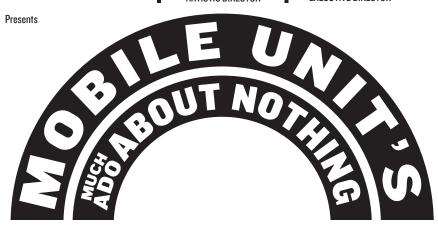


THE PUBLIC THEATER

OSKAR EUSTIS ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

PATRICK WILLINGHAM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Bv WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

Original Songs and Music by JULIÁN MESRI Additional Lyrics by REBECCA MARTÍNEZ Directed by REBECCA MARTÍNEZ

With CARLO ALBÁN, MAYELAH BARRERA, DANIEL BRAVO HERNÁNDEZ. HIRAM DELGADO. KATHERINE GEORGE. ROBERT MARCELO JIMÉNEZ. KEREN LUGO. CORNELIUS MCMOYLER. **JONATHAN GABRIEL MOUSSET, SARA ORNELAS, MARTÍN ORTIZ. NATHAN M. RAMSEY**

Scenic Design RIW RAKKULCHON Costume Design CHRISTOPHER VERGARA Sound Design TYE HUNT FITZGERALD Orchestrations & Music Supervisor JULIÁN MESRI Spanish Translations JULIÁN MESRI Prop Manager AISHA HAMIDA Fight & Intimacy Director JUDI LEWIS OCKLER

Music Director ANGELA ORTIZ

Dramaturg **AMRITA RAMANAN**

Voice and Text Coach JULIE CONGRESS

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CITIZENS is the presenting partner for SHAKESPEARE IN THE CITY.

Leadership support for MOBILE UNIT is provided by the **ABRAMS FOUNDATION**, **BLOOMBERG PHILANTHROPIES**, and THE TOW FOUNDATION.

FROM OSKAR



Mobile Unit is back!

After last year's smash production of THE COMEDY OF ERRORS, the brilliant Rebecca Martínez has returned (with the aid of the magnificent musician Julian Mesri) to present Shakespeare's MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING. We are thrilled to have them both back with us.

MUCH ADO has plenty of laughs, but it also has plenty of dark notes to go with the comedy. The story involves betrayal. deception, unnatural jealousy, feigned death, mourning, repentance, and no less than two marriage scenes. It has one of the most famous love duos in all of literature, the witty and quarrelsome Benedick and Beatrice, model for all bickering lovers since. It is one of his very greatest plays. where he blends comedy, romance, tragedy, and magical resurrection in a seemingly effortless unity. It's long been one of his most popular shows, and it is a great show for Mobile Unit.

The Mobile Unit was founded by Joe Papp in 1957, and it is really the foundation of everything we do at The

Public—from it sprang Shakespeare in the Park, The Delacorte, The Public Theater, Joe's Pub and all the extraordinary shows and programs we have created over the past seven decades. In the mid 1970s, Mobile Unit lapsed—a casualty of the enormous expansion of our reach at that time, from expanding programming to Lincoln Center Theater to transferring A CHORUS LINE to Broadway. But in 2010, we revived the Mobile Unit, and re-established its position as central to our identity. Of all our programs, only Mobile Unit has an audience that exactly matches the demographics of New York City. It truly is a theater for the people.

In this time of national divide, when there are so many reasons to be anxious and frightened, I hope that seeing this beloved classic, over 400 years old, imagined anew for 2025, can remind us of the great human values that have helped people endure times even more dangerous than our own. We need some optimism right now; we need a sense of community right now; I think we need some Shakespeare right now. Come see TWELFTH NIGHT when The Delacorte re-opens later this summer; come see Public Works' PERICLES at The Cathedral of St. John the Divine as summer

See you in the Park,

OSKAR EUSTIS ARTISTIC DIRECTOR







iRegresa el Mobile Unit!

Tras el gran éxito de THE COMEDY OF ERRORS el año pasado, regresa la increíble Rebecca Martínez (junto al magnífico compositor Julián Mesri) para presentar MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING de William Shakespeare. Estamos entusiasmados de tenerlos a ambos de vuelta con nosotros.

