



# ACTIVITIES: KEY STAGE 4 & 5

## INTERVIEWS WITH THE CAST

### **Interview with Dickon (Sir Toby):**

- 1) Find the interview with Dickon the actor playing Sir Toby. He describes the way that the play is a comedy but yet has moments of cruelty in it. Dickon goes on to draw parallels with some wealthy people today who sometimes behave badly in private clubs.
- 2) Draw up a list of the kind of behaviour that Sir Toby and Sir Andrew become involved in which would lead to headlines in today's papers if they were living today.
- 3) Share your ideas with those of a fellow student discussing any differences in your thinking.
- 4) Write a story for the front page of a paper including quotes from some of the other characters such as Maria or Malvolio.

### **Interview with Peter (Antonio):**

- 1) Find the interview with Peter, the actor playing Antonio. From approximately time code 4:30 to 6:00 in the recording he talks about Antonio's character emphasising that he is 'hard guy' but that this is contrasted with his strong love for Sebastian. Peter says he is thinking that he might play Antonio like a gangster to make the contrast with his love even stronger.
- 2) Note down what you feel Antonio's love for Sebastian contributes to the theme of love in the play. Think about the other examples of love in the play and how Sebastian's love is different.
- 3) Compare your list with a fellow student and discuss any differences in your thinking.
- 4) With your partner create a guide to the theme of love in Twelfth Night showing how Sebastian's love fits in with or contrasts with other examples in the play.

### **Interview with Alex (Malvolio):**

- 1) Find the interview with Alex the actor playing Malvolio. From time code 1:40 onwards he talks about the way Malvolio feels he is born in the wrong place 'all is fortune' (2.5.23) and his sense that he deserves to be a count or a king. Alex goes on to say that his character is 'so much about veneer' about the surface appearance of social status, manners and being precise and in control that we only hear him speak the truth in verse (4.2.116) when he is brought down to his lowest in the prison.
- 2) Make a list of the various ways in which Malvolio is concerned with surface appearance in the play and find supporting quotations.



**Interview with Alex (Malvolio): Continued**

- 3) Share your list with a fellow student and discuss any differences in your list.
- 4) With your partner create a poster showing Malvolio with the examples of his concern with surface appearances surrounding the character.

**Interview with Jack (Sebastian):**

- 1) Find the interview with Jack, the actor playing Sebastian. In the section of the recording beginning around time code 3:00 Jack describes Sebastian's relationship with his twin Viola. When they finally meet at the end of the play, Jack says there should be a feeling of electricity between them.
- 2) Look at the moment when they meet (5.1.223) and decide how you would tell the two actors playing Viola and Sebastian to use their eyes, how to behave and how to speak in this scene.
- 3) With a group of fellow students discuss your ideas and decide how you will direct the scene.
- 4) Join with another group and create the scene using two members of the group to be the actors and the others to direct the scene.

**Interview with Montgomery (Orsino):**

- 1) Find the interview with Montgomery, the actor playing Orsino. At about time code 3:30 in the recording, he picks out Orsino's words 'sweet pangs' (2.4.16) as a key to his character. Orsino is in love and seems to delight in the pain of being refused by Olivia. Montgomery goes on to suggest that by wanting music at the start of the play, Orsino is hoping that like eating too much food, too much music will make him sick and he will get over his love for Olivia.
- 2) Make notes on the way you feel about Orsino's love in the play.
- 3) Compare your thoughts with a fellow student and discuss any differences in your thinking.
- 4) With your partner create a chart of love in the play showing how Orsino's love compares with the love shown by other characters.