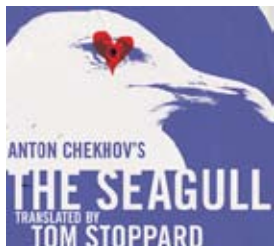


windows of inspiration

a view of performing and visual arts from around the world

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF THE ARTS
SPRING 2008 PERFORMANCES AND EXHIBITIONS



The Seagull by Anton Chekhov

Directed by Walt Jones

April 17, 18, 19, 24, 25, 26 at 8:00 p.m. and April 27 at 2:00 p.m.

University Theatre, University Center for the Arts

1400 Remington Street, Fort Collins, Colorado

\$16, \$14/Seniors, \$7/CSU Students

“The Seagull,” the first of what are generally considered to be Anton Chekhov’s four major plays, is about a very human tendency to reject love that is freely given and seek love where it is withheld. It is a play that evokes both sorrow and humor, as it tells of the romantic and artistic conflicts between four theatrical characters - the ingenue Nina, the fading leading lady Irina Arkadina, her son the experimental playwright Konstantin Treplyov, and the famous middlebrow story writer Trigorin.

Director and Colorado State Theatre faculty Walt Jones describes “The Seagull” as “a funny but moving experience.” Jones says that, “In this play, everyone is in love with the wrong person, the person they can’t have. Everyone is desperate, but, in their desperation, hilarious.” He calls Chekhov “the playwright of tiny moments which change a life,” and believes it is the subtleties that make Chekhov unique among dramatists.

Chekhov always demanded that his plays were comedies, even the ones that were not subtitled as such. “This production definitely weaves comedy into the fabric of the play, amplifying the comedy Chekhov actually wrote into it,” according to Jones. Chekhov created characters who are silly, broad, and selfish, but who are equally despairing, subtle, and generous.

Jason Hill, a senior Business Administration major at Colorado State who plays the playwright Konstantin says, “It is truly a privilege to play such an important character in one of Chekhov’s most important works. Audiences will enjoy the blend of silly humor and the drama that unfolds between every character.”

Erin Fried, who plays Shamraev’s daughter Masha, is thrilled to present a classic play and believes audiences will relate to the story. “‘The Seagull’ pulls straight from the very psychological hardships of everyone’s life. As Walt Jones told the cast on the first day, ‘It’s about love getting in the way of living our lives.’”

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