Proud to help make our region a vibrant place to live through support of the performing arts.

ORLANDO
BY VIRGINIA WOOLF
ADAPTED BY SARAH RUHL
DIRECTED BY BLAKE WATSON

APRIL 25 - MAY 5, 2024
FORGE THEATER
MOSCOW, IDAHO
A NOTE ABOUT ORLANDO

University of Idaho theatre is ecstatic to present “Orlando,” adapted by Sarah Ruhl from Virginia Woolf’s 1928 novel “Orlando: a Biography.” In the play, we follow the story of Orlando, a young and wealthy nobleman in Elizabethan England. However, the Orlando we meet at the beginning of the play is far from the Orlando we will later come to know. After inexplicably waking up as a woman, Orlando’s entire existence is upended. Whether it be the poetic narration of Woolf’s original words, humor, or existential questions of the self and identity, there is something for everyone to appreciate in Ruhl’s adaptation.

“Orlando: a Biography” has been referred to as a love letter from Woolf to Sackville-West, as the two were romantically involved for many years, as can be seen in their letters to each other.

About Virginia Woolf and Orlando: a Biography

Even though Woolf’s original source material was published almost one hundred years ago, there is still so much to be cherished about her work today—both in its original form and in modern adaptations such as Sarah Ruhl’s. Originally dedicated to Vita Sackville-West, “Orlando: a Biography” is often remembered for its unashamed nonconformity with themes and questions of gender and identity being a driving force of the story. Nearing one hundred years in age, this is especially notable considering the conservative environment Woolf had been brought up in—staunch expectations regarding gender were the norm.

At a first glance, this could be mistaken for a work published today. “Orlando: a Biography” has been referred to as a love letter from Woolf to Sackville-West, as the two were romantically involved for many years, as can be seen in their letters to each other. Many of the themes we see in this story, such as struggles in land ownership or gender nonconformity were pertinent matters in Sackville-West’s life. Looking at both Woolf’s original work and Ruhl’s modern adaptation, it’s clear that Woolf’s approaches to and ideas about gender and sexuality in 1928 are still relevant today. For many, being able to see oneself in stories from the past is a source of comfort and validation.

— Paige O’Callaghan, dramaturg “Orlando”

CAST & ARTISTIC TEAM BIOS (CONTINUED)

Savannah Watson (Stage Manager) is from a small school in Nampa, Idaho. She is in her second semester as a BFA candidate here at the University of Idaho. Savannah’s been deeply involved in theater for the past five years as an actress and stage manager. Her most recent work includes the role of assistant stage manager in the fall production of Amelie. She has learned so much throughout this experience, and is so excited to share this performance with all of you!

Natalie Wargi (Assistant Props Designer) is from Rathdrum Idaho. She is in her freshman year and is majoring in theater arts. Her recent projects include working backstage for Go Dog Go and What The Constitution Means To Me. Her love of art and sculpting lead her to the world of prop design.

Faculty bios at https://www.uidaho.edu/class/theatre/faculty-staff

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ORLANDO was commissioned by Joyce Piven and was first produced at the Piven Theater Workshop, directed by Joyce Piven
It was subsequently produced at the Actor’s Gang in Los Angeles, produced by Tim Robins, and directed by Joyce Piven
It was produced in New York at Classic Stage Company, produced by Brian Kulick, directed by Rebecca Taichman

The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.
Luke Owen (Assistant Lighting Designer) is a first-year BFA student with a focus on lighting design. This is Luke’s third production with the University of Idaho, and second as an assistant lighting designer since graduating from Coeur d’Alene High School in the spring of 2022. Luke has worked in several productions both on-stage and behind the scenes and is excited to finish his first year strong with his first Shakespearian-style play!

Lou Perrotta (Scenic Designer) is in his final semester at the University of Idaho’s MFA Scenic Design Program. Originally from New England, Lou has worked in both the residential construction and theatrical realm for over ten years. He is thrilled to be part this wonderful production!

