

GENTRAIN SOCIETY SPECIAL EVENT

The Two Gentlemen of Verona William Shakespeare



The Two Gentlemen of Verona

Shakespeare Santa Cruz

The Grove at DeLaveaga Park

Santa Cruz, California

August 20, 2017, 2:00 p.m.

\$85.00 Per Person

Our next Gentrain Society theater trip will occur on **Sunday, August 20, 2017**, when we travel to see the Shakespeare Santa Cruz production of Shakespeare's *Two Gentlemen of Verona*. The play is one of Shakespeare's earliest comedies; if we have their chronology correct, it was his third comedy and his first *romantic* comedy, whose main concern is getting the right young people paired off for marriage. The play is in fact what one editor calls a "dramatic laboratory," in which Shakespeare created drafts of elements and devices he was to use over and over, in different combinations, in the comedies ahead, including the first iteration of such great later comic heroines as Beatrice, Rosalind, Portia, Viola, and Helena. There's also a trip into a forest inhabited by a gang of aristocratic outlaws, a woman who disguises herself as a boy, and two good clowns—low-comic characters who mockingly comment on the action of the lovers' plot. There's even, in this play, a good part for a dog—the dog talked about enthusiastically early in the film, *Shakespeare in Love*. It is also a charming play, full of courtly love talk, betrayal of a friend by trying to steal his mistress, and two triangles (a friendship triangle and a love triangle) cunningly connected. It should make for a splendid afternoon at the new, enchanting home of Shakespeare Santa Cruz.

As always, Grant Voth will give a class, designed to enhance understanding and enjoyment of the play, from 1 to 3 p.m. in Lecture Forum 101 on the MPC Campus on the Friday, August 18.

The bus will leave the MPC Parking Lot B on Fishnet Road at 11:00 a.m. for arrival at The Grove shortly after noon. The plan is for each participant to bring their own picnic lunch (including wine) to enjoy at The Grove prior to the 2:00 p.m. performance. The Grove does **not** have lunch concessions available.

The cost is \$85.00 per person which includes bus transportation, play ticket, and the class given by Grant Voth prior to the event. **Please make your check payable to the "MPC Gentrain Society"** and mail to Wayne Cruzan, 75 Via Chualar, Monterey CA 93940. **Please put your telephone number on your check.** Questions? Call Wayne at 831-375-2371.