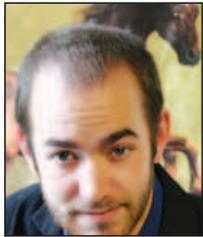


Downstage Center

Go behind the scenes with Kevin Selwyn



“Let’s raise the roof! Let’s make a scene!”

Well that’s exactly what the cast of “The Wild Party” did over the past weekend

during its three-performance run of Andrew Lippa’s rocking musical set in the Roaring Twenties about vaudevillian performers and an all-night party attended by less-than-reputable characters.

“The Wild Party” was met with resounding accolades all around the conservatory and across the university, but it is only a glimpse of what the theatre program at Shenandoah has to offer this semester.

Next up on the docket is a performance of “Story Theatre” by Shenandoah Showmakers, the touring children’s show ensemble led by Assistant Professor of Theatre Wade Fransen.

According to Dr. Fransen, “Story Theatre” is a collection of classic stories and fables by Aesop and other authors.

Shenandoah Showmakers present “Story Theatre” at 2 p.m. Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 6 and 7, in Glaise Studio Theatre before taking the show to local schools.

Next, take a trip to Russia with the play “Three Sisters” by Anton Chekov. Written in 1900, “Three Sisters” tells the story of three sisters. Big surprise.

Directed by Associate Professor of Theatre Kirsten Trump, “Three Sis-

ters” is standard repertoire for students in their theatrical studies.

In the fall semester, Shenandoah Conservatory staged “Anton in Show Business,” which lampoons and pays tribute to “Three Sisters.” “Anton” would have been a great prerequisite for those interested in seeing “Three Sisters.”

“Three Sisters” is presented at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Feb. 12 and 13, and at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 14, in the Glaise Studio Theatre.

Following our trip to Russia, we head out to sea for the musical production of “Anything Goes” by Cole Porter.

The show includes toe tappers such as “Anything Goes,” “I Get a Kick Out of You,” and “It’s De-lovely.”

Directed by Assistant Professor of Theatre and Humanities Carolyn Coulson-Grigsby, “Anything Goes” features mismatched lovers, gangsters and nightclub singers all aboard a cruise ship bound for London.

This is a sure-fire crowd-pleaser this theatre season.

“Anything Goes” is presented at 8 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Feb. 25, 26 and 27, as well as at 2:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 27 and 28, in the Ohrstrom-Bryant Theatre.

Following the trend of geographically diverse productions comes the children’s show production of “Cinderella: The World’s Favorite Fairy Tale.”

This retelling of the iconic fairy tale, directed by Assistant Professor of Theatre Mark Kittlaus, places the titular character in such disparate locations as Russia, Native America and Asia.

Kids will love seeing this story in different textual and cultural contexts.

Theatre for Youth presents “Cinderella” at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Saturdays, March 27 and April 10, and at

3 p.m. Sundays, March 28 and April 11, in Glaise Studio Theatre.

A preview of “Cinderella” begins at 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 26, in Glaise Studio Theatre. The preview is free for individuals with SU I.D., but tickets are required.

Rounding out the season is a production of Kurt Weill’s Tony Award-winning opera “Street Scene.”

Directed by Assistant Professor of Theatre Jonathan Flom, who is taking a departure from his regular involvement in musicals, “Street Scene” promises gorgeous voices and a score and story that toes the line between musical and opera.

“Street Scene,” a fully staged production of Weill’s opera, is presented at 8 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, April 22, 23 and 24, and at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 25, in the Ohrstrom-Bryant Theatre.

Additionally, Senior Theatre Showcase is presented at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, April 16 and 17, in Glaise Studio Theatre. Showcase performances are free.

There truly is something for everything this season, whether you are a fan of classical theatre, musical comedy or opera. Get your tickets today.

General admission tickets for “Story Theatre” are \$8. General admission tickets are also \$8 for “Three Sisters.”

Tickets for “Anything Goes” and “Street Scenes” are \$15 for adults; \$10 children; free with SU I.D.

Children’s show tickets are \$8.

Call the box office at (540) 665-4569, or stop by the box office in the Ohrstrom-Bryant Theatre lobby.

Note to conservatory students: King’s Dominion Auditions are from 6 to 10 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 5, in Ruebush Hall Room 128. Contact Jennifer Spataro at (540) 665-5412 for details.