Melissa Van Der Veen (Chorus 2: Queen Elizabeth/Dupper) is from rural Northern California and grew up admiring trees and making art. They love to explore, garden and paint in their extra time. When they were younger they got involved in the Volcano Theater Company and it was love at first script. They adore the adventure and magic of live theater. Melissa is excited and honored to have the chance to play alongside such an incredible cast and crew!

Blake Watson (Director) is a dramaturg, director, designer, and actor based out of Bozeman, MT. He received a BA in Theatre and Dance from the University of Wyoming in 2023. Blake is a theatre artist working in the Rocky Mountain region for companies such as Montana Shakespeare in the Parks, Bozeman Actors Theatre, Relative Theatrics, and Snowy Range Summer Theatre. Previous directing credits include “Constellations,” “The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime,” “The Big Heartless” and most recently as the assistant director for U of I’s production of “Amelie.”

Lauren Welch, (Chorus 7: Penelope Hartropp/Washenwoman/Rosalind/Salesperson) is a senior at U of I and in her final semester pursuing a BFA in theatre. Her most recent performances include “Measure for Measure” (Juliet and Marianna), “Cabaret” (Fräulein Kost), “Into the Woods” (Jack’s Mother), “A Christmas Carol” (Ava, Caroler), “Macbeth: Alba Gu Brath” (Morrigan), and “Gross Indecency” (Frank Harris and Queen Victoria). She would love to give a special thanks to her sisters (Victoria and Bex), her fiancé (Kevin), and the mentors she has had at her time here. “Orlando” is such a special show about gender identity, what it means to love different people, and how we change over time, and Lauren is thrilled to share it with you.

Kari Wilsey, (Chorus 1: Sasha) is a senior at the University of Idaho and pursuing their BFA in Theatre Performance. Some of Kari’s most recent work includes “Go Dog, Go!” as Hattie, “Amelie” as Blind Beggar, “Mr. Burns” as Edna and “The Imaginary Invalid” as Louison at U of I, and “Glassheart” as Only at the Lewis and Clark State College, for which they received an Irene-Ryan Nomination for the KCACTF. Theatre arts have always played a major role in their life and they thank their mother, Janelle, for always telling her to follow her heart in everything she does, especially their work as an artist.
Jacob Matthew McGaughey (Chorus/Seaman/Marmaduke) is a second-year BFA performance student at the University of Idaho. He was born in Spokane, Washington but considers Coeur d’Alene, Idaho his home. Some of his recent credits include “Amelie” (Nino Quincampoix), “Go, Dog. Go!” (Red Dog/Sound Designer), “Bright Star” (Ensemble), and “Measure for Measure” (Pompey). Jacob thanks the cast and creative team for their hard work, and his friends and family for their never-ending support!

Rylan Love (Assistant Stage Manager) is a first-year at University of Idaho and a BFA candidate in Theatre Performance. He is from Homedale, where he began his theatre journey at nine-years-old. Since then, he has acted, wrote, choreographed, and directed. He has always had a love for the stage and has found a new love for technical theatre as this is his first position on stage management! He is honored to be a part of this cast and crew.

Cambree Miller (Swing/Sasha/Marmaduke understudy) is a first-year student at University of Idaho and pursuing a BFA in Theatre Arts with an emphasis in performance. She is originally from Nampa and was heavily involved in theatre shows at her high school. Most notably in “Steel Magnolias,” “The Crucible” and “Much Ado About Nothing.”

Kylie Morris is a fourth-year BFA candidate minoring in Musical Theatre. Her credits include “Go, Dog Go!” as Blue Dog, “Measure for Measure” as Overdone/Barnardine, “Cabaret” as Fritzie, “Mr. Burns” as Jenny/Scratchy, and Columbia in “The Rocky Horror Show.”

Paige O’Callaghan (they/them) (Dramaturg) is a third-year theatre student from Boise, focused on lighting, dramaturgy and theatre history. Paige is incredibly excited and honored to work as a dramaturg for “Orlando,” having worked as a co-dramaturg for “Cabaret” in fall 2022. Being a dramaturg for this production has been both a challenge and a privilege, and they are excited to be a part of bringing this story to the stage. Paige’s other credits at U of I include lighting design for “Imaginary Invalid” and “What the Constitution Means to Me.”

