



CONCORD MUSIC



THE **PUBLIC.**

**EMBARGOED UNTIL 12PM  
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**CONCORD MUSIC's CRAFT RECORDINGS and THE PUBLIC THEATER  
Announce Release of the Original Public Works Cast Recording of**



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**Featuring:** Nikki M. James, Ato Blankson-Wood, Andrew Kober, Shuler Hensley, Troy Anthony, Lori Brown-Niang, Daniel Hall, Jonathan Jordan, and Patrick J. O'Hare

**Conceived by Kwame Kwei-Armah and Shaina Taub**

**Music and Lyrics by Shaina Taub**

**Choreography by Lorin Latarro**

**Directed by Oskar Eustis and Kwame Kwei-Armah**

September 27, 2018 - **Concord Music's Craft Recordings** and **The Public Theater** (Oskar Eustis, Artistic Director; Patrick Willingham, Executive Director) are thrilled to announce the release of the **original Public Works cast recording** of the critically acclaimed 2018 Free Shakespeare in the Park production of **TWELFTH NIGHT**. The album will be available for **pre-order** on **Friday, September 28**, and the album will be released digitally and on CD on **Friday, October 19, 2018**. Those who **pre-order the album digitally will instantly receive the first track, "Play On."** Shaina Taub and Dean Sharenow produced the album, with Sean Patrick Flahaven as executive producer. For more information visit [smarturl.it/twelfthnight](http://smarturl.it/twelfthnight).

Other recent Concord Music cast recordings include *Carousel*, *The Ballad of Little Jo*, and the Grammy-nominated *Come From Away*. Live stage licensing rights and music publishing for **TWELFTH NIGHT** are also administered by Concord Music.

“This euphoric musicalization of Shakespeare’s brilliant comedy is a miracle on many levels. The music is infectious, joyful, and deep; the condensing of the multiple plot strands of the play into a 90-minute musical is astonishingly successful; the emotional power of the storytelling is fully unleashed with a lightness of touch that delights and amazes. All of these achievements will be audible as soon as you play this album,” wrote Eustis in the album’s liner note.

Conceived by **Kwame Kwei-Armah** and **Shaina Taub**, with music and lyrics by **Shaina Taub**, choreography by **Lorin Latarro**, and directed by **Oskar Eustis** and **Kwame Kwei-Armah**, **TWELFTH NIGHT** officially opened on Tuesday, July 31 and ran through Sunday, August 19 at the Delacorte Theater in Central Park.

The complete Equity cast of **TWELFTH NIGHT** featured **Kim Blanck** (*Female Understudy*), **Ato Blankson-Wood** (*Orsino*), **Lori Brown-Niang** (*Maria*), **Troy Anthony** (*Sebastian*), **Nanya-Akuki Goodrich** (*Olivia*), **JW Guido** (*Featured Illyrian*), **Daniel Hall** (*Sir Andrew Aguecheek*), Tony Award winner **Shuler Hensley** (*Sir Toby Belch*) **Javier Ignacio** (*Male Understudy*), Tony Award winner **Nikki M. James** (*Viola*), **Jonathan Jordan** (*Antonio*), **Andrew Kober** (*Malvolio*), **Patrick J. O’Hare** (*Fabian*), and **Shaina Taub** (*Feste*). The Equity company was joined by two rotating ensembles of community members from all five boroughs who performed together on the Delacorte stage.

The enchanting comedy follows Viola, a young heroine who washes up on the shores of Illyria, disguises herself as a man, is sent to court a countess, and falls in love with a Duke. Featuring music and lyrics by critically-acclaimed songwriter **Shaina Taub**, this very special **TWELFTH NIGHT** is a unique partnership between two Public Theater programs that exemplify The Public’s commitment to radical inclusion: Public Works and Free Shakespeare in the Park. **Oskar Eustis**, The Public’s Artistic Director, and **Kwame Kwei-Armah**, Artistic Director of London’s Young Vic, helmed this unforgettable musical about love in all its many disguises.

**TWELFTH NIGHT** featured scenic design by Rachel Hauck, costume design by Andrea Hood, lighting design by John Torres, sound design by Jessica Paz, hair and wig design by Cookie Jordan, fight direction by Lisa Kopitsky, orchestrations by Mike Brun, and music direction by Shaina Taub.

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## **BIOGRAPHIES**

**SHAINA TAUB** (**TWELFTH NIGHT** *Conceiver and Music & Lyrics, Feste*) is a Vermont-raised, New York-based songwriter and performer. Taub created last September’s musical adaptation of Public Works’ *As You Like It* with director Laurie Woolery at the Delacorte, in which she played Jaques. In 2016, she created the Public Works production of *Twelfth Night* at the Delacorte, also appearing as Feste. She is a winner of the Fred Ebb Award, the Billie Burke Ziegfeld Award, and a Jonathan Larson Grant. Taub’s work was featured in Lincoln Center’s American Songbook concert series and she recently made her Carnegie Hall debut performing her music with the New York Pops. She wrote the score for and co-starred in Bill Irwin

and David Shiner's *Old Hats*, directed by Tina Landau at the Signature Theatre and A.C.T. She earned a Lucille Lortel Award nomination as Mary in the Off-Broadway run of *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812*, and appeared in the original cast of *Hadestown* at New York Theatre Workshop. Her songs have been performed by Audra McDonald and Sutton Foster, and she wrote the theme song for Julie Andrews' Netflix series *Julie's Greenroom*, performed on the show by Sara Bareilles. She is an artist-in-residence at Joe's Pub where she plays a monthly concert. Her album *Visitors* and new record *Die Happy* are available now. She's currently writing a new musical about Alice Paul and the American women's suffrage movement. [shainataub.com](http://shainataub.com)

