Don Juan : Ladykiller of Seville
A New Translation by Michael Kidd
Directed by Julie Florio

November 25th - December 5th, 2004
THU-FRI-SAT. Nov. 25-27 at 7:30 p.m.
SAT-SUN. Nov. 27-28 at 2 p.m.
THU-FRI-SAT. Dec. 2-4 at 7:30 p.m.
SAT-SUN. Dec 4-5 at 2 p.m.
GALA PERFORMANCE:
Friday November 26th
Emmanuel Chapel, Room 319 & Emmanuel Hall, Room 119,
Emmanuel College, 75 Queen's Park East

Friar Bacon and Friar Bungay
March 11th - March 27th, 2005
FRI-SAT. Mar. 11-12 at 8 p.m
SAT-SUN. Mar. 12-13 at 2 p.m.
THU-FRI-SAT. Mar. 17-19 at 8 p.m
SAT-SUN. Mar. 19-20 at 2 p.m.
THU-FRI-SAT. Mar. 24-26 at 8 p.m
SAT-SUN. Mar. 26-27 at 2 p.m
GALA PERFORMANCE:
Friday March 11
Emmanuel Hall, Room 119,
Emmanuel College, 75 Queen's Park East,
mention that his sense of entitlement is unequal to none. It would mean I'd have to mentally go someplace I didn't want to… We forget. We forget than there are Don Juans everywhere. We forget how exactly we can be swayed into things we haven't necessarily thought clearly about. Don Juan's goal is sexual dominance, but it could just as easily be money, kingdoms, cars or votes. The impulses and fears within this play are stored within us all. And maybe it was all of those challenges themselves that made me say 'yes'.

**Translator's Notes**

The Spanish Comedia

Comedia is a generic term that refers to Spanish drama of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, the most prolific national theater in the history of world literature. Features shared by all comedias include a division into three acts, each composed exclusively in verse; a mixing of tragic and comic elements; and a tendency toward happy and often moralizing endings. Although the genre's formulaic structure produced many flawed works, its finest gems hold their own with the best of Shakespeare. Among the latter, The Ladykiller of Seville and His Graven Guest (El burlador de Sevilla y convidado de piedra) carries the great but generally unrecognized distinction of having given rise to one of Spain's only two universal literary icons (the other being Don Quixote).

The Play and Its Historical Context

Love, lust, betrayal, murder, vengeance: these are the themes that haunt the play and have captured the imagination of a long line of admirers and imitators including Molière, Mozart, Byron, and Shaw. The Spanish version weaves the Don Juan story (which appears to be of the playwright's own invention) into a popular medieval legend about a dinner guest from beyond the grave. Composed around 1620 by an author whose identity is still in dispute (the two most likely candidates are Tirso de Molina and Andrés de Claramonte), Ladykiller played before a supremely proud nation at the peak of literary splendor. Historically, while Spain could still lay claim to being the most powerful country in the world, it teetered throughout this period on the brink of economic and political collapse. The reckless bravado and implacable lust of Don Juan's character suggests that the author may have been equally concerned about an imminent moral collapse among the country's aristocracy.

The Translation

Despite the play's longtime place atop the Hispanic canon, it remains relatively unknown outside the Spanish-speaking world owing in part to poor translations. This new prose version aims to correct that deficiency by presenting a text that is
accurate and accessible as well as playable.

Julie Florio: Director
Julie is a Toronto-based actor, writer, director and producer. For the PLS, she most recently directed last year's holiday hit, The Chester Play of the Shepherds. She was co-artistic producer of the 2004 New Ideas Festival at the Alumnae Theatre, as well as directing the staged reading of Postscript Productions’ Cat Delaney's script, The Death of Honour. Julie's written credits include this past year's world premiere of her new translation of Alfred Jerry's Ubu the King (which she also directed for the Toronto Fringe Festival). Ubu is enjoying its inclusion as part of the University of Guelph's "Canadian Adaptations of Shakespeare" project. Her popular play, The Dottie Parker Project recently was produced as part of the First Word Festival at the Arts and Letters Club, and has enjoyed numerous runs, as well as plans for a full length staging in Toronto (where she will - finally - step into the project as an actor this time) in the Fall of 2006. Although Julie is the Publicity Director for Rhino Productions, she is (more than figuratively) 'dying' to return to her first love - acting. Julie is a graduate of the University of Toronto's Drama and Dance Studies Program.

