Check on Chekhov: An Evening of Mirth by the Russian Master of Misery

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarworks.harding.edu/theatre-history

Recommended Citation
check on CHEKHOV
An evening of mirth by the Russian master of misery
Feb. 15-16 & 21-23 | 7 p.m.
Ulrey Performing Arts Center
HARDING UNIVERSITY THEATRE
presents
check on CHEKHOV
Written by
Anton Chekhov, Dr. Michael Claxton, Robin Miller
Directed by
Robin Miller
Feb 15-16 & 21-23, 2019

THE SCENE
Welcome to the ornate Alexandrinsky Theatre in Russia during the 1810s. Here, Madame Nyukhin is overseeing an evening of entertainment as her way of coming out as a great impresario of the theatrical arts.

There will be a 10-minute intermission.

SPECIAL THANKS
Cassie Bennett, Steve Frye, Ben Jones, McKay Murray, Cindee Stockstill
From Madame Nyukhin's private box in the spectacular theatre, she oversees the evening to ensure that the audience has a delightful time in spite of her bumbling husband who she pressed into service as the master of ceremonies for the evening. Realizing that the evening should have some social merit, she chose to begin the evening with a lecture by her husband on "The Harmfulness of Tobacco." When she arrives at her box with the lecture in full gallop, or rather full limp, she realizes that her insipid husband has made a mess of things. Again. She then has to try to salvage the performance as best she can.

Her first offering of the evening is "The Bear." A single, woman-hating creditor bursts into the home of a widow in mourning because of the need for money that the deceased owed him. The widow despaired her husband but is determined to mourn him. The creditor and the widow instantly form a love-hate-desire-loathe-repeat relationship that includes everything from a duel to a proposal. Yet, somehow, it all works out in the end.

Then she presents a more fanciful view of love in "The Proposal"—A comic interlude on the prospect of marriage. A father, his daughter and their neighbor all desire the same thing— a wedding. However, their stubborn behavior, selfishness, pig-headedness and opinionated personalities all get in the way of mutual happiness. Somehow, it all works out in the end.

After a brief intermission, a small-town actress determined to get "The Audition" bursts into the proceedings. She may be from a hamlet, but she is determined to conquer the big city. She performs an audition in which we discover not only her tale of woe but that she is singularly capable of butchering every classic monologue known to European theatre.

Finally, things get back on track for a final presentation as the bank president is about to celebrate "The Anniversary" of his esteemed institution. Unfortunately, the elaborate proceedings are interrupted by a working-class wife who is determined to get money from this bank that she says she is owed, but the money is owed from somewhere else. Add to the chaos a down on his luck clerk who is desperately trying to get his job done as well as the president's trophy wife who needs attention from any male within radar range. All this is complemented by a host of other petty annoyances. Somehow, it all doesn't work out in the end.
PRODUCTION TEAM

Assistant Director, Stage Manager ............. Camryn Pitts
Assistant Stage Manager ......................... Kylie Coffey
Costume Design ................................. Katy White
Lighting Design .................................. Seth Fish
Sound Design ..................................... David Robison
Scenic Design ..................................... Robin Miller
Original Music .................................... Caleb Overton
Makeup & Hair Design ............................ Evan Chesney
Technical Director ............................... Seth Fish
Sound Operator ................................. Patrick Kelly
Light Board Operator ......................... Deborah Samuelson
Property Master ................................. Caroline Hahn
Deck Crew .................................. Victoria Goodwin

Valentino Warren
Set Build Crew ................................. Tyler Adams
Sarah Arbuckle, Brian Beggs, Lydia Black, David Clark, Caroline
Hahn, Delaney Hill, Drew Holley, Cordell Hutcheson, Sarah
Johnson, Levi Mason, Kendalyn Pierson, Lynsey Rardin, Deborah
Samuelson, Sydney Sanford, Janelle Witherow, Grayson
Worsham, Tyler Worsham

Property Crew ................................. Caroline Hahn
Phallen Reed

Costume Crew ................................. Emily Cantwell
Evan Chesney, Emily Lipford, Kendra Neill, Annie Wilkinson,
Hannah Wolfe
THE CAST

THE HARMFULNESS OF TOBACCO
Sergeyevich Grigori Nyukhin .................... Tyler Adams
Mme. Nyukhin.................................. Grayson Sherwood

THE BEAR
Elena Ivanovna Popva ........................ Chloe Hootman
Grigory Stepanovitch Smirnov .................... Drew Holley
Luka ..................................... David Clark

THE PROPOSAL
Stepan Stepanovitch Chubukov ............. David White
Natalya Stepanovna ........................ Lydia SunderRaj
Ivan Vassilevitch Lomov ..................... Carson Lester

THE AUDITION
Masha........................................ Jas Binford

THE ANNIVERSARY
Andrey Andrevevitch Shipuchin .......... Joshua Bennett
Tatiana Alexeyevna ............................ Jamie Hall
Kusma Nicolaievitch Khirin ................ Levi Haynes
Nastasya Fyodorovna Merchutkina .......... Phallen Reed
HARDING UNIVERSITY

THE GIVER
MARCH 28-30, 2019

SPRING SING 2019: THE GREATEST SHOW
APRIL 18-20, 2019

PIED PIPERS SPRING SING SHOW
APRIL 20, 2019

STUDENT DIRECTED ONE ACTS
APRIL 25-27, MAY 2-4, 2019

SEARCY SUMMER DINNER THEATRE
THREE SHOWS EVERY SUMMER

HARDINGTICKETS.COM