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Will Ormsby Cary



Caitlin Nasema
Cassidy



Mia Fowler



Jose Gamo



Zoë Goslin



Jessica Ko



Zia Lawrence



Peter McNally



Jonathan Gabriel
Mousset



Pearl Rhein



David Ryan Smith



Kai Thomani Tshikosi

PRESS KIT

THE PUBLIC THEATER ANNOUNCES COMPLETE CASTING & SCHEDULE FOR MOBILE UNIT'S *AS YOU LIKE IT* TOURING JUNE 4-28

Mobile Unit Returns with a Free Tour Across All Five Boroughs
As Part of SHAKESPEARE FOR THE CITY Presented by Citizens

By William Shakespeare
Directed by Emma Rosa Went

April 15, 2026 – The Public Theater (Artistic Director, Oskar Eustis; Executive Director, Patrick Willingham) announced today the full tour schedule and complete casting for **Mobile Unit's AS YOU LIKE IT**. Directed by **Emma Rosa Went**, the joyful new production of Shakespeare's beloved romantic comedy will travel to correctional facilities, parks, and recreation centers around New York City. This 90-minute, family-friendly production is designed to be accessible to a wide range of audiences.

This summer's Mobile Unit will first be performed at correctional facilities, followed by preview performances at Astor Place and the Cathedral of St. John the Divine and a full tour stopping at outdoor locations in all five boroughs. Performances are presented in partnership with NYC Parks and other Public Theater partners for a total of 22 performances. The tour begins Thursday, June 4, and continues through Sunday, June 28. A complete list of tour dates and additional details follow below.

Director of Civic Artistic Program **Pablo Hernandez Basulto** shares, "We are thrilled to bring Emma Rosa Went's *As You Like It* to New Yorkers across the city this summer, especially at a moment when questions of power, leadership, and community are on so many people's minds. In this play, a group of people step outside those systems and, through a deeper connection to nature, begin to imagine a different way of

being together. We're excited to transform parks across the city into their own Forests of Arden and invite audiences to experience that possibility with us."

Director **Emma Rosa Went** shared, "The motto overhanging The Public's Shakespeare programs ('Free. For All. Forever') makes me tear up whenever I hear it, and for me, represents a world-view that could come right out of *As You Like It*—one focused on community, equality, freedom, and care. I believe Shakespeare belongs to everyone, and *As You Like It*—a joyful, wise, radical play about what kind of society it might be possible for us to build together—feels like a meaningful offering for this moment. I am so honored to be part of this program, both as a theatre artist and a citizen of New York, and to meet everybody in all the Ardens across New York City, wherever we find them."

ABOUT AS YOU LIKE IT:

When Duke Frederick exiles her father, Rosalind and her cousin Celia flee to the forest. Disguised as a young man, Rosalind encounters the heart-sick Orlando, who is desperately seeking none other than Rosalind. While the two young lovers role-play their way back into each other's arms, the forest of Arden is abuzz with lovelorn shepherds, pining jesters, and battling brothers. True lovers, strange capers, and fools in the forest go heart-in-heart in Shakespeare's classic romantic comedy.

The complete cast of **AS YOU LIKE IT** includes **William Ormsby Cary** (*Understudy*), **Caitlin Nasema Cassidy** (*Celia*), **Mia Fowler** (*Understudy*), **Jose Gamo** (*Orlando*), **Zoë Goslin** (*Jaques/Le Beau*), **Jessica Ko** (*Audrey/Corin/Adam*), **Zia Lawrence** (*Rosalind*), **Peter McNally** (*Touchstone*), **Jonathan Gabriel Mousset** (*Oliver/Amiens/Musician*), **Pearl Rhein** (*Phoebe/William/Lord/Musician*), **David Ryan Smith** (*Duke Frederick/Duke Senior*), and **Kai Thomani Tshikosi** (*Silvius/Charles*).

