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The Taming of the Shrew

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University Theatre presents:

William Shakespeare

THE TAMING OF THE SHREW

Little Theatre

October 3, 4, & 6-8:15
October 5-9:15
WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

William Shakespeare was born in Stratford-upon-Avon on April 23, 1564, the third of eight children. Because of his father’s social standing, he was entitled to attend grammar school free where he acquired a familiarity with Greek and Latin authors.

As early as 1592, Shakespeare was so well known as a literary and dramatic craftsman that Francis Meres, in his PALLASIS TAMIA: WITS TREASURY, referred in flattering terms to him as “mellifluous and honey-tongued Shakespeare, “famous for his VENUS AND ADONIS, his LUCRECE, and “his sugared sonnets”. By 1594, he was a member and shareholder of a company of actors known as the LORD CHAMBERLAIN’S MEN who performed in the GLOBE THEATRE.

During his lifetime, Shakespeare made no effort to publish any of his plays, though eighteen appeared in print in single-play editions known as quartos. It is thought that no quarto had the author’s approval. To achieve a reputation as a man of letters, Shakespeare wrote his sonnets and his narrative poems. It was, however, his plays that were to establish his reputation as a literary genius.

Shakespeare retired to his home in Stratford-upon-Avon in 1611, having attained wealth and recognition. He died on April 23, 1616, the anniversary of his birth.

ABOUT THE PLAY

THE TAMING OF THE SHREW succeeds better on the stage than in the library where professional critics have tender to be rather unkind to it. Nevertheless, it repays careful study, especially in view of recent research on matrimonial customs in Elizabethan England. Certainly, no one would claim that in THE TAMING OF THE SHREW Shakespeare has written an unalloyed masterpiece, but he has written an eminently stageworthy play, and one which has retained its popularity despite a rather chequered stage history.

In general, most productions try to make this play seem only a rough and tumble, knockabout farce, but such a limited point of view tends to lower the character of Petruchio and at the same time to introduce something rather distasteful in the matrimonial relationship between him and Kate. If we are to consider that Petruchio deliberately sets about to subdue Kate’s entire individuality then we automatically imply that Shakespeare upholds Petruchio’s treating his wife worse than his horse or his servants. If this situation is the truth about the play, an element of unpleasant sadism enters into the picture.

A more carefully considered approach shows that Petruchio is more than a whipping husband, and similarly that Kate is a more subtly drawn character than that of the conventional dramatic shrew. The battle between these two characters thus becomes much more than a merely physical one and moves into the realm of wit-combat with a carefully thought out central theme—matrimonial relationships—which gives structural form and meaning to the entire play.

THE TAMING OF THE SHREW

Directed by Allen Goetcheus
Set and Lighting Design by Harvey Campbell
Costumes by Jessie Rousselow

Presented by the Speech and Drama Department
and Trojan Players

THE CAST
(In the order of their appearance)

Lucentio, son of Vincentio; in love with Bianca
Kevin Stewart
Tranio, servant to Lucentio
Roy Ringenberg
Baptista, a rich gentleman of Padua
Bob Schobert*
Gremio, suitor to Bianca
Bob Parish
Katherine, the Shrew, daughter of Baptista
Beth Rosenberger
Hortensio, suitor to Bianca
Don McLaughlin*
Bianca, younger daughter of Baptista
Marilyn Jones
Blondello, servant to Lucentio
Glen Rediger
Petruchio, a gentleman of Verona; suitor to Kate

Grumio, servant to Petruchio
Mark Corneliussen
Messenger
Sue Fisher*
Curtis
Paul Wills
Servants to Petruchio
Krista Blosser
Jay Cunningham
Nancy Jackson

Pedant, impersonator of Vincentio
Mike May
Tailor
D. J. Stone
Milliner
Dave Chenot
Vincentio, an old gentleman of Pisa
Mike Vail
Officers
D. J. Stone
Paul Wills

Widow
Jennifer Horton*

Act I, Scene i Before Baptista’s House
Scene ii Before Hortensio’s House
Scene iii Baptista’s House
Scene iv Baptista’s Garden
Scene v Baptista’s House

fifteen minute intermission—more to come

Act II, Scene i Petruchio’s House
Scene ii Near Baptista’s House
Scene iii Petruchio’s House
Scene iv Before Baptista’s House
Scene v A Public Place
Scene vi Before Lucentio’s Lodging
Scene vii Lucentio’s House

A “renaissance” punch will be on sale in the lower theater lobby during the intermission. This project is sponsored by TROJAN PLAYERS.

*Denotes Trojan Player Members
THE MUSIC

Rich in courtly airs and irresistible rhythms, the dance music of England, France, Germany and Italy during the Renaissance period is among the most appealing legacies of that era. Music heard during this evening's performance include:

Allemande .................. Claude Gervaise
Gailliard
Bransle de Bourgogne

Der Lothringer ................ Michael Praetorius
Die Rose
Auszug

Twelve dances from *The Danserye* .... Tielman Susato

Dances for Broken Consort from
*First Booke of Consort Lessons* .... Thomas Morley

Capriiccio .................. Johann Jacob Froberger

Paduam ...................... Samuel Scheidt

