TWELFTH NIGHT

DIRECTED BY ELI SIMON
A Tale of Two Shakespeares

A worthy pair of plays spans Orange County's vast production chain.

By Joel Beers  Thursday, Aug 7, 2014

A tale of two Shakespeare companies—one benefiting from an intimate relationship with the well-funded, respected UC Irvine theater department and the other a gypsy troupe that stages its plays on a budget—proves the joy of playing in more intimate performance venues you will ever see; the other a gypsy troupe that stages its plays an outdoor setting.

But while the New Swan Shakespeare Festival and the Alchemy Theatre may differ in form, financial support, physical space and, some could argue, dignity (a collection basket passes a collection basket during intermission—after you've already paid for a ticket), the fact that each pulls off an enjoyable production promises that as long as you have a community and space for people to stand, sit or lie down, theater can be produced anywhere.

The production of Twelfth Night was one of the handful of Shakespeare plays I have ever seen in Orange County that really stood out. I've seen so much, and so much of it is mediocre at best. There are always a few dusty relics in the ensemble chain, but not this one. Very, very enjoyable.

— Joel Beers, OC Weekly
New Swan Shakespeare Festival returns to UC Irvine

Plays will be performed over seven weeks in Elizabethan-style theater.

BY SHANE NEWELL
STAFF WRITER

Elkhorn knows a thing or two about bringing William Shakespeare's plays to life on stage. His Elkhorn Theatre, which received the Storm Reid Award for Excellence in Theatre in 2019, will once again be hosting Shakespeare's works this summer. The festival, which is the first of its kind in Orange County, features a wide range of productions that are sure to captivate audiences of all ages.

New Swan Shakespeare Festival

The festival is a celebration of Shakespeare's work, and it offers a unique opportunity to experience his plays in a way that is both accessible and immersive. The productions feature a cast of talented actors and are directed by some of the finest directors in the region. The festival is hosted by the Elkhorn Theatre, which is located in downtown Santa Ana.

The festival features a variety of Shakespearean works, including "Romeo and Juliet," "The Tempest," "Hamlet," and "A Midsummer Night's Dream." The productions are performed in an open-air setting, allowing audiences to experience the beauty of Shakespeare's words and the stunning scenery of Southern California.

Elkhorn Theatre

The Elkhorn Theatre is known for its innovative approach to theater, and the festival is no exception. The productions feature a variety of imaginative sets and costumes, and the actors are encouraged to bring their own unique interpretations to the roles.

New Swan Shakespeare Festival

The festival is a celebration of Shakespeare's work, and it offers a unique opportunity to experience his plays in a way that is both accessible and immersive. The productions feature a cast of talented actors and are directed by some of the finest directors in the region. The festival is hosted by the Elkhorn Theatre, which is located in downtown Santa Ana.

The festival features a variety of Shakespearean works, including "Romeo and Juliet," "The Tempest," "Hamlet," and "A Midsummer Night's Dream." The productions are performed in an open-air setting, allowing audiences to experience the beauty of Shakespeare's words and the stunning scenery of Southern California.

Elkhorn Theatre

The Elkhorn Theatre is known for its innovative approach to theater, and the festival is no exception. The productions feature a variety of imaginative sets and costumes, and the actors are encouraged to bring their own unique interpretations to the roles.