

Love and Madness at the Bistro

Directed by Marcus Nobreus
Scene Selection/Concept by Mirth White

The Scenes

Presented in the dining room

- “How do I love thee?” by Elizabeth Barrett Browning
(*Ensemble*)
- Eliante, monologue from The Misanthrope by Moliere
(*Alice Suszynski*)
- Popova and Smirnov, from The Bear by Anton Chekhov
(*Stacy Corless and Marcus Nobreus*)
- Julia and Lucetta, from The Two Gentlemen from Verona by William Shakespeare
(*Morgan Lindsay and Eva Poole-Gilson*)
- Monologue from Ivanov, by Anton Chekhov
(*Alice Suszynski*)
- Miranda and Ferdinand from The Tempest, by Shakespeare
(*Laura Arvidson and Sky Orndoff*)
- Love Songs (*B. Kenji Kawaguchi, Morgan Lindsay, Chuck Scatolini*)

Intermission

Dinner is served in the dining room

- The Stage Manager, from Our Town, by Thornton Wilder
(*Cameron Ramey*)
- Katherine and Petruchio, from The Taming of the Shrew, by Shakespeare (*Dee Di Gioia and Greg Young*)
- Sir Robert Chiltern and Lady Gertrude Chiltern, from An Ideal Husband, by Oscar Wilde
(*Tim Casey and Mirth White*)
- “Ernest” (a.k.a. Algernon) and Cecily, from The Importance of Being Earnest, by Oscar Wilde
(*Morgan Lindsay and Cameron Ramey*)
- Romeo and Juliet, from Romeo and Juliet, by Shakespeare (*Lauren Freeman and David Kubicka*)

About The Show

“Love and Madness” is a collection of classic scenes that feature love in all its glory, beauty, insanity and pain. Just in time for Valentine’s Day, Mirth White, a board member of Sierra Classic Theatre, culled these selections from well known and more obscure works of great playwrights in order to show all aspects of love. There’s the comedy of mistaken identity in The Importance of Being Earnest to the sweetness of new love in The Tempest and Romeo and Juliet and the hurt of betrayal in Ivanov and An Ideal Husband.

William Shakespeare (1564-1616) – The renowned English playwright and poet whose histories, comedies and tragedies have been translated into almost every language and are still among the most frequently performed pieces today.

Romeo & Juliet (1594) – The Montague and Capulet families hate each other with the fervor of the Hatfields and McCoy’s. This famous love scene portends tragic complications which arise when the family’s children fall in love.

Two Gentlemen of Verona (1595) – In this comic scene, young Julia receives a love letter from her potential suitor Proteus which sends her into a flurry of indecisiveness.

Taming of the Shrew (1595) – Kate’s younger sister Bianca cannot marry until her ill-tempered older sister has a husband. In this scene, gold digging Petruchio decides to woo the clever Kate both to help Bianca’s suitors and to achieve his goal of marrying into a wealthy family. Who is the smarter one?

The Tempest (1593) – One of Shakespeare’s latter works, this play explores themes of sorcery, betrayal, and retribution. In this scene, Ferdinand must perform manual labor to earn the love of Prospero’s daughter, Miranda.

Anton Chekhov (1860-1904) – Born in Yagorlog, Russia, Chekhov was a medical doctor, short story writer and playwright.

The Bear (1888) – In this comic one act, passion is aroused between a bill collector and a widow.

Ivanov (1887) is Chekhov’s first full length play and explores themes of depression and disillusionment. Ivanov is often compared to Shakespeare’s Hamlet. Anna was Ivanov’s beloved wife, but as she became ill with tuberculosis and Ivanov sank into middle-aged depression, he turned to other women to cover his own pain. In this monologue, Anna recalls happier times.

Oscar Wilde (1854-1900) was born in Dublin, Ireland, Wilde rose to prominence as a witty writer, lecturer, and playwright. Prior to his arrest for “gross indecency” in 1895, he was married and fathered two children. His wife left him, he was sentenced to hard labor, and he ultimately died from complications from an ear infection.

An Ideal Husband (1895) examines social and political issues in Victorian, England society. Lady Chiltern believed she had the ideal husband -- a wealthy, handsome, politician known for his ethics. In this scene, we learn that no one is who they seem, and forgiveness is a part of true love. The play foreshadows Wilde’s own decline as he was arrested during the run of this successful play.

The Importance of Being Earnest (1895) is one of Wilde’s most performed comedies. This scene explores one of the playwright’s most humorous subjects: marriage.

Molière (1622-1673), whose real name was Jean-Baptiste Poquelin, was a French actor and comic playwright whose satirical works remain popular on the stage today.

The Misanthrope (1666) examines the flaws of society and all humans; Eliante’s monologue takes a look at lovers’ sometimes less than honest behavior.

Thornton Wilder (1897-1975) was a prolific American playwright and novelist.

Our Town (1937) is Wilder’s best known play, a Pulitzer Prize-winning work depicting everyday life in small town America in the early twentieth century. The character of the Stage Manager narrates the show and sets the scene for the audience.

Special thanks to Alana, Jack and the staff of the Bistro at Snowcreek;
and to Russ Reese for program design.

About Sierra Classic Theatre

SCT was founded in 1999 with the mission of providing our community with quality performances of renowned plays. Sierra Classic Theatre, a 501c3 non-profit group, always welcomes new members, actors, patrons and ideas.

Don't miss a single SCT event! Sign up for our mailing list tonight, or go to www.sierraclassictheatre.org.

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Upcoming Events

March-April 2010: Shira Dubrovner and Mammoth Lakes Rep present *Fiddler on the Roof* at the Mammoth Lakes Arts Center

Summer and Fall 2010: Look for SCT's summer production in July and Murder Mystery in November



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PRESENTS

LOVE

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MARCUS NOBRIUS

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&

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FEBRUARY 12-13, 2010
THE BISTRO AT SNOWCREEK
ATHLETIC CLUB

at the bistro

