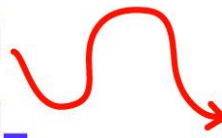


# THE PUBLIC.



**FOR IMMEDIATE  
RELEASE**  
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[PUBLIC POPS UP Artist Headshots](#)  
[2019 MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING Production Photos](#)  
[THE COMEDY OF ERRORS 2024 PRODUCTION PHOTOS](#)

## **THE PUBLIC THEATER ANNOUNCES PUBLIC POPS UP: ADDITIONAL SUMMER PROGRAMMING AND FREE EVENTS**

### **Public Pops Up @ The Peninsula in Prospect Park – Saturday, June 29**

Featuring Mobile Unit's Bilingual Musical Adaptation of **THE COMEDY OF ERRORS**, live music by Michael Thurber, food trucks & activities, culminating in a screening of Free Shakespeare in the Park's 2019 Production of **MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING**

### **Public Theater Block Party @ Astor Place – Sunday, July 28**

Featuring Olivia K & The Parkers and appearances from past and present Public Theater productions; Plus, food and family-friendly activities on Astor Place Plaza and inside The Public

### **Public Pops Up @ The Queens Night Market – Saturday, August 3**

Featuring 100+ vendors, a performance by Gentleman Brawlers, and a screening of **MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING**

### **Public Pops Up @ Central Park Frisbee Hill – Monday, August 12**

Featuring a Public Works Community Event;  
Plus, a screening of **MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING** as a part of Central Park Conservancy's Parks Film Festival

June 10, 2024 – The Public Theater (Artistic Director, Oskar Eustis; Executive Director, Patrick Willingham) announced additional events and programming today as part of this summer's **GO PUBLIC! A Festival of Free Shakespeare in the Park** in partnership with NYC Parks and The Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment's Movies Under the Stars program and The WNET Group. Leading up to evening screenings of the acclaimed 2019 production of **MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING** in Prospect Park, the Queens Night Market, and Central Park, all will be invited to join us for activities, food, and live, genre-spanning performances.

On **Saturday, June 29 at 5:30 p.m.** at the **Peninsula in Prospect Park**, The Public and Prospect Park Alliance will present an evening of festivities, kicking off with a free performance of The Mobile Unit's joyful, bilingual musical adaptation of **THE COMEDY OF ERRORS**. The 90-minute adaptation of Shakespeare's play, conceived by director **Rebecca Martinez** and composer **Julian Mesri**, features contemporary rhythms from across Latin America in a tale of separation and reunion, bringing vibrant energy to an age-old tale of two sets of twins separated by stormy seas as they overcome a baffling case of mistaken identity—and the mayhem and hilarious confusion that follows. Attendees can enjoy food trucks, activities, and live music by composer and songwriter **Michael Thurber** before a sunset screening of 2019 Free Shakespeare in the Park production of **MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING** at dusk (approximately 8:30 p.m.).

The Public also **will host a block party on Sunday, July 28 from 12:00 – 4:00 p.m.** Held at our home on the **Astor Place Plaza**, the fun-filled day will include a performance by headliner **Olivia K & The Parkers**. Olivia's performance art and musical sensibility combines the boundless energy of the Brooklyn West Indian Day Parade with the soulfulness of the Baptist church she grew up on. As the DIY Funk Queen of East New York, she has led her band Olivia K and the Parkers in a sold-out show at Joe's Pub, was a member of the 2022 Joe's Pub Working Artist Group, and recently played BRIC's iconic Celebrate Brooklyn. The afternoon will also feature past and present Public Theater productions from **HAIR to HAMILTON**, with additional performances and participating cast members to be announced soon. There will also be food and family activities for all attendees on Astor Place Plaza and inside The Public during the day.

In the weeks leading up to July 28th, and on the day of the Block Party at 425 Lafayette, The Public aims to raise \$250,000 or more through a special community-wide fundraising drive: **Public Gives!** All proceeds will support The Public's mission to produce excellent, free theater for all in celebration of a milestone summer in our history.

On **Saturday, August 3, The Public Pops Up** at the **Queens Night Market** starting at 4:00 p.m. The world famous, family-friendly open-air night market in **Flushing Meadows Corona Park** boasts up to 100 independent vendors selling merchandise, art, and food. The uniquely affordable experience caps all bites at \$6 and features free performances celebrating the rich cultural diversity and heritage of NYC and Queens. This particular evening will feature a performance by **Gentleman Brawlers** and other performance artists. Led by creative duo **Becca Fox and Matt Walsh**, **Gentleman Brawlers** channels musical inspiration Talking Heads with their distinct brand of Afrofunk and Indie Dance music. Through a sonic blend of disco-based horn lines, sticky highlife guitar, and polyrhythms from West Africa, Trinidad, and Brazil, Gentleman Brawlers' live shows ignite a community-based, improvisational energy. The evening will conclude with a screening of the 2019 Free Shakespeare in the Park production of **MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING** at dusk (approximately 8:30 p.m.).

On **Monday, August 12 from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.**, in keeping with their mission to create extraordinary works of community-based art, **Public Works** will be launching an ambitious, city-wide event where all of New York will be invited to participate. More information will be announced later this month. Following the initiative, there will be a screening of the 2019 Free Shakespeare in the Park production of **MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING** at dusk (approximately 8:30 p.m.) as a part of **Central Park Conservancy's** annual Film Festival.

In addition to the above events, several other movie screenings of the 2019 Free Shakespeare in the Park production of **MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING** will take place throughout June, July and August. A full schedule is outlined below. Additionally, The Public continues its relationship with THIRTEEN's *Great Performances* on PBS this summer, providing free access to stream Free Shakespeare in the Park productions at home, as well as the premiere of 2023's **HAMLET**. In addition to **HAMLET**, throughout the month of May, viewers will have access to the 2019 production of **MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING**, 2021's **MERRY WIVES**, and 2022's **RICHARD III**. Viewing these productions at home comes at no cost. Dates for accessing each production are outlined below.

