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THE LOS ANGELES CITY COLLEGE

DEPARTMENT OF DRAMA

*presents*

“Much Ado  
About Nothing”

*by*

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE



# "Much Ado About Nothing"

A comedy in three acts by William Shakespeare, presented March 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, and 17, by the Associated Students as production 309 in the twenty-seventh season of the Department of Drama.

Directed by RALPH J. ROSE

## CAST OF CHARACTERS

Don Pedro, Prince of Arragon .....	Ken Ellis
Don John, his bastard brother .....	James Flynn
Claudio, a young Lord of Florence .....	Rick White
Benedick, a young Lord of Padua .....	Mario Lomeli
Leonato, Governor of Messina .....	Paul Trinka
Antonio, his brother .....	Doug McHargue
Balthazar, minstrel to Don Pedro .....	Blayne Thomas
Borachio, follower of Don John .....	Don Conreux
Conrade, follower of Don John .....	Pat Garvey
Dogberry, a Constable .....	Bill Degrood
Verges, a Deputy .....	Peter Fish
Friar Francis .....	Jack Spring
Altar Boy .....	Jerry Becker
A Sexton .....	Vernon Barnes
A Boy .....	David Bair
Hero, Daughter to Leonato .....	Carolee Campbell
Beatrice, Niece to Leonato .....	Gloria Kodil
Margaret } Waiting-gentlewomen .....	June Greenberg
Ursula } attending on Hero .....	Olga Shlyapin
Watch	
Hugh Oatcake .....	Rick Connolly
George Seacoal .....	Michal Sands
Third Watch .....	Al Freeman
Ladies and Gentlemen of Messina .....	Bob Acosta
Linda Baca, Joy Carr, Donna Mantoan, Tom Muro	
Pages .....	David Bair, Raul Rolando
Attendants to Don Pedro .....	Bob Acosta, Robert Harris
Attendants to Leonato .....	Vernon Barnes, Christopher Langley

### ACT I

- Scene 1. Before Leonato's house
- Scene 2. Leonato's garden
- Scene 3. A hall in Leonato's house
- Scene 4. Leonato's Orchard the next morning

### ACT II

- Scene 1. Leonato's orchard
- Scene 2. A street in Messina
- Scene 3. A Church

### ACT III

- Scene 1. A Courtroom
- Scene 2. Courtyard before Leonato's house
- Scene 3. At Leonato's monument
- Scene 4. Leonato's house

## PRODUCTION STAFF

Stage Manager .....	DAVE DORMEDY
Assistants .....	John Hoover, Robert Rogers, Don Stauffer
Master Carpenter .....	Norman Engen
Property Master .....	Don Bess
Assistant .....	Herman Moore
Master Electricians .....	Harold Garver, Bill Oswald
Assistant .....	George MacDonald
Sound Technician .....	John Beaumont
Stagehands .....	John Douhaime, Christopher Langley, Herman Moore, Robert Smith
Curtain .....	Charles Burks, John Mitchel
Wardrobe Dressers .....	Robert Danielson, Daniel Seman
Wardrobe Mistresses .....	Kathleen Fornason, Gillian Sidney
Assistants .....	Carol Kline, Janice Larsen
House Managers .....	Virginia Hays, Lola Lynch
Hostess .....	Grace Schwartz
Rehearsal Secretary .....	Marcelya Dixon
Display .....	Marcelya Dixon, Joan Grey

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Incidental music composed by James Low, with Tom Kessler conducting  
under supervision of Leslie P. Clausen  
Dances staged by Norman Salling  
Lights from Bates Lighting Company  
Properties from Cinema Props.

The costume and sets for our production of "Much Ado About Nothing" were designed and made by the faculty and students of the Drama Department.

## FACULTY SUPERVISORS

Supervising Director .....	Norman Mennes
Technical Director .....	S. Barry McGee
Costumes .....	May Rose Borum

## STAFF

Hal Bargelt  
Ellen Albertini Dow  
Eugene Dow  
S. Barry McGee  
Norman Mennes  
Alice Parichan

Ted Woods  
Jerry Blunt (on leave)  
Barbara Burnett, sceneshop assistant  
Harold Garver, sceneshop assistant  
Linda Baca, secretary, public relations  
Joyce Cory, box office

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## PROGRAM NOTES

It is generally thought that "Much Ado About Nothing" was first licensed for publication on August 23, 1600. It appeared to have been an instant success and continued to be so, particularly during the Stuart reign, as attested by a poem of Leonard Pigges, affixed to the 1640 edition of Shakespeare's Poems:

*Let But Beatrice  
And Benedicke be seene, loe, in a trice  
The Cockpit, Galleries, Boxes, all are full.*

Many distinguished actors have essayed the role of Benedick, notably, David Garrick, Charles Kemble, and Henry Irving. The latter opened in London with the play in 1882 supported by the incomparable Ellen Terry, as Beatrice, for a run of 212 consecutive nights.

Until very recently, "Much Ado About Nothing" has been neglected, which is a pity, for the bright wit of Beatrice and Benedick, in contrast to the earnest, bumbling humor of Dogberry and his eager company, give us a lively entertainment, seasoned with gentle dignity, fine poetry, villainy, and drama.

It is interesting to note that the character of Dogberry is doubtless the original from whom Sheridan derived his suggestion for Mrs. Malaprop 175 years later. It will help to clarify the language if you remember that "cousin" may mean almost any relation; that "County" is a title denoting a Count; that "smoking a musty room" indicates fumigating; and that "willow" was the symbol for the forsaken lover.

Our acting version is based on the First Folio, with a slight rearrangement of scenes suitable to our space staging that keeps the spirit of the Elizabethan theatre. We try to play it in the gay, carefree manner in which it was written, with deserving attention to the serious undertones which flavor the story.

*Coming Attraction*

# "All Summer Long"

by Robert Anderson

April 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21

Little Theatre