MUCH ADO trae muchas risas, pero también muchos matices oscuros que acompañan la comedia. La historia incluye traición, engaño, celos, muerte fingida, luto, arrepentimiento y por supuesto, dos escenas de matrimonio. Cuenta con una de las parejas más famosas en la historia literaria, los ingeniosos y pendencieros Benedick y Beatrice, modelo para todos los amantes peleones a través de la historia. Es una de sus mejores obras, en la que mezcla comedia, romance, tragedia y resurrección mágica de manera unificadora. Siempre ha sido una de sus obras más reconocidas, y es ideal para el Mobile Unit.

El Mobile Unit fue fundado por Joe Papp en 1957, y

verdaderamente ha servido como base de todo lo que hacemos en The Public: de esta iniciativa surge Shakespeare in the Park, The Delacorte, The Public Theater, Joe's Pub y todos los extraordinarios espectáculos y programas que hemos creado en las últimas siete décadas. A mediados de la década de 1970, Mobile Unit dejó de funcionar, una víctima de la enorme expansión de nuestro alcance en ese momento, desde expandir la programación al Lincoln Center Theater hasta transferir A CHORUS LINE a Broadway. Pero en 2010, revivimos el Mobile Unit y restablecimos su posición como eje central de nuestra identidad. De todos nuestros programas, solo el Mobile Unit atrae un público que representa con exactitud la demográfica de la ciudad de Nueva York. Es verdaderamente un teatro para el pueblo.

En estos tiempos de división nacional, cuando hay tantas razones para sentir ansiedad y miedo, espero que el poder disfrutar de este clásico tan querido, con más de cuatrocientos años, recreado para el 2025, nos recuerde los grandes valores humanos que han ayudado a la humanidad a sobrevivirtiempos aún más peligrosos que los que estamos viviendo. En estos tiempos necesitamo soptimismo; necesitamos comunidad; creo que necesitamos un poco de Shakespeare. Los esperamos en TWELFTH NIGHT cuando The Delacorte vuelva a abrir sus puertas este verano; los esperamos en PERICLES de Public Works en La Catedral de St. John the Divine al finalizar el verano; pero por ahora, deléitense en la gloria de MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING.

Nos vemos en the Park.



ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



BIOS

THE PUBLIC THEATER 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 Obje 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

CARLO ALBÁN (Borachio/Friar Francis/Musician).
Broadway: Sweat (Theatre World Award). Off-Broadway: Romeo y Julieta, References to Salvador Dalí (Public Theater); Tamburlaine (TFANA); A Small, Melodramatic Story, Intríngulis (Labyrinth). Regional: The Odyssey (A.R.T.); Fandango (La Jolla); Whitelisted (CATF); The River Bride, Much Ado, Timon of Athens (OSF). London: Rare Earth Mettle (Royal Court). Film: Mile 22, Hurricane Streets, 21 Grams, Whip It, Margaret. TV: "Sesame Street," "Thicker Than Blood," "Prison Break," "Black Bird." Member of Labyrinth Theater Company.

MAYELAH BARRERA (Hero) is an actress, singer, and dancer from Monterrey, Mexico. A proud graduate of The American Academy of Dramatic Arts NY, she debuted in New York with El Otro Oz at TheaterWorks, including its national tour. Barrera's standout performances include co-starring as 'Fátima' in the sold-out run of Desaparecidas and singing with Jaime Lozano & La Familia at Lincoln Center. Additional credits: In Her Bones (Regional). She's thrilled to make her debut at The Public! IG: @mayelahbarreram

DANIEL BRAVO HERNÁNDEZ (Claudio) is a NYC actor, born and raised. He believes Shakespeare wrote for the common people and is excited to participate in a production that will be accessible to all, including the Spanish speakers of NYC. Finalmente algo para mi gente! After closing Sam Gold's Romeo + Juliet on Broadway, he's honored to continue working on Shakespeare and

hopes to keep doing it. Gracias a mis padres, Brian D. Hills, Clara Bello, y a Dios.

