Theatre Sheridan Presents

TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA

Based on the play by William Shakespeare

Adapted by John Guare & Mel Shapiro
Lyrics by John Guare
Music by Galt MacDermot

Director Greg Peterson
Musical Director Lona Davis
Choreographer Robert Allan
Set Designer Edward Kotanen
Costume Designer Nina Okens
Lighting Designer Bonnie Beecher
Sound Designer Todd Charlton

Musicians
Lona Davis Keyboard
Joey Goldstein Acoustic & Electric Guitar
Lorne Grossman Drums & Percussion
George Kozub Acoustic & Electric Bass

November 25 – December 6, 2008
When Joe Papp, maverick founder of the New York Shakespeare Festival, was assembling an artistic team to helm his eighth annual Mobile Theatre tour, he had in mind a product that would be relevant to the diverse communities of the five boroughs of the city: Staten Island, the Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens, and Manhattan. He chose Two Gentlemen of Verona, a problematic play, often considered Shakespeare’s first, written sometime between 1590 and 1595, as the vehicle. Papp’s reasoning was largely economic as the play’s cast is the smallest in the canon. But how could the archaic story of two friends who leave their rural hometown to experience life in an urban centre reach the largely Puerto Rican community at St. Mary’s Park, the black neighbourhood at St. Alban’s Park, the more middle-class Jewish crowd at Cameron Park, and the mixed bag to be found on Greenwich Avenue in the Village?

Papp invited composer Galt MacDermott, who had written the score for the NYSF’s wildly successful musical Hair that had opened Papp’s iconic Public Theatre in Manhattan’s SoHo district, to write a few songs for the project. He then asked director Mel Shapiro, who had trained at Carnegie-Mellon and who had helmed a series of successful productions at various regional theatres throughout the States, to lead the project. Shapiro invited the sardonic playwright John Guare, to help adapt the script and to write the lyrics set to MacDermott’s songs. Shapiro then brought together a purposefully inter-racial cast that included such future luminaries as Raul Julia, Clifton Davis, Stockard Channing, and Jeff Goldblum. When rehearsals began, there were nine songs. When the tour finally landed at Central Park’s Lafayette Theatre, the score had close to 40 songs. The reception it received was so wildly ecstatic, that Papp moved the production to the St. James Theatre on Broadway, where it won the 1971 Tony Award for Best Musical (over Grease and Follies) and ran for 613 performances.

Theatre Sheridan is proud to present this weird and wonderful musical. It is in many ways a reflection of its time - naïve, free-spirited, openly sexual, and politically involved. It has been an enlightening experience for these young actors to discover the similarities and differences between what it was like to be young 40 years ago and what it is like to be young in today’s world. This production has been particularly graced by number of gifted theatre artists and the ever enthusiastic support of the Theatre Arts-Technical Production Program. So, sit back, relax, and allow yourselves to be transported to a world so far away and yet still so relevant!

Mark Brownell
CAST (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

CUPID ........................................................ Lucas Meeuse
THURIO, a suitor of Fabulous great Wealth Anthony MacPherson
SPEED, Valentine’s Manservant ................. Lucas Meeuse
LANCE, Proteus’ Manservant.................. Ryan Jeffrey
VALENTINE ................................................ Andrew Broderick
PROTEUS .................................................... Pako Arizmendi
JULIA .......................................................... Rebecca Peters
LUCETTA, Julia’s Maid ............................... Anna Hurshman
VISSI D’AMORE ......................................... Lili Connor
ANTONIO, Proteus’ Father ........................ Adam Hobbs
DUKE OF MILAN ....................................... Jonathan Tan
SILVIA, The Duke’s Daughter ..................... Stacey Bulmer / Allison Edwards
GUARD ........................................................ Adam Hobbs
INNKEEPER ................................................ Daniel Birnbaum
EGLAMOUR, Silvia’s Banished Lover........... Jeremy Wells
MILKMAID ................................................. Esther Huh

CITIZENS OF VERONA/MILAN: Kathryn Ballantine, Daniel Birnbaum, Kelly Boaz, Michael Brockman, Jennifer Budgell, Cameron Carver, Lili Connor, Leah Coombs, Adam Hobbs, Esther Huh, Marie-Claude Sarault, Jonathan Tan, Jeremy Wells

