

CURTAIN THEATRE presents

Two Gentlemen of Verona

By William Shakespeare

Directed by Steve Beecroft

DATES: August 13-14, 20-21, 27-28

September 3-4-5

TIME: 2 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays (and Monday,
Labor Day)

PLACE: Old Mill Park Amphitheater, Mill Valley

TICKETS: Admission free, no reservations

Curtain Theatre Stages *Two Gentlemen of Verona*

Love, Betrayal, Redemption...and a bit with a dog

MILL VALLEY, Calif.— The Curtain Theatre, Mill Valley's own company of Shakespeare players, is returning for its 22nd summer production with one of the Bard's most challenging comedies.

Two Gentlemen of Verona is a story of misdirected love, of friendship betrayed but redeemed through the constancy of two strong women. Close friends Proteus and Valentine part in Verona but are soon reunited in Milan, where Proteus abruptly falls in love with Sylvia, Valentine's beloved, and resolves to abandon Julia, his own sweetheart. But there are complications—including a duke's own plans for Sylvia, a forest encounter with a band of outlaws and a young girl dressed as a man. As usual in Shakespeare comedies, some canny, plain-speaking servants (and a dog) lighten the conundrums facing the lovers.

Curtain veteran Steve Beecroft returns to direct the show, which is set roughly in Shakespeare's time. He also handles the dance and fight choreography, which are abundant in the production—as are original songs and dance tunes by Don Clark and Hal Hughes.

The set is once again the work of Steve Coleman, whose magical designs exploit the natural beauty of

Mill Valley's unique amphitheater in the redwoods. Don Clark leads a four-piece acoustic band, which also includes Hughes, Michele Delattre and Jo Lusk.

Jody Branham is costumer, assisted by Lisa Claybaugh. Peter Bradbury returns as dramaturg.

Cast: Nelson Brown (Proteus); Marc Berman (Eglamour, outlaw, ensemble); Kim Bromley (Pantino, ensemble, outlaw, dog wrangler); Heather Cherry (Speed); Gillian Eichenberger (Sylvia); Isabelle Grimm (Julia); Glenn Havlan (the Duke); Jamin Jollo (Thurio, Crab the dog in some performances); Nic Moore (Valentine); Michele Sanner (Lucetta, Outlaw, ensemble); Mark Shepard (Antonio, the Host); Abigail Wissink (Servant, outlaw, ensemble); Grey Wolf (Launce); Banjo (Crab the dog).

The Curtain Theatre, which has been operating since 2000, is dedicated to putting on the world's best plays in one of the Bay Area's most beautiful settings.

The company's free outdoor productions in Old Mill Park are designed for first-time viewers as well as long-time theatre buffs. The shows rely heavily on music and dance, supported by instruments that include fiddle, mandolin, concertina, flute and guitar.