AS YOU LIKE IT features scenic design by **Yi-Hsuan (Ant) Ma**, costume design by **Jennifer Paar**, sound design by **Tye Hunt Fitzgerald**, original music by **Rachel Duncan**, and fight direction by **Dan Renkin**. **Codey Leroy Butler** serves as production stage manager.

FULL TOUR SCHEDULE: 22 PERFORMANCES

June 4-6: Astor Place (Manhattan)

June 7: The Cathedral of St. John the Divine (Manhattan)

June 9-10: Wolfe's Pond Park (Staten Island), featuring a special Citizens activation

June 11-12: J. Hood Wright Park (Manhattan)

June 13-14: Travers Park (Queens)

June 16: Williamsbridge Oval Park (Bronx)

June 17-18: St. Mary's Park (Bronx)

June 19-20: New York Public Library & Bryant Park (Manhattan)

June 21: Elmhurst Park (Queens)

June 23: Roy Wilkins Park (Queens)

June 24: Brownsville Recreation Center (Brooklyn)

June 25-26: Sunset Park (Brooklyn), featuring a special Citizens activation

June 27-28: Prospect Park (Brooklyn)

More details, including performance times and how to indicate your interest in attending, can be found at publictheater.org. A map of the entire tour can be found on [Google Maps](#).

VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY ON THE PUBLIC'S MOBILE UNIT

*"Seeing so much talent, such strong voices, and beautiful costumes while sitting in front of one of the city's most beautiful buildings is **the ultimate New York experience**."*

— The New York Public Library at Bryant Park Audience Member

*"This was so much fun. My favorite Shakespeare adaptation ever.
So vibrant, so joyful, so beautiful."*

— Wolfe's Pond Park Audience Member

*"I'm a disabled artist and as much as I love theater, it can be so hard to get to the city, get a ticket, or wait in line. I just got out of my apartment, and **Shakespeare was in my backyard!**"*

— Sunset Park Audience Member

"I had a great time! The audience participation was especially fun, and I loved that it was fun for all ages."

— Prospect Park Audience Member

ABOUT SHAKESPEARE FOR THE CITY:

The Public Theater's summer celebration of free programming, **SHAKESPEARE FOR THE CITY**, brings world-class theater to over 100,000 people throughout New York City, presented by **Citizens**. The season begins with Mobile Unit's **MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING**. Jerome L. Greene Foundation, lead sponsor, and Citizens, presenting partner, return as supporters of **FREE SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK**'s productions of **ROMEO & JULIET** and **THE WINTER'S TALE**. Finally, over Labor Day weekend, Public Works will present a new production onstage at The Delacorte Theater, featuring 100 New Yorkers from all five boroughs. Every performance is completely free and open to all.

BIOS:

EMMA ROSA WENT she/her (*Director*) is a Brooklyn-based theatre director who makes new and classic-text plays. Recent work includes the world premiere of *Initiative* by Else Went (Public Theater, Lortel nomination: Outstanding Ensemble, *Vulture's Best of 2025*), *Romeo and Juliet* (Hudson Valley Shakespeare, tour), *Much Ado About Nothing* (Opera House Arts), and other projects developed at The Public, Playwrights Horizons, Mercury Store, NYTW, MTC, Ars Nova, Hudson Valley Shakespeare, South Coast Rep, and many other venues. Went is currently on staff as the inaugural Directing Fellow at The Public Theater, from 2024-2026. SDC Member. Rep: WME. www.emmawent.com

WILLIAM ORMSBY CARY he/him (*Understudy*) is thrilled to debut at The Public! Recent credits include *Romeo & Juliet* and *Mr. Burns, A Post-Electric Play* (Hudson Valley Shakespeare). As co-founder of Little Tube Productions, Cary's films have screened nationwide; their pilot "After Life Hunters" recently winning Best Comedy at the Reedy Reels Film Festival. Represented by BAM Management. All his love to Lauren and Mom.