** Dance Captain
*** Assistant Musical Director

SCENES & MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I
Prologue
Love In Bloom................................. Cupid & Thurio
Summer, Summer............................... Black Passion & Ensemble
I Love My Father............................... Black Passion & Ensemble
VERONA
Scene 1 - The Verona High School Locker Room
That’s a Very Interesting Question .......... Proteus & Valentine
I’d Like to Be a Rose............................ Proteus, Valentine & Ensemble
Thou, Julia, Thou Hast Metamorphosed Me Proteus
Scene 2 - Julia’s Farm
Symphony ......................................... Proteus & Ensemble
I Am Not Interested In Love ................. Julia & Ensemble
Love, Is That You? ......................... Vissi D’Amour & Thurio
Thou, Proteus, Thou Hast Metamorphosed Me Julia
Scene 3 - Outside Antonio’s House
What Does a Lover Pack? .................... Proteus & Ensemble
Pearls .............................................. Launce
I Love My Father ................................ Proteus & Black Passion
Scene 4 - Julia’s Farm
Two Gentlemen of Verona ..................... Julia, Lucetta & Female Ensemble
THE FORREST
Scene 5 - Various Locales between Verona and Milan
Follow the Rainbow ....................... Valentine, Speed, Proteus, Launce, Julia, Lucetta, & Ensemble
MILAN
Scene 6 - Outside the Duke’s Palace
Where’s North? .............................. Proteus, Speed, Duke of Milan & Ensemble
Bring All the Boys Back Home ........... Duke of Milan, Thurio & Ensemble
Who Is Silvia? ................................. Valentine & Silvia
Scene 7 - Valentine’s Letter Writing Shop
Love’s Revenge .............................. Valentine
To Whom It May Concern Me .............. Silvia & Valentine
Night Letter .................................. Silvia & Valentine
Love's Revenge (Reprise) ........................................ Valentine, Proteus, Speed, Launce & Black Passion

Calla Lily Lady.................................................. Proteus & Black Passion

ACT II

Entr'acte

Where's North? (Reprise) ................................... Ensemble

Scene 8 - Valentine's Letter Writing Shop

Land of Betrayal ............................................ Lucetta

Scene 9 - Outside the Duke's Palace

Night Ladder (Reprise) ..................................... Thurio
Bring All The Boys Back Home (Reprise)... Duke of Milan
Thurio's Samba................................................ Thurio, Duke of Milan & Ensemble

Scene 10 - An Alehouse

Hot Lover ...................................................... Speed & Launce

Scene 11 - Outside the Duke's Palace

Who Is Silvia? (Reprise) ................................... Proteus, Black Passion & Ensemble

Eglamour............................................................ Eglamour & Silvia

Kidnapped ....................................................... Julia, Duke of Milan, Thurio, Launce, Speed,

Proteus & Ensemble

THE FOREST

Scene 12 - Somewhere between Milan and Verona

Eglamour (Reprise) ............................................. Eglamour & Silvia

Howl............................................................... Valentine

What's a Nice Girl Like Her ............................ Proteus

Dragon Fight (Land of Betrayal Reprise)... Instrumental

Don't Have the Baby........................................... Lucetta, Speed, Launce & Julia

The Milkmaid's Song........................................... Milkmaid & Speed

I Love My Father (Reprise)................................... Silvia, Valentine, Julia & Proteus

Epilogue

Love Has Driven Me Sane .............................. Ensemble
RUNNING CREW

Crew Chief ................................................... Sean Free
Live Mix ....................................................... Kevin Boriel
Lighting Board Operator ......................... Kerry Mounfield
Audio Playback ............................................ James Ankers
Projections Playback ............................... Stacey Ingham
Stage Hands ................................................. Michael Lonsdale, Daniel Van Amelsvo, Lucas Wilson
Deck Audio ................................................... Chelsea Mannik, Kevin Reynolds
Follow Spots ............................................... Rebecca Berg, Brett Brocoy
Dressers ...................................................... Dana Paul, Katerina Sokyrko

Professional Services
Wardrobe Seamstress ................................ Michelle Turpin
Stage Combat Instructor ............................. Daniel Levinson

The Musicians are contracted under the guidelines of the American Federation of Musicians.

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