



Two Christmas Play

Officium Stellae & The Second Shepherds' Play

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:

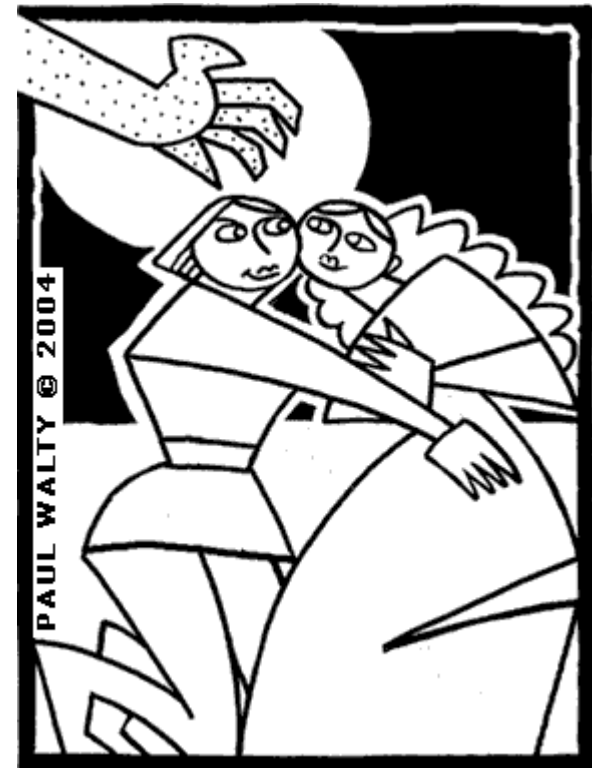
Friday March 11

*Emmanuel Hall, Room 119,
Emmanuel College, 75 Queen's
Park East,*

Don Juan : Ladykiller of Seville

A New Translation by Michael Kidd

Directed by Julie Florio



Don Juan	Jordan Stewart
Isabella	Claire Rice
King of Naples / Don Gonzalo de Ulloa	Erik Buchanan (appearing by permission of CAEA)
Don Pedro / Marquis de la Mota	David McCormick
Trifle / Batricio / Naples Guard	David Suszek
Don Diego of Seville/Naples Guard	Richard Trevor Williams
Chickenshit (Chicken)	Mathew McNama
Thisbee	Olivia Barrett
Anfrisso / Fabio	Ozan Tekcan
Duke Octavio / Corydon / Belissa	Aaron Gold
Elissa / Arminta	Aktina Stathaki
King Alfonso XI of Castile	Katrina Guy
Dona Ana de Ulloa / Jasperina / Servant	Jordan Hall
Director	Julie Florio
Stage Managers	Diane Jakacki and Sabrina Noble
Musical Consultant	Frank Nakashima
Costume Design	Linda Phillips
Costume Assistants	Ami Dehne and Elizabeth Runge.
Set Design	Yesim Tosuner, Linda Phillips, Chris Warrilow.
Front of House	Andrew Crabtree.

VERY special thanks to Victoria University, Emmanuel College; Centre for Medieval Studies; Cathy McKnight; Joanne Massingham and Theatre Erindale; John Barclay, Kevin Robinson, Chris Warrilow, Sara Lawson

Director's Notes When stepping in to direct, all I kept thinking to myself was - what did I even know about this Don Juan guy? There are lots of challenging issues to deal with: Lust, Desire, Fear, Betrayal, Violence. Maybe it was the 'R' word that scared me - Rape. I mean, it's not a pretty story. It's dirty and full of shame. It makes you squirm in your seat sometimes, and laugh at others. There is so much absurdity within these very dark situations. The old adage is true - if you couldn't laugh, you'd cry. This show has a lot of that. Maybe I just simply felt grateful that I wasn't *actually* being seduced by Don Juan myself. He is a master manipulator and a serial rapist: rape of the body, the mind and the soul. Not to

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 that 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 Jarry'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 U of T / Sheridan College Theatre and Drama 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 Shearmen 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 Shrovetide 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* (Aylrik), *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

Mcluhan Festival (October 12).

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 Groesque farse 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, Kadinlik Bizde Kalsin 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 as performed. He last appeared in Rhino Production's staging of Harold Pinter's *The Birthday Party* at the Alumnae Theatre.