Michael Kidd: Translator
Michael is a visiting professor and research associate at Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota (U.S.A.), where he teaches Spanish language and literature, specializing in the medieval and early modern periods. He has also translated Pedro Calderón de la Barca's Life's a Dream (La vida es sueño) and is currently translating an anthology of plays by Lope de Vega.

Linda Phillips: Costume Designer
Linda is currently Artistic Director of PLS. She first started sewing costumes and painting sets for PLS in 1984. Since then she has worked in almost every aspect of production except acting. Linda has directed many plays for PLS, including Mankind, The Second Shepherds' Play, Noah's Ark, Coventry Shearman and Tailor's Pageant and last season's opening production, The World and the Child. Linda has costumed countless PLS productions, and also works as a costumer for many other companies. Most recently she spent a delightful summer at Theatre Collingwood.

Diane K. Jakacki: Co-Stage Manager
Diane is very excited to be working on this, her first production with PLS, as well as beginning the English M.A. programme at U of T. She has a long and varied background in theatre and televised entertainment. Productions include A Midsummer Night's Dream, Jesus Christ Superstar, The Real Inspector Hound, I Hate Hamlet, The Dining Room, and many original productions, as well as a long-running "gig" at Home Box Office.

Sabrina Noble: Co-Stage Manager
Sabrina recently completed a degree in English and Film Studies at the University of Western Ontario, where she produced a festival of one-act plays. This is Sabrina's second endeavour as a stage manager, her first was at the 2004 Summerworks Festival. A writer by trade, Sabrina has attended the Actor's Retreat lead by Canadian playwright Jason Sherman. She is currently completing a two-act play.

Erik Buchanan (Fight Director, King of Seville, Don Gonzalo)
Now an Equity Actor and Fight Director, Erik was very pleased to get permission to return to his old stomping grounds one more time. He has appeared in over a dozen PLS productions, including Mankind, John-John, Gammer Gurton's Needle, A Yorkshire Tragedy, The Stolen Shrovete Cock, and The Wandering Scholar from Paradise. Other stage acting credits include Charlie's Aunt (Charlie), Ten Little Indians (Marston), Corpse! (Hawkins), Zastrozzi (Zastrozzi). Erik’s TV and film credits include HGTV’s Pools, Patios and Decks (Host), and the films Hero (Max Payne), First Light (Ayntik), Black Jack (Jack the Ripper) and Haru (Paul). Erik has directed fights for more than 30 productions, including Much Ado About Nothing, Corpse!, Robin Hood, Henry V, Man of La Mancha, and The Taming of the Shrew.

Aaron Gold
Born in Winnipeg in 1979, and raised in Toronto, Aaron started his performance career at the age of ten, as a competitive figure skater. Specializing in ice dance, he competed provincially and nationally until he retired in the summer of 2000. He then turned his focus to acting and earned lead spots in over a dozen television commercials. Having recently completed a year of improvisational training at Second City, Aaron has decided to concentrate his energy on theatre and is happy to be part of this production of Don Juan: Ladykiller of Seville.

Jordan Hall
Jordan Hall is happy to be making her PLS debut as Dona Ana, Jasper, & assorted others in Don Juan. Favorite Period roles have included Juliet (Romeo & Juliet), Celie (As You Like It), Regan (King Lear) and Hero in several productions of Much Ado About Nothing. Look for her upcoming work as dramaturge and videographer in Theatre Channel's "Season One" at the
David McCormick
This is David's first performance with the PLS. He was most recently seen in Shakespeare's Comedy Olympics with Upstart Crow Productions at the Toronto Fringe Festival. Previous memorable performances include the title role in Zastrozzi, Master of Discipline, and the title role in Dr. Faustus, as well as principle roles in Rope, Romeo & Juliet and Jeffrey. David is a certified Intermediate Actor/Combatant with Fight Directors Canada, and is active in the stage combat community. David is a graduate of the University of Waterloo Drama program, and currently lives in Mississauga, Ontario.

