



SCHOOL OF DRAMA
UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

Directed by L. ZANE JONES
April 28 - May 7, 2017
Glenn Hughes Penthouse Theatre

VIRGINIA WOOLF's

ORLANDO

Adapted by SARAH RUHL

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Master acting teacher and director L. Zane Jones serves as Artistic Director for CIVIC REP, a creative collective committed to working with classic texts and new work for the stage. CIVIC REP has produced three shows: *A Streetcar Named Desire* and *The Two-Character Play* at New City Theater (now 18th & Union) both directed by Jones, and a lauded production of Caroline Bird's adaptation of *The Trojan Women* directed by Leah Adcock-Starr and produced by Jones this past January at The Slate Theatre. She studied directing and feminist theory at the University of Southern California, earning her MFA in Directing there before joining the performance faculty, on which she served from 1994 - 2012. Zane's theatre career began in Chicago, where she earned a BFA in Acting at the conservatory formerly known as the Goodman School of Drama (now called the Theatre School at DePaul University). She has worked extensively as an actor in theatre, film, and television for over 30 years, and has directed over 30 productions at USC and in Los Angeles and Seattle, including, most recently, Seattle Opera's production of *As One*. Zane was Co-Founder and Artistic Director of WORKSHOP 360, a theatre company based in Venice, California, where she directed, produced, and acted in Caryl Churchill's *Vinegar Tom*, Euripides' *Hecuba*, Karen Hartman's *Gum* and *The Mother of Modern Censorship*, Brighde Mullins' *Fire Eater*, and the West Coast Premiere of *Betty's Summer Vacation* by Christopher Durang.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

"Life, Life, Life!"

Virginia Woolf's novel *Orlando* has been called "the longest love letter ever written." It was meant to be a joke – a farce. It turned out to be so much more. "I have written this book quicker than any; and it is all a joke; and yet gay and quick reading I think. It may be too long for a joke, and too frivolous for a serious book." It is a story about love – about writing – about life. In Latin, *vita* means life.

What a sublime pleasure to spend the past several months in the presence of two such fascinating women.

Let us go, then, exploring
This summer morning,
When all are adoring
The plum-blossom and the bee.
And humming and hawing
Let us ask of the starling
What he may think
On the brink
Of the dust-bin whence he picks
Among the sticks
Combings of scullion's hair.
What's life, we ask;
Life, Life, Life! cries the bird
As if he had heard...

~ Virginia Woolf

"Vita Sackville-West and Virginia Woolf met at a dinner party given by Clive Bell in London on December 14, 1922. Their love affair grew out of an instant friendship. Virginia confided her impressions of Vita to her diary: 'She is a pronounced Saphist, and may have an eye on me, old though I am. Nature might have sharpened her faculties. Snob as I am, I trace her passions 500 years back, and they become romantic to me, like old yellow wine.'"

–*The Letters of Vita Sackville-West to Virginia Woolf*, edited by Louise DeSalvo and Mitchell Leaska

Orlando is produced by special arrangement with Bruce Ostler, Bret Adams, Ltd, West 44th Street, New York, NY 10036. www.bretadamsLtd.net

UPCOMING:

Cock & Crumble

by Mike Bartlett & Sheila Callaghan
directed by Cody Holliday Haefner & Amanda Friou
May 18–27, 2017
Glenn Hughes Penthouse Theatre

Sueño

by José Rivera
directed by Jane Jones
May 23–June 4, 2017
Floyd and Delores Jones Playhouse

READ ON...

On Vita Sackville-West and Virginia Woolf

From Wikipedia: Woolf and Vita Sackville-West were both members of the Bloomsbury Group, which was known for its liberal views on sexuality. The two began a sexual and romantic relationship that lasted for a decade, and continued as a friendship long after that. Notably, this inspiration is confirmed by Woolf herself, who noted in her diary the idea of *Orlando* on 5 October 1927: "And instantly the usual exciting devices enter my mind: a biography beginning in the year 1500 and continuing to the present day, called *Orlando: Vita*, only with a change about from one sex to the other."

Nigel Nicolson, Vita Sackville-West's son, wrote, "The effect of Vita on Virginia is all contained in *Orlando*, the longest and most charming love letter in literature, in which she explores Vita, weaves her in and out of the centuries, tosses her from one sex to the other, plays with her, dresses her in furs, lace and emeralds, teases her, flirts with her, drops a veil of mist around her."

FURTHER READING

Of course, *Orlando* by Virginia Woolf

Virginia Woolf – A Writer's Diary, Edited by Leonard Woolf

and

The Letters of Vita Sackville-West to Virginia Woolf, edited by Louise DeSalvo and Mitchell Leaska

AUDIENCE SURVEY

Let us know what you thought! Take our brief survey at: <http://bit.ly/uw-orlando>

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We offer MFA degrees in acting, design, and directing, a four-year undergraduate liberal arts education in Drama or Musical Theatre, and a PhD in theatre history and criticism.

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