Theatre Sheridan Presents

COMPANY

November 8 – 19, 2005

Music and Lyrics by
Stephen Sondheim

Book by
George Furth

Originally Produced &
Directed on Broadway by
Harold Prince

Directed & Choreographed by
Marc Richard

Musical Direction by
Michael Mulrooney

Set designed by
Edward Kotanen

Costumes designed by
Nina Okens

Lighting designed by
Sandra Marcroft

Sound Designed by
Todd Charlton

Fight Direction by
Daniel Levinson

Music Production by
Alan Poaps
DIRECTOR'S NOTES:

Company – an ensemble of actors, friends coming to call, the opposite of being alone.

Company is set in New York City, 1970. For musical theatre fans and historians, it is a very important work, since it marks the beginning of the “concept” musical, a form created by the team of Stephen Sondheim and Hal Prince (Follies, A Little Night Music, Pacific Overtures, Sweeney Todd, Merrily We Roll Along).

The concept musical explores a theme; it revolves around an issue rather than a traditional plot. The theme of Company is contemporary (1970) marriages, and the creators have used the island of Manhattan as a metaphor for modern relationships. Just as Manhattan is a fast-paced, high-tension, anguish-filled, meeting of strangers, so is marriage. Company is terse and cynical, but it is actually pro-marriage. The moral, according to the creators, is that “to be emotionally committed to someone is difficult, but to be alone is impossible.”

This musical is an episodic collage — there is no plot, and time is fractured. It focuses on the relationships of a 35-year-old bachelor named Robert. His friends and their marriages are seen through his eyes. The piece is a montage of actual experiences coupled with figments of Robert’s imagination. Sondheim’s music explores Robert’s complexity, contrasting lies and superficiality with the genuine emotions that lie beneath the surface. His emotional development is traced in music rather than text. Throughout the piece, Sondheim has used the Brechtian device of songs that stop and comment on the action. In several places, he has also used “pastiche” numbers, songs which evoke musical styles from earlier time periods, to support his commentary on the present.

Our setting does double duty: it echoes the sterile, sleek, skeletonized structure of Manhattan skyscrapers, where people’s goals are fixed on upward mobility. It also represents Robert’s emotional turmoil as an obstacle course of stairs and platforms. Robert is unable to commit to anyone or connect on anything more than a superficial level. He doesn’t understand relationships or the need for compromise; he wants perfection and absolutes. Robert remains an emotional child. He needs to accept life’s imperfections, to embrace its contradictions, and to allow himself to be hurt in order to mature.

Written about marriage 35 years ago, this piece resonates strongly today in terms of modern relationships and emotional maturity, since we live in a world that is still as fast paced and disconnected as New York City was in 1970.

Marc Richard

TECHNICAL CREW

Stage Manager ................. Julia Rannala
Assistant Stage Managers ....... Kathleen Bates, Janet Pym
Audio Crew .................... Angela Hogan, Jason Swait, Tanya Bregstein
Carpentry Crew ............... Sean Devenish, Christopher Feraday, Andrew Folkes, Jaime Gawrylsh, Christine Groom, Brendan Horne, Shawn Lague, Gregory MacDonald, Brandon Reynolds, Christopher Waldron
Head Electrician .............. Devan Estey
Lighting Crew ................. Fazia Ali, Charles Christensen, Krystle Evans, Chris Francisco, Clint Fraser, Zachary Gilbert, James Groat, David Pell, MacKenzie Seaton, Andrew Wilcox
Production Assistants ......... Dylan Rogers, Christopher Waldron
Properties Crew ............... Kimberly Brown, Josh Corriveau, Jamie Marcoux, Meaghan McEachren, Joe Micallef, Lauren Musgrave, Lindsay Sabo, Lindsay Westbrook, Allie Whalen
Scenic Paint Crew ............. Rebecca Armstrong, Ryan Lebelle, Mark Lavell, Katelyn McConnell, Jenna Millar, Angela Morgan, Meghan Quinn, Ashley Rose, Michelle Vantol
Wardrobe Crew ................. Keith Baker, Melissa Byron, Sarah Castle, Courtney Cook, Spencer Downey, Caitlin Luxford, James Masswohl, Donald McMahon, Daniel Miottto, Shawndra White
Assistants to the Technical Director............ Steve Allen, David Mee
CAST & CHARACTERS

Daniel Brenner
Harry

Andrew Chandler
Larry

Romina D’Ugo*
Kathy

Katie Hicks
April

Chelsea Johnson
Joanne

Phil Pompeo
David

Liz Ruddle
Marta

Alex Saslove
Amy

Rebecca Stewart
Sarah

Lana Sugarman
Jenny

Whitney Tibbs
Susan

Nick Watson
Peter

Ari Weinberg
Paul

Chris Zonneville
Robert

Musicians

Andy Ballantyne ........................................... Alto/Flute
Al Cross ......................................................... Drums
Tamara Hrycak ............................................ Strings
Steve Lucas ..................................................... Bass
Shawn Moody ................................................ Trumpet
Lydia Munchinsky ...................................... Strings
Gord Myers .................................................. Trombone
Tom Skublics ............................................... Clarinet/Sax

* Dance Captain

COMPANY is presented through special arrangement with, and all authorized performance materials supplied by, Music Theatre International.

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MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT ONE

Overture ................................................................. Company except Robert
Company ..................................................................... Company
The Little Things You Do Together .................. Joanne, Larry, Amy, Paul, Susan, Peter, Jenny & David
Sorry-Grateful .......................................................... Harry, David & Larry
You Could Drive a Person Crazy ......................... Kathy, April & Marta
Have I Got a Girl For You ................................. Husbands & Wives
Someone Is Waiting ................................................ Robert
Another Hundred People .................................. Marta
Getting Married Today ....................................... Company
Finale Act I/Marry Me a Little .......................... Robert, Husbands & Wives

ACT TWO

Entr’acte .............................................................. Wives & Husbands
Side By Side By Side ........................................... Robert, Husbands & Wives
Poor Baby ............................................................. Wives
Have I Got a Girl – Reprise ............................... Husbands
Barcelona ............................................................ Robert & April
The Ladies Who Lunch ..................................... Joanne
Being Alive ............................................................ Robert, Husbands & Wives
Bows .................................................................. Company
RUNNING CREW

Crew Chief .................................................. Christine Groom
Live Audio Mix ........................................ Angela Hogan
Lighting Board Operator .......................... Clint Fraser
Audio Operator ........................................ Tanya Bregstein
Deck Audio .................................................. Michelle Vantol, Andrew Folkes
Deck Electrician ........................................ Andrew Wilcox
Stage Hand .................................................. Christopher Feraday
Properties .................................................. Josh Corriveau, Jamie Marcoux
Followspots ................................................. Zachary Gilbert, James Groat
Projections .................................................... Joe Micallef
Dresser ........................................................... Spencer Downey

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