HIRAM DELGADO (Don Pedro/Verges) is a Puerto Rican Cuban actor and writer. Broadway: Tony-winning revival of Take Me Out (Second Stage/Schoenfeld Theatre). Off-Broadway: The Hours are Feminine (INTAR), A Midsummer Night's Dream (Classical Theatre of Harlem), Romeo y Julieta (Public Theater), Agnes (59E59). Regional: Two Sisters and a Piano (Two River Theatre), The Model American (Williamstown Theatre Festival). TV/Film: Colapso, "Undercard," "Homesick," "New Amsterdam," "Prodigal Son," "Madam Secretary," "The Code." Training: MFA, NYU Graduate Acting, hiramdelgado.com

KATHERINE GEORGE (Understudy Beatrice, Hero, Margaret/Sexton, Dogberry, Don Juan/Conrade) is an Afro-Latina multi-hyphenate artist and educator from the Bronx, NY, by way of the Dominican Republic. Recent acting credits include: House of Blue Robes (LAByrinth Theater Company), blood work (National Black Theater), Bees & Honey (Marin Theater Company), Clyde's (Denver Center for Performing Arts). She served as a background vocalist for Jennifer Lopez at her NBC Fourth of July performance and Live Spotify Studio Session. Proud member of the Dominican Artist Collective. MFA: Columbia University.

ROBERT MARCELO JIMÉNEZ (Leonato/Watch).

One of Jiménez's favorite Public Theater experiences was originating the role of Martinez in Richard Greenberg's Tony Award-winning play, Take Me Out, directed by Joe Mantello. It was a unique opportunity to perform with a show from The Donmar Warehouse in London's West End to The Public Theater in NYC, and then to the Walter Kerr on Broadway. Originated the role of Eddie in The Block by Dan Hoyle; Dir. Tamilla Woodard for Mark Plesent's Working Theater Five

Boroughs/One City Initiative (Urban Stages).

KEREN LUGO she/her (Beatrice). The Public:
The Comedy of Errors, Romeo y Julieta (audio play), Privacy (with The Donmar Warehouse).
Off-Broadway: The Irrepressible Magic of the Tropics (INTAR); Give me Carmelita Tropicana! (Soho Rep); Stargazers (Page 73), At the Wedding (LCT3); Actually, We're F*cked (Cherry Lane).
Regional credits: Yale Rep, Mark Taper Forum, Baltimore Center Stage, Two River Theater, Chautauqua Theater Festival. TV: "New Amsterdam," "Orange is the New Black," "The Americans." Education: University of Puerto Rico, NYU Graduate Acting.

cornelius mcmoyler (Dogberry) is thrilled to be back with The Public. So many thanks to Jordan & Kate. Gratitude always to Ben, Ashley, Remy, and Alice at A&R. Broadway: Stereophonic. Off-Broadway: Hamlet (Free Shakespeare in the Park), Not My Monster (Flea Theater). New play development with NYTW. Juilliard MFA.

JONATHAN GABRIEL MOUSSET he/his (Understudy: Benedick, Claudio, Leonato/Watch, Don Pedro/Verges, Borachio/Friar Francis/Musician) starred as Frankie Valli in Jersey Boys (Ogunquit PH) and debuted at Carnegie Hall in Mozart: Her Story. Credits include In the Heights; tick, tick... BOOM!; Cinderella; Newsies; and It Happened in Key West. Born to Venezuelan immigrants, Mousset began performing at age six. Florida State University, BM in Music Theatre. His debut album One Take: A Jazz Album is available on all streaming platforms.

IG: @jonathangabrielnyc

SARA ORNELAS (Margaret/Sexton) was born and raised deep in the heart of Texas and wears her Mexican roots proudly. Her favorite credits include Frida Kahlo in A Ribbon About A Bomb, Maria in West Side Story, and Boli in American Mariachi. She was most recently seen in last year's Mobile Unit's The Comedy of Errors and is excited to return! If she's not substituting water with iced oat lattes, she's boxing and sending TikToks at 3am. IG:

MARTÍN ORTIZ (Don Juan/Conrade) is a Mexican American artist based in New York City. Off-Broadway: The Greatest Hits Down Route 66 (59E59). Select credits: Manning (Portland Stage), Passionate Geometries (Symphony Space), The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime (NYU Grad Acting). MFA from NYU Graduate Acting.

