

Press release

Full Circle Players

Media contact: Ashley Santana (760) 636-9252

And Wendi Johnson (951) 204-5380

Fullcircleplayers1@gmail.com

www.fullcircleplayers.com

@fullcircleplayers1

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR

by William Shakespeare

Directed by Wendi Johnson

October 7-17, 2019

The Box Theatre, Riverside

3635 Market Street, Riverside 92501

(Press opening night October 8)

Riverside, California (August 26, 2021)—**Full Circle Players (FCP) presents William Shakespeare's *Merry Wives of Windsor* with a mod twist! Experience one of Shakespeare's acclaimed comedies with a modern, feminist style and diverse and talented cast.** Award-winning director Wendi Johnson will direct this wacky and enjoyable night of comedy set in the mid-60s. *Merry Wives of Windsor* will play for two weekends only, October 7-17 at The Box Theatre, Riverside. In *Merry Wives*, Shakespeare gives us smart, funny women who are dismissed and undervalued by the men in their world; in the end, of course, these women outwit, outlast, and outplay the men and teach them a lesson about understanding the female sex. And

whatever gave Shakespeare the push to write the Falstaff we find in *Merry Wives* this complex character is very intriguing.

Director Wendi Johnson says, "it is fascinating to me that Shakespeare created these witty, fun, intelligent women in a time when women were seen as the property of their husbands and only valued for the sons they created. To me, this play makes it clear how he felt about women, and that he understood how powerful and amazing women are! I have set the play the mid-60s at the beginning of the ERA movement and the middle of the civil rights movement in the United States. It seemed a fitting time to place a play about women coming to their own. The cast and creative team we have gathered are so talented, it has been fun in rehearsals creating the comic moments Shakespeare so artfully wrote. *Merry Wives of Windsor* is just so fun to watch, it seemed the perfect play to open **Full Circle Players** up after we all have been closed down for so long"

Tickets:

Pay what you can: First Thursday night October 7

Vaccinated: 50% off general ticket with proof of vaccinated status

Rush: Tickets \$5 every night at the door available on a first-come, first-served basis 10 minutes before curtain.

General: \$22 general

Student/ artist/ military: (with proof) \$12

<https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/5219669> or at the box office on performance days
3635 Market Street, Riverside 92501

Calendar Listing

Merry Wives of Windsor by William Shakespeare

October 7, 8, 9, 15, 16 @7:30 pm

October 16, 17 @1:30 pm

Friday, October 16 talk back with the cast after the show

Merry Wives of Windsor

By William Shakespeare

Directed by Wendi Johnson

At The Box Theatre, Riverside 3635 Market Street, Riverside, CA 92501

October 7-17

Run time

2 hours including a 15-minute intermission

Performance dates and times and ticket prices

Thursday, October 7 at 7:30 pm

Friday, October 8 at 7:30 pm

Saturday, October 9 at 7:30 pm

Friday, October 15 at 7:30 pm

Saturday, October 16 at 7:30 pm

Sunday, October 10 at 1:30 pm

Saturday, October 16 at 1:30 pm

Sunday, October 17 at 1:30 pm

Gala opening night Friday October 8 at 7:30 pm

Tickets available

Buy online beginning September 4: <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/5219669>

Box office on performance date: The Box Theatre, 3635 Market Street, Riverside, CA 92501

Ticket prices: \$22 single ticket, \$12 student/military

Vaccinated: 50% off general admission

\$5 rush tickets until all seats are sold nightly

DISCOUNTED TICKETS

We believe that great theatre should be available to everyone regardless of income status. So Full Circle Players is always committed to the following discounted performances:

*Pay What You Can first Thursday (PWYC): available for first Thursday performance.

*RUSH TICKETS: \$5 rush tickets are available for any available seat on any performance day 10 minutes before curtain at the door. Cash only.

About the Play

Short version: Falstaff tries to pursue two married women; the women are smart; they put him in a river, dress him as a woman, and bring him to a haunted forest; everyone is happy.

***Merry Wives of Windsor* Summary**

Falstaff decides to fix his financial woes by seducing the wives of two wealthy merchants. The wives find that he sent them identical letters and take revenge by playing tricks on Falstaff when he comes calling. With the help of their husbands and friends, the wives play one last trick in the woods to put Falstaff's mischief to an end.

Full Circle Players

Full Circle Players has a vision centered on inspiration, collaboration and creation from artist to audience. We are committed to equity, diversity, and inclusion in our work as we strive to create world class theatre in Riverside, California, and the world. We bring the best possible version of ourselves to our work onstage and to the organization, holding ourselves to high artistic, professional, and personal standards. Anchored by an inspired company creating exceptional art, we will be guided by thoughtful resource stewardship and a deep commitment to education and audience engagement.

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