CAITLIN NASEMA CASSIDY she/her (*Celia*). The Public: *The Vagrant Trilogy*. Off-Broadway: *Show/Boat: A River* (NYU Skirball, Under the Radar Festival), *Pay No Attention to the Girl* (Target Margin Theater, Spoleto Festival). Additional credits: *Show Boat* (National Tour), *Paradise* (Central Square), *Cymbeline* (Shakespeare's Globe). Proud alum of East15 and Georgetown. For my father, a great lover of the Forest. @caitlinnasemacassidy

MIA FOWLER she/her (*Understudy*). Regional: *Much Ado About Nothing* (Utah Shakespeare Company), *The Wolves* (Colorado Springs FAC), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Shakespeare in Litchfield Hills). New York: *cityscrape* (Good Apples Collective), *before the flood* (The Chain Theater). Film: *Dumb Money* (Sony). TV: "Adults" (FX). B.A. Yale University.

JOSE GAMO he/him (*Orlando*) is a Filipino artist born and raised in Indonesia. Theater includes: *Poor Yella Rednecks* (MTC); *Romeo and Juliet* (Two River Theater/NAATCO); *The Great Leap* (Arc Stages); *Cymbeline*, *Much Ado About Nothing* (Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival). Screen: "Fantasmas" (HBO), "Instinct" (CBS). Training: Fordham University. Everlasting thanks to Elli, his beloved. www.jose-gamo.com

ZOË GOSLIN she/her (*Jaques/Le Beau*). The Public: *Two Noble Kinsmen*. Manhattan Theatre Club: *An Oxford Man*. Atlantic Theater: *Mirror Ripple Knock Move On*. Hudson Valley Shakespeare: *Julius Caesar*, *Bewilderness*, *Romeo & Juliet*, *Mr. Burns: A Post Electric Play*. Film: *EAT*, *The Big Ask*, *Stray*, *Driftwood*.

TV: “Afterlife Hunters,” “Our Lady Lupe” for PBS: The Latinx Experience. Training: Northwestern University, The London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art.

JESSICA KO she/her (*Audrey/Corin/Adam*) is thrilled to be making both her off-Broadway and Public Theater debuts! Credits include Oregon Shakespeare Festival (Princess Katherine/Boy/Montjoy in *Henry V*, Rosalind in *As You Like It*, Dou Yi in *Snow in Midsummer*, Shapeshifter in *Hannah and the Dread Gazebo*), American Players Theatre (Beatrice in *Much Ado About Nothing*, Regan in *King Lear*), Milwaukee Rep, Actors Theatre of Louisville, South Coast Rep, Chautauqua Theater Company. MFA: Brown University/Trinity Rep.

ZIA LAWRENCE they/she (*Rosalind*). Credits include: *Purple F*cking Pot*, *Dial M for Murder* (Asolo Rep); *Cloud 9*, *Alls Well that Ends Well*, *Pipeline*. Proud NYU Grad Acting alum. Zia feels stoked and blessed and grateful to be working with The Public!

PETER MCNALLY (*Touchstone*). Select credits include: Suzan-Lori Park’s *Sally and Tom* (The Public Theater), *Godbird* (The Brick Theater), *Reconstructing* (The TEAM), Sibyl Kempson’s *Sasquatch Rituals* (The Kitchen). Film: India Donaldson’s hit debut feature *Good One*. Drummer. BA Fordham University. MFA NYU.

JONATHAN GABRIEL MOUSSET he/him (*Oliver/Amiens/Musician*). Off-Broadway: *Much Ado About Nothing* (Mobile Unit). Credits include *Jersey Boys* (Ogunquit PH); *In the Heights*, *tick, tick... BOOM!* (Bucks County PH); *Cinderella* (Fulton Theatre); *Newsies*, and *It Happened in Key West*. Born to Venezuelan immigrants, Mousset began performing at age six. FSU, BM in Music Theatre. His debut album *One Take: A Jazz Album* is available on all streaming platforms. IG: @jonathangmousetnyc

PEARL RHEIN she/her (*Phoebe/Lord/William*). The Public: *The Taming of the Shrew* (Shakespeare in the Park). Broadway: *Natasha, Pierre, and the Great Comet of 1812*. Selected Off-Broadway: *Becomes a Woman* (Mint), *The Lucky Ones* (Ars Nova). Selected Regional: *The Comedy of Errors* (Fiasco/Actors Theatre of Louisville), *The Winter’s Tale* (Hartford Stage), *Little Women* (Dallas Theatre Center). TV: “Succession”, “Bull”, “The Blacklist”, “Younger”. BFA: UC San Diego. BA: Ball State University. pearlrhein.com, @pearlrhein on IG/bsky. Love ya, Feit.