NATHAN M. RAMSEY (Benedick) is thrilled to be returning to The Public! As a proud Afro-Latino, U.S. Air Force war veteran, and Bronx, NY native he couldn't be more excited for this production. Theater includes: Shane (Dallas Theater Center), Plays for the Plague Year (The Public Theater), The Tempest (Oregon Shakespeare Festival). Training: MFA in Acting, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Thank you, Donna, and my GTG family! To my beautiful wife Courtney...WE HERE!! nathanmramsey.com

REBECCA MARTÍNEZ she/her (Director) co-adapted and directed the Mobile Unit's 2023 & 2024 bilingual musical production of The Comedy of Errors (Drama Desk nomination, Outstanding Adaptation; LATA Awards for Outstanding Adaptation and Theatrical Concept), Recent projects: In Her Bones (Colo Springs Fine Arts Center). Dirty Laundry (WP/Spark Theatrical), Bite Me (WP Theater/Colt Coeur), It Happened in Key West (Fulton Theatre), Sancocho (WP Theater / Latinx Playwrights Circle / Sol Project). Living and Breathing (Two River). Randy's Dandy Coaster Castle (Egg & Spoon Collective). Songs About Trains (Working Theater/Radical Evolution). Somewhere Over the Border (Syracuse Stage/Geva Theatre). Martinez has developed new work with the O'Neill, Latinx Playwrights Circle, the Sol Project, NAMT. INTAR, Working Theater, The Playwrights Realm, among others. Affiliations: member of the Obie Award-winning Sol Project Collective, WP Directors Lab Alum, 2021 TCG Rising Leaders of Color, Lincoln Center Theater Directors

Lab, INTAR's Unit52, New Georges Affiliated Artist, Drama League Directing Fellow, member of SDC. Awards: Colorado Henry Award for Directing; four Portland, Oregon Drammy Awards; Lilla Jewel Award for Women Artists. Martínez is originally from Colorado with deep ancestral roots in the Southwest. rebeccamartinez.org

JULIÁN MESRI (Composer) is a New York-based Argentinean-American playwright and composer who makes multilingual plays and musicals in the US and around the world. He is the co-adaptor and composer/ Ivricist for the Mobile Unit bilingual production of the Drama Desk-nominated and LATA award-winning The Comedy of Errors at The Public, His play, The Irrepressible Magic of the Tropics premiered as part of Intar's 2025 season. He is currently the Judith Champion Musical Theater Launchpad Resident at Signature Theater and a Core Writer at the Playwrights Center. Other work includes composing the live score of Henry 6 at The Old Globe, directing/arranging Songs About Trains with Radical Evolution, music directing and coorchestrating Brian Quijada's Somewhere Over the Border (Syracuse Stage, Geva Theater). He has been a member of The Public Theater Emerging Writers Group, a Dramatist Guild Fellow, an Emerging Artist of Color Fellow and Usual Suspect at NYTW, and a Van Lier fellow at Repertorio Español. He received his MFA in Playwriting from Columbia University.

RIW RAKKULCHON (Scenic Design) is a Set & Costume Designer, Animator and Chef from Bangkok, Thailand. He/They has worked at Yale Repertory Theatre, Syracuse Stage, The Old Globe, Drury Lane Theatre, Asolo Rep, The Acting Company, 59E59, Edinburgh Fringe, Primary Stages, Hartford Stage, The Alley Theatre, Brooklyn Academy of Music amongst others. Broadway Associate Set Design: Pass Over, & Juliet, Parade. Member of United Scenic Artist 829. Board member of WithAll, a non-profit Organization on a fight to end eating disorders. IG: @riwrdesign

CHRISTOPHER VERGARA (Costume Design) is a Latino activist, educator, and designer. His work focuses on culturally responsive design, storytelling, and social justice. Vergara has worked on Broadway, off-Broadway, regionally, and internationally. Select credits include The People's Theater, Boundless, HBO/Max, and Lincoln Center in NYC; Barrington Stage, Alley Theatre, The Old Globe, and Two River Theater regionally; Shinjuku Bunka Center, National Theatre, Théâtre du Châtelet, and the Felsenreitschule internationally. Follow him at @ cavergaradesign and visit christophervergara.com.