**OSKAR EUSTIS** (TWELFTH NIGHT *Co-Director*) has served as the Artistic Director of The Public Theater since 2005. In the last three years, he has produced two Tony Award-winning Best Musicals (*Fun Home* and *Hamilton*), and back to back winners of the Pulitzer Prize for Drama, *Hamilton* and *Sweat*. He came to The Public from Trinity Repertory Company in Providence, RI where he served as Artistic Director from 1994 to 2005. Eustis served as Associate Artistic Director at Los Angeles' Mark Taper Forum from 1989 to 1994, and prior to that he was with the Eureka Theatre Company in San Francisco, serving as Resident Director and Dramaturg from 1981 to 1986 and Artistic Director from 1986 to 1989. Eustis is currently a Professor of Dramatic Writing and Arts and Public Policy at New York University, and has held professorships at UCLA, Middlebury College, and Brown University, where he founded and chaired the Trinity Rep/Brown University Consortium for professional theater training. At The Public, Eustis directed the New York premieres of Rinne Groff's *Compulsion* and *The Ruby Sunrise*; Larry Wright's *The Human Scale*; and most recently *Julius Caesar* at Shakespeare in the Park. He has founded numerous groundbreaking programs at The Public, from Public Works and Public Forum to the Emerging Writers Group and the Mobile Unit. At Trinity Rep, he directed the world premiere of Paula Vogel's *The Long Christmas Ride Home* and Tony Kushner's *Homebody/Kabul*, both recipients of the Elliot Norton Award for Outstanding Production. While at the Eureka Theatre, he commissioned Tony Kushner's *Angels in America*, and directed its world premiere at the Mark Taper Forum. Eustis has also directed the world premieres of plays by Philip Kan Gotanda, David Henry Hwang, Emily Mann, Suzan-Lori Parks, Ellen McLaughlin, and Eduardo Machado, among many others.

**KWAME KWEI-ARMAH** (TWELFTH NIGHT *Conceiver and Co-Director*) is the Artistic Director of the Young Vic in London. He was previously the Artistic Director of Baltimore Center Stage where he directed Toni Morrison's *Jazz*, *Marley*, *One Night in Miami*, *Amadeus*, *dance of the holy ghosts*, *The Mountaintop*, *An Enemy of the People*, *The Whipping Man*, and *Things of Dry Hours*. At The Public, he has directed *Twelfth Night*, *Comedy of Errors*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, and *Detroit '67*. His other credits include *The Liquid Plain*, *Porgy and Bess*, *One Night in Miami*, *Lady from the Sea*, *One Love*, and *Soul: The Stax Musical* at Baltimore Center Stage. Kwei-Armah was Artistic Director for the *Festival of Black Arts and Culture: Senegal, 2010*. His works as playwright include *Marley*, *Beneatha's Place*, *Elmina's Kitchen*, *Fix Up*, *Statement of Regret*, *Let There Be Love*, *Seize the Day*. He is an Associate Director of The Donmar Warehouse and has served on the boards of The National Theatre, The Tricycle Theatre, and T.C.G. He was Chancellor of the University of the Arts London (2010-15), and in 2012 was awarded an OBE for services to drama. In 2012-2013 and 2014, Kwei-Armah was named Best Director in City Paper's "Best of Baltimore," and nominated for the Stage Directors and Choreographers' Zelda Fichandler Award for Best Regional Artistic Director. In 2016, he was awarded the Urban Visionary Award alongside House Representative Elijah Cummings by the Center for Urban Families for his work in the Baltimore community. His production of *One Night in Miami* was nominated for the Olivier Award for "Best New Play of 2016."

**Concord Music's CRAFT RECORDINGS** is home to one of the largest and most prestigious collections of master recordings and compositions in the world. Its rich and storied repertoire includes legendary artists such as Joan Baez, Ray Charles, John Coltrane, Creedence Clearwater Revival, Miles Davis, Bill Evans, Vince Guaraldi, John Lee Hooker, Little Richard, Nine Inch Nails, Thelonious Monk, Otis Redding, R.E.M. and Traveling Wilburys, to name just a few. Renowned imprints with catalogs issued under the Craft banner include Concord, Fantasy, Milestone, Nitro, Prestige, Riverside, Rounder, Specialty, Stax, Sugar Hill, Vanguard and Vee-Jay Records, among many others. Craft creates thoughtfully curated packages, with a meticulous devotion to quality and a commitment to preservation—ensuring that these recordings endure for new generations to discover.

**PUBLIC WORKS** is a major initiative of The Public Theater that seeks to engage the people of New York by making them creators and not just spectators. Working with community partner organizations in all five boroughs, Public Works invites community members across New York City to take classes, attend productions, and join in the creation of ambitious works of participatory theater. Led by Founder Lear deBessonet and Public Works Director Laurie Woolery, Public Works deliberately blurs the line between professional artists and community members, creating theater that is not only for the people, but *by and of* the people as well. Public Works exemplifies The Public's long-standing commitment to community engagement that is at the core of the theater's mission. It is animated by the idea that theater is a place of possibility, where the boundaries that separate us from each other in the rest of life can fall away. It seeks to create a space where we can not only reflect on the world as is, but where we can actually propose new possibilities for what our society might be.

**THE PUBLIC** is theater of, by, and for all people. Artist-driven, radically inclusive, and fundamentally democratic, 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 Forum, Under the Radar, Public Studio, 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 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 59 Tony Awards, 170 Obie Awards, 53 Drama Desk Awards, 54 Lortel Awards, 32 Outer Critic Circle Awards, 13 New York Drama Critics' Circle Awards, and 6 Pulitzer Prizes. [publictheater.org](http://publictheater.org)

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