentice Foundation, The Starr Foundation, The Philip and Janice Levin Foundation, Leni and Peter May, Seton J. Melvin, the Blanche and Hayward Cirker Charitable Lead Annuity Trust, the Charles and Lucille King Family Foundation, and Ellen and James S. Marcus.

Websites: [pbs.org/gperf](#), [facebook.com/GreatPerformances](#), [@pbsgreatperformances](#), [youtube.com/greatperformancespbs](#), [giphy.com/great-performances](#) #GreatPerformancesPBS

About The WNET Group

[The WNET Group](#) creates inspiring media content and meaningful experiences for diverse audiences nationwide. It is the community-supported home of New York's **THIRTEEN** – America's flagship PBS station – [WLIW](#), THIRTEEN PBS KIDS, WLIW World and Create; [NJ PBS](#), New Jersey's statewide public television network; Long Island's only NPR station WLIW-FM; [ALL ARTS](#), the arts and culture media provider; newsroom [NJ Spotlight News](#); and FAST channel PBS Nature. Through these channels and streaming platforms, The WNET Group brings arts, culture, education, news, documentary, entertainment, and DIY programming to more than five million viewers each month. The WNET Group's award-winning productions include signature PBS series **Nature**, **Great Performances**, **American Masters**, and **Amanpour and Company** and trusted local news programs like **NJ Spotlight News with Briana Vannozzi**. Inspiring curiosity and nurturing dreams, The WNET Group's award-winning Kids' Media and Education team produces the PBS KIDS series **Cyberchase**, interactive **Mission US** history games, and resources for families, teachers and caregivers. A leading nonprofit public media producer for more than 60 years, The WNET Group presents and distributes content that fosters lifelong learning, including initiatives addressing poverty, jobs, economic opportunity, social justice, understanding, and the environment. Through

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About The Public Theater

The Public continues the work of its visionary founder Joe Papp as a civic institution engaging, both on-stage and off, with some of the most important ideas and social issues of today. Conceived over 60 years ago as one of the nation's first nonprofit theaters, The Public has long operated on the principles that theater is an essential cultural force and that art and culture belong to everyone. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Oskar Eustis and Executive Director Patrick Willingham, The Public's wide breadth of programming includes an annual season of new work at its landmark home at Astor Place, Free Shakespeare in the Park at The Delacorte Theater in Central Park, the Mobile Unit touring throughout New York City's five boroughs, Public Lab, Public Works, Public Shakespeare Initiative, and Joe's Pub. Since premiering *HAIR* in 1967, The Public continues to create the canon of American Theater and is currently represented on Broadway by the Tony Award-winning musicals *Hamilton* by Lin-Manuel Miranda and *Hell's Kitchen* by Alicia Keys and Kristoffer Diaz. Their programs and productions can also be seen regionally across the country and around the world. The Public has received 64 Tony Awards, 195 Obie Awards, 62 Drama Desk Awards, 64 Lortel Awards, 36 Outer Critic Circle Awards, 13 New York Drama Critics' Circle Awards, 70 AUDELCO Awards, 6 Antonyo Awards, and 6 Pulitzer Prizes. publictheater.org

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