Matthew McNama
Matt is pleased to be making his debut with the PLS and Don Juan. He has previously been seen in Baby Steps at the Toronto Fringe Festival, Fine Dining and numerous productions with the Anandam Performance Group as a puppeteer. He is a graduate of York University and Northumberland University with a degree in theatre, and has completed workshops with the Royal Shakespeare Company in London. He can currently be seen in the indie feature "Most Guys Today," as the painter Randy. Long live the plight of the Chicken!

Claire Rice
Clair is thrilled to be working with this wonderfully talented cast and crew. This is her first production since training at Randolph Academy and she couldn't have had a more successful beginning. Past credits include Bebe in A Chorus Line and Lily Lovegoode in the Grace of Mary Traverse both at Randolph, as well as all of her hometown roles such as Rizzo in Grase, Dorothy in The Wizard of Oz, Bet in Oliver! and Miss Hannigan in Annie. Claire would like to thank everyone who is supporting her in her Starving Actor career.

Jordan Stewart
Jordan is delighted to be making his PLS debut with "Don Juan". An actor, playwright, composer and musician, Jordan studied theatre at the University of Winnipeg and has recorded and toured with various groups. His recent stage credits include principle roles in Goldoni's "The Holiday Trilogy" as well as "La Mort De L'Amour", with his own musical theatre company Cabaret Sinistre, for which he also wrote the book, music and libretto. Enjoy the show!

David Suszek
David's last two projects were a Moc Docs video shoot, and playing Shamrayev in an adaptation of "The Seagull" at the Summerworks theatre festival. You can see the first one airing on Oct. 7th, on CBC's "Rough Cuts".

Aktina Stathaki
Aktina was born in Greece. She's got a BA in Communication and Mass Media from Athens University and a Diploma in Acting from the Conservatory of Dramatic Art of the National Greek Theatre. She has appeared in several productions of the National Greek Theatre (Alcestes, As you like it, Don Juan-the Moliere version! et. al.). In 2002 she came to Toronto and she's currently a PhD student in the Graduate Centre for Study of Drama at U of T. Other Toronto shows include Things Fall Apart and The Grotesque farce of Mr. Punch the Cuckold. Thanks to Julie for my first female role on a toronto stage!

Ozan Tekcan
Ozan was born in Istanbul- Turkey and started acting in High School. After finishing high school he studied International Relations in Istanbul Kultur University. At the same time he took acting courses in the University and attended acting studios. He has appeared in different plays (Comedy of Errors, Collage of Nazim Hikmet poems, Kadınlık Bizde Kalsın etc). In January 2004 he came to Toronto to study acting. Don Juan is his first show in Toronto and he is very happy with being in this production with this great group.

Richard Trevor-Williams
Don Juan is Richard's third production with PLS, having played God in The Last Judgment of the York Cycle, and Hankin (First Shepherd) in The Chester Shepherds Play, which was also directed by Julie Florio. He has worked with Ms. Florio several times, most recently in Ubu the King for this past summer's Fringe Festival. He fondly recalls their first show together, in which she played a Deadly Sin to his Doctor Faustus. Other roles include: The Nameless One in Masse Mensch (Man and the Masses), Salieri in Mozart and Salieri, Pozzo in Waiting for Godot, Guildenstern in Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead, Fagin in Oliver! and Volume Boy in RANT(ing) 'till I'm Blue in the Face, that portion of a collective entitled Blue which he penned as well performed. He last appeared in Rhino Production's staging of Harold Pinter's The Birthday Party at the Alumnae Theatre.