TYE HUNT FITZGERALD (Sound Designer) is a Canadian-born sound designer based in New York City. Design credits include: We Shall Someday (ASF); Much Ado About Nothing, The Comedy of Errors, The Vagrant Trilogy (The Public); HILWIL (Geva); Legally Blonde (Oregon Cabaret); King Lear (La MaMa); Superstitions (OKC Rep). Associate Credits Include: Bood!, English.

Home, Hell's Kitchen, Pictures From Home, A Soldier's Play (Broadway); Cullud Wattah, The Michaels, White Noise, Eve's Song (The Public), @tyehuntfitz

AISHA HAMIDA (Prop Manager). The Public:
Manahatta (Assistant Props Manager), Sally & Tom
(Artisan), Good Bones (Artisan), Glass. Kill. What If If
Only. Imp. (Assistant Props Manager). Lincoln Center: Six
Characters (Associate Props Supervisor). Atlantic
Theater Company: We Are Continuous (Props
Supervisor), Grief Camp (Assistant Props). Signature
Theater: Bad Krevol (Associate Props Supervisor).

JUDI LEWIS OCKLER (Intimacy Director) has collaborated with Classic Stage (Snow in Midsummer, A Midsummer Night's Dream), Signature (Hot Wing King, One in Two, Jasper) WP (Hatef**k, Our Dear Dead Drug Lord, Dirty Laundry, Bite Me), Cherry Lane (This Beautiful Future), Westside (Little Shop of Horrors!), The Mint (The Rat Trap), Bedlam (Persuasion), New World Stages (Dracula, a Comedy of Terrors!), Williamstown Theater Festival. She teaches/directs intimacy and violence in performance at NYU, NTI, Atlantic Theater School, AMDA, New School of Drama. judilewisockler.com

ANGELA ORTIZ (Music Director) is a music director, composer, arranger, and orchestrator whose work spans both theater and Latin music. Recent music direction: EXTRA CRISPY at Joe's Pub, Jesus Christ Superstar at PACE University. Composition/arranging/orchestration: Olivia O., Chasing Grace, She Sings Me Home. Notable venues performed at include Lincoln Center, The Kennedy Center, and the Blue Note. She is a BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theater Workshop member and pianist for the Williamsburg Salsa Orchestra.

ADA ZHANG (Production Stage Manager) is thrilled to join Team Mobile Unit! A Chinese stage manager based in Brooklyn. Tours (national and international): SIX, Kinky Boots, Wicked, Matilda, The Bodyguard, Rent, The Blue Man Group, TWUSA. Off-Broadway/NYC: MTC (Poor Yella Rednecks), The Sheen Center (The Journals of Adam and Eve starring Hal Linden and Marilu Henner), The TEAM (Reconstructing directed by Rachel Chavkin and Zhailon Levingston), The Tank NYC (Mahinerator, Prometheus Bound). M.F.A. in Stage Management, Columbia University.

BEA PEREZ-ARCHE (Stage Manager) is a Cuban American theatre artist focused on creating community through her work in the arts. She has primarily worked at The Public Theater on Shakespeare in the Park, the Under the Radar Festival, and the Public Shakespeare Initiative. She is an Associate Artist at Sanguine Theatre Company and has collaborated with a range of institutions including The Flea, The Civilians, Tectonic Theater Project, One Whale's Tale, Women's Project, La MaMa, Little Island, Chelsea Factory, and Ballet Collective. She received her BFA in Theater Arts from Boston University and currently freelances as a stage manager, director, and dramature.