Cameron Nielsen (Assistant Costume Designer) is a first-year graduate student studying costume construction from Louisville, Kentucky. She first got involved in costuming though Civil War reenactments and historical fashion. Cameron has previously worked as a cutter/draper and costume craftsperson on “Go, Dog. Go!” In her free time, Cameron enjoys cosplay, photography and spending time in nature.
Ryan Fraley (Sound Designer) is from the small town of Nampa and pursuing two majors: Theatre arts and Secondary Education. This is not his first time being a sound designer. He had the chance to start with “The Diary of Anne Frank”. He then acted in “Rumors”, “The Odd Couple”, “The Trial of Goldilocks”, and “The Outsiders”. He has also stage managed “For Her Che-ilds Sake or Her First False Step”. At U of I he was the sound designer for “Amelie: The Musical”! Enjoy the show!

Moon Hammari (Props Supervisor), is a sophomore at University of Idaho, currently getting their degree in Theatre Arts with an emphasis in Technical Theatre. They have also worked on U of I’s “Cabaret” as assistant props lead, and on “The Imaginary Invalid” as assistant lighting designer. They hope you enjoy “Orlando!”

Ty Harrington (Chorus) is a recent BFA graduate of Theatre Arts. Ty is thrilled to return to the Forge Theater and work with this incredible cast and creative team. Career highlights include Nino in “Amélie (The Musical),” Gibson/Burns in “Mr. Burns a Post Electric Play” and Beralde in “The Imaginary Invalid.”

Tucker Holland (Chorus) is an alumni of the theatre arts program at the University of Idaho. You may have seen him in “The Durable Barfly” (Joseph) and “The Imaginary Invalid” (Fleurant). He was also an assistant stage manager in “Cabaret” and “Measure for Measure.” Tucker is so thankful to work with such an incredible cast and all the hard work done behind the scenes. He is so excited to perform again. Enjoy the show!

Brooklynn King (Assistant Costume Designer) is from Boise and is a freshman at U of I. She is majoring in Apparel, Textiles, and Design and minoring in Theatre Arts. She previously helped as a wardrobe manager in “Amelie.”

Macy Korsten (Orlando Understudy) is a freshman at the University of Idaho double majoring in Theater and Virtual Technology and Design. They are from Sandpoint and have been involved with the arts for almost half of their life, being involved in 12 full Broadway-style musicals, playing roles such as Ali, along with being makeup crew in “Mamma Mia” (Mime and Masque), going to state for musical theater in the Idaho drama competition (Mime and Masque), as well as being assistant stage manager for “Amelie” and “What the Constitution Means to Me” (University of Idaho Theater) and starring as Tyler in the short film “The Fade: Resistance Pt. 1, 2 & 3.” They have loved being involved in this show and working with all the amazing people in the production and department as a whole. They are thankful for this wonderful opportunity and can’t wait for what comes next!

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**Cast**

Orlando................................................................. KYLIE MORRIS
Chorus 1: Sasha.......................................................... KARI WILSEY
Chorus 2: Queen Elizabeth/Dupper.............................. MELISSA VAN DER VEEN
Chorus 3: Shakespeare/Fabilla/Grimsditch.................... TY HARRINGTON
Chorus 4: Archduke/Archduchess/Euphrosyne............. TUCKER HOLLAND
Chorus 5: Marmaduke/Russian Seaman......................... JACOB MCGAUGHEY
Chorus 6: Clarinda/As You Like It Orlando/Sea Captain.... CAMBREE MILLER
Chorus 7: Penelope Hartropp/Washerwoman/Rosalind/Salesperson................ LAUREN WELCH
Swing/Orlando Understudy....................................... MACY KORSTEN
Swing/Sasha/Marmaduke understudy............................ CAMBREE MILLER