DAVID RYAN SMITH (*Duke Senior/Duke Frederick*). The Public: *The Seat of Our Pants*, *Merry Wives*, *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, *Henry V*, *Twelfth Night*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Comedy of Errors*, *Pericles*. Broadway: *Yellow Face*, *One Man Two Guvnors*, *Passing Strange*. Off Broadway: Signature Theater, NYTW, Lincoln Center, Soho Rep, Classical Theater of Harlem, City Center Encores!, Playwrights Horizons, Women’s Project, BAM, Red Bull, etc. Film: *Relay*, *The Amazing Spider-Man 2*, *Medal of Victory*, *Bee Season*. Faculty: Playwrights Horizons Theater School/NYU.

KAI THOMANI TSHIKOSI he/him (*Charles/Silvius*). The Public: *Jordans*. National Tour: *Hamilton*. Regional: *black odyssey*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Prince of Providence* (Trinity Repertory Company); *Romeo and Juliet*, *Fat Ham* (Huntington Theater Company); *Romeo and Juliet*, *Julius Caesar* (Commonwealth Shakespeare Company); *black odyssey boston* (Front Porch Theater Collective/Central Square Theater); *Macbeth*, *Equivocation*, *The Tempest* (Actor’s Shakespeare Project); *Othello*, *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, *Lover’s Spat* (Shakespeare & Company); *Franklin* (Boston Playwrights’ Theatre); *Colossal* (Company One) Education: MFA Acting Brown University/Trinity Rep

ABOUT CIVIC ARTISTIC PROGRAMS:

Civic Artistic Programs is The Public Theater’s hub for furthering access, civic engagement, and community focused artistic innovation, focused on building connections with community organizations and their members.

Now in its 16th season, The Public Theater’s **MOBILE UNIT** is a modern reimagining of Joseph Papp’s Mobile Theater. Mobile Unit reaches across economic and geographic barriers to the arts by meeting our communities where they are—staging free professional theater productions and programs in local

neighborhood venues such as libraries, homeless shelters, correctional facilities, and community centers across all five New York City boroughs. Mobile Unit has served thousands of audiences with critically acclaimed productions, including a 2018 National tour of Lynn Nottage's Pulitzer Prize-winning play *Sweat*. In 2020, Mobile Unit received a Special Drama Desk Award for its program. During the pandemic, Mobile Unit launched a digital workshop inside the NYC Department of Corrections called *Hip-Hop vs. Shakespeare*, where participants were encouraged to write their own stories. In summer 2021, Mobile Unit returned in-person with *Mobile Unit's Summer of Joy*, co-produced with National Black Theatre, popping up at public plazas in neighborhoods hit hard by the coronavirus pandemic. Mobile Unit believes theater is its most powerful when it reflects and connects to the lives of our community.

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 Works, 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 musical *Hamilton* by Lin-Manuel Miranda. Their programs and productions can also be seen regionally across the country and around the world. The Public has received 64 Tony Awards, 197 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

The Public Theater stands in honor of the first inhabitants and our ancestors. We acknowledge the land on which The Public and its theaters stand—the original homeland of the Lenape people. We acknowledge the painful history of genocide and forced removal from this territory. We honor the generations of stewards and we pay our respects to the many diverse indigenous peoples still connected to this land.

Citizens is the presenting partner for **SHAKESPEARE FOR THE CITY**.

Leadership support for Mobile Unit is provided by the **Abrams Foundation**, **Bloomberg Philanthropies**, and **JetBlue Airways**.

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