



“Be not afraid of greatness”

Twelfth Night

**Produced and Performed by
Presdales School**

Gordon Craig Theatre

11 November 2016

Appraised by Jack Stigner

Many congratulations to the cast and crew of Presdales School on their fantastic production! I'd like to highlight a few things from this group that stood out, wowed the audience and made this Shakespeare Schools Festival night an evening to remember.

Bodies littered the stage in the opening of this thrilling and funny production. I loved the shipwreck scene that involved the company physically producing waves, washing the the cast away to the beat of a drum.

The theme of love was central in this performance as it was made clear that everyone in Ilyria was mad, and in love with the wrong person. This was evident in the heart warming characterisations ranging from jovial drunkards and crooners to sops and sailors.

Acrobatics and a marvelously employed chorus helped the audience appreciate the comedic moments as the confusion turned to chaos. Here was a story told with clarity in its stage pictures and a confidence in the roles each performer was playing.

This all female cast handled the masculine roles masterfully, when asked 'what kind of men are you' one need only reply with the best!

This cast achieved greatness!

“It's a significant achievement to do something as difficult and aspirational as perform one of Shakespeare's plays on a professional stage. Everyone who's taken part should be so proud of themselves.”

Ruth Brock, SSF Chief Executive

I would like to congratulate everyone involved in this superb production. I hope to see your school in the Festival again next year.

Jack Stigner
SSF Stage Director