**Artistic Team**

Director........................................................................ BLAKE WATSON*
Scenic Designer.......................................................... LOU PERROTTA*
Sound Designer............................................................ RYAN FRALEY
Costume Designer.......................................................... JANTZEN BATES*
Costume Director/Draper................................................ GINGER SORENSEN~
Lighting Designer......................................................... RAVEN BOUVIER*
Technical Director.......................................................... MICHAEL BRANDT~^*
Stage Management Advisor............................................. KATY PRY*
Stage Manager............................................................. SAVANNAH WATSON
Props Supervisor.......................................................... MOON HAMMARI
Intimacy Advisor............................................................. KARA EGGER~^*
Assistant Costume Designers................................. CAMERON NEILSON* & BROOKLYN KING
Assistant Lighting Designer............................................. LUKE OWEN
Assistant Stage Manager.................................................. RYLAN LOVE
Assistant Props Supervisor............................................. NATALIE WARGI
Lighting Design Advisor.................................................. ALANA SHEPHERD~
Sound Advisor............................................................... DAVID HARLAN~^*
Assistant Technical Director......................................... KEVIN BAKER
Dramaturg................................................................. PAIGE O’CALLAGHAN

*Work on “ORLANDO” helps fulfill degree requirements for MFA candidates.
~ University of Idaho Faculty
^ Alumni

**Carpenters**

NIKESH ADHIKARI, ADAM ATWOOD, SAYANA BASNET, MAYSEN BEALL, ANNA BOWDEN, SAMI BURTON, AMARI CABALLERO, RICH CRAWFORD, AURORA DICKEY, DEVONY HUNTER, BROOKLYNN KING, RYLAN LOVE, CAMBREE MILLER, GRETA MORGAN, NATALIE WARGI, SAVANNAH WATSON, SCOTT WILDE, JACOB MCGAUGHEY, RUSS GARLINGHOUSE, MALACHI DODSON, MCKINLEY KIRK, REBA DECKER, MACY KORSTEN, HARRY BLACKSTONE, KEVIN BAKER, SYDNEY TEPly, KATIE PRY, ERIN HESTER

**Lead Electrician**

RAVEN BOUVIER

**Electrician**

LUKE OWEN

**Wardrobe/Dressers**

LUKE OWEN, LUKE MESSERLY, OMAVA SIMLER, HAILEY ROGERS

**Drappers & First Hands**

CAMERON NEILSON, BROOKLYN KING

**Stickers**

AMARI CABALLERO, KRISTA CAMPBELL, RIVER EbenROTH, RYAN FRALEY, RUSSELL GARLINGHOUSE, MADI GILSTER, ALLEN HADLEY, TALLIA HART, MACY KORSTEN, LUKE MESSERLY, GRETAP MORGAN, KYLIE MORRIS, LUKE OWEN, HECTOR PRICE, JENA REAVES, PIPER RICKMAN, HAILEY ROGERS, OMAVA SIMLER, SYDNEY TEPly, ELISE VON BARGEN, AND KARI WILSEY

**CAST & ARTISTIC TEAM BIOS (IN ALPHA ORDER)**

Kevin Baker is a third-year Theatre Design, Technology, Management student from Boise, Idaho. He would like to thank his wonderful fiancé Lauren for all of her hard work and support. He is so excited to be the assistant technical director for the University of Idaho’s production of “Orlando.”

Raven Bouvier is excited to be making her lighting design debut with the University of Idaho Theatre Dept with Orlando. Her recent credits include Die Fledermaus with the University of Idaho Lionel Hampton School of Music and Rock of Ages Teen Edition at Connelly School of the Holy Child. She has a degree in Dance Production from Hope College and a Master of Arts in Theatre Education and Applied Theatre from Emerson College and is a first year MFA student at the University of Idaho with an emphasis in Lighting.

Jantzen Bates is a third year MFA candidate in Costume Construction, whose previous UI credits include Co- Costume Designer for Mr. Burns a Post Electric Play, Cutter Draper for Into the Woods and Cutter Draper for Amelie. She received her BFA in Theatre and Dance with an Emphasis in Stage Management from Missouri State University and has worked nationally at many institutions including Stages St. Louis, Westport Country Playhouse, Tent Theatre and Disney’s Animal Kingdom.

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