PRODUCTION STAFF

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Sub Production Assistant Sarah Samonte
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Production Audio Camille Denholm
Al Farid Vargas

Al Farid Vargas A2 Kasey Price

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Costume Crafts LA Clevenson

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Cleo Blackketter

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Lead Logistics Technician Joanie Tripodi-Kaminsky
Logistics Technician Jay Savana
Talent Van Driver Hannah McGrath
Sub Van Sub Darvi Shelton

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SPECIAL THANKS

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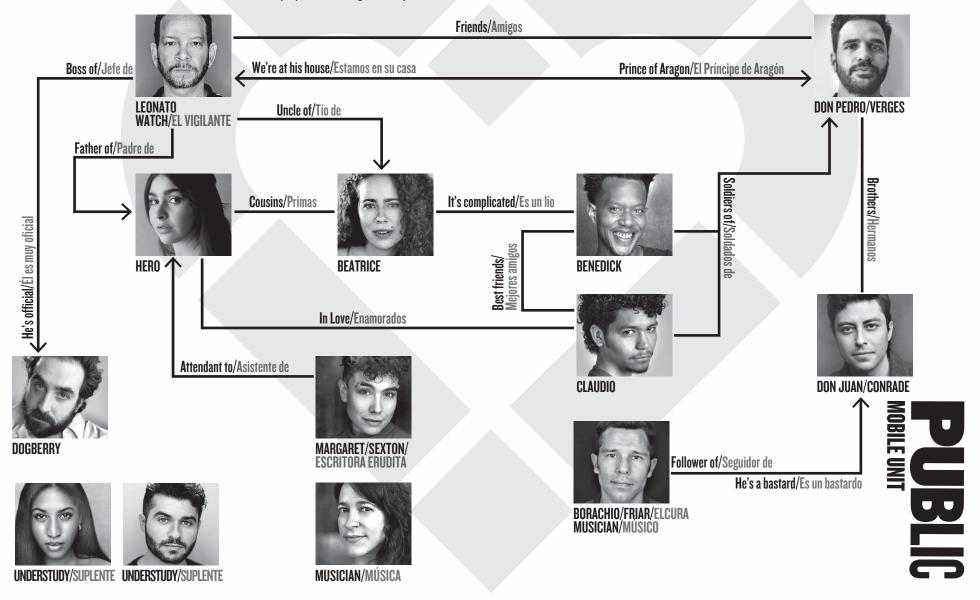




MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING/MUCHO RUÍDO Y POCAS NUECES

MESSINA

We are in Messina, at the home of Señor Leonato. Among the party is Claudio, who quickly falls in love with Hero. He is joined by his friend Benedick, a bachelor who has sworn off love and marriage—but all of his friends can see there could be something between him and Beatrice. Estamos en Messina, en la casa del Señor Leonato. Dentro de los invitados está Claudio, quien rápidamente se enamora de Hero. También está Benedick, joven soltero que ha jurado nunca enamorarse o casarse, pero todos sus amigos pueden ver que podría haber algo entre él y Beatrice.



COMPANY

Borachio/Friar Francis/Musician

CARLO ALBÁN

Hero MAYELAH BARRERA Claudio DANIEL BRAVO HERNÁNDEZ

Don Pedro/Verges HIRAM DELGADO Leonato/Watch

ROBERT MARCELO JIMÉNEZ

Beatrice **KEREN LUGO**

Dogberry CORNELIUS MCMOYLER
Margaret/Sexton SARA ORNELAS
Don Juan/Conrade MARTÍN ORTIZ

Benedick NATHAN M. RAMSEY

UNDERSTUDIES

Beatrice, Hero, Margaret/Sexton, Dogberry, Don Juan/Conrade

KATHERINE GEORGE

Benedick, Claudio, Leonato/Watch, Don Pedro/Verges, Borachio/Friar Francis/ Musician **JONATHAN GABRIEL**

MOUSSET

Music Director **ANGELA ORTIZ** Guitar CARLO ALBÁN





Photo by: Nada Shaaban

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Citizens is pleased to be the presenting partner of Shakespeare for the City.
Thank you to The Public Theater for all you do with NYC. We are proud to be a part of it.



Proud to partner with The Public in bringing Shakespeare's MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING to audiences across NYC's 5 boroughs.