### **ABOUT THE DELACORTE THEATER REVITALIZATION**

In 2018, The Public Theater, in partnership with Central Park Conservancy and the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation, began embarking on a much-needed revitalization of the 62-year-old Delacorte Theater in Central Park. The plan—a major investment in outdoor cultural space as part of New York's economic recovery—will dramatically improve the home of Free Shakespeare in the Park, addressing critical infrastructure, accessibility, and theatrical needs. The key approved design includes accessible and comfortable space for audiences and artists with disabilities, streamlined backstage operations and improved comfort for cast and crew, a revitalized exterior for a more dynamic aesthetic experience, a focus on resilience and sustainability, and lighting improvements, among other benefits. For more information on The Delacorte's revitalization, visit [thepublic.nyc/Delacorte-Revitalization](https://thepublic.nyc/Delacorte-Revitalization).

To support The Public Theater, become a Supporter or Partner by visiting [publictheater.org/supporttoday](http://publictheater.org/supporttoday)

### **MOBILE UNIT'S THE COMEDY OF ERRORS**

Bilingual Musical Adaptation

By William Shakespeare

Adaptation by Rebecca Martinez and Julian Mesri

Music, Music Direction, and Spanish Translations by Julian Mesri

Lyrics by Julian Mesri and Rebecca Martinez

Directed by Rebecca Martínez

Now on tour through Sunday, June 30

Conceived by director Rebecca Martinez and composer Julian Mesri, **THE COMEDY OF ERRORS** adaptation embraces contemporary music styles from Latin America in a tale of separation and reunion. Featuring live actor-musicians, this modern musical adaptation brings a vibrant energy to an age-old tale of two sets of twins separated by stormy seas as they overcome a baffling case of mistaken identity—and the mayhem and hilarious confusion that follows.

*For remaining dates, performance times, and how to RSVP, visit [publictheater.org](http://publictheater.org). A map of all locations for GO PUBLIC! events can be found on [Google Maps](#).*

### **THIRTEEN'S GREAT PERFORMANCES ON PBS SCREENINGS OF MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING**

Directed by Kenny Leon

Choreography by Camille A. Brown

All screenings are free and open to the public and will begin at dusk (approximately 8:30 p.m.)

June 29 – Prospect Park Peninsula (Brooklyn)\*

July 11 – J. Hood Wright Park (Manhattan)

July 17 – McCarren Park (Brooklyn)

July 24 – Brooklyn War Memorial (Brooklyn)

August 2 – Faber Park (Staten Island)

August 3 – Queens Night Market at the New York Hall of Science in Flushing Meadows Corona Park (Queens)\*

August 12 – Central Park Frisbee Hill (Manhattan)\*

August 20 – Washington Square Park (Manhattan)

August 29 – Baisley Park (Queens)

September 6 – Bronx Park (The Bronx)

#### **\*Indicates Public Pops Up Additional Programming**

Tony Award winner Kenny Leon directs this bold new take on Shakespeare's cherished comedy of romantic retribution and miscommunication, **MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING**. In this modern production, we find the community of Messina celebrating a break from an ongoing war. But not all is peaceful amid the revelry, as old rivals engage in a battle of wits, unexpected foes plot revenge, and young lovers are caught in a tumultuous courtship—until love proves the ultimate trickster and undoes them all.

### **FREE AT-HOME STREAMING OF THIRTEEN'S GREAT PERFORMANCES ON PBS OF SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK PRODUCTIONS**

#### **MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING**

**Available Now through June 30**

2019 production directed by Kenny Leon with choreography by Camille A. Brown

World Premiere of Live Recording

#### **HAMLET**

### **Available Now Through June 30**

2023 production directed by Kenny Leon with choreography by Camille A. Brown

### **MERRY WIVES**

**Available May 17-June 30**

2021 production adapted by Jocelyn Bioh and directed by Saheem Ali

### **RICHARD III**

**Available May 24-June 30**

2022 production directed by Robert O'Hara

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**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 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 musical *Hamilton* by Lin-Manuel Miranda and the upcoming productions of *Suffs* by Shaina Taub 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 60 Tony Awards, 194 Obie Awards, 57 Drama Desk Awards, 61 Lortel Awards, 36 Outer Critic Circle Awards, 13 New York Drama Critics' Circle Awards, 65 AUDELCO Awards, 6 Antony Awards, and 6 Pulitzer Prizes. [publictheater.org](http://publictheater.org)

The Public Theater stands in honor of the first inhabitants and our ancestors. We acknowledge the land on which The Public and its theaters stand—the original homeland of the Lenape people. We acknowledge the painful history of genocide and forced removal from this territory. We honor the generations of stewards and we pay our respects to the many diverse indigenous peoples still connected to this land.

The Public also gives our respect to the people of Seneca Village, a community of Black property owners who were removed from their land and whose village was destroyed in the creation of Central Park. We recognize the sacrifice that these ancestors made and honor Seneca Village's legacy.

**The LuEsther T. Mertz Legacy Trust** provides leadership support for The Public Theater's year-round activities.

**Open Society Foundations** is the Lead Supporting Sponsor for GO PUBLIC! A Festival of Free Shakespeare in the Park.

Mobile Unit is made possible by leadership support from the **Abrams Foundation** and **The Tow Foundation**. Generous support for The Mobile Unit is provided by **Gina Maria Leonetti**, **The McLaughlin Children's Trust**, and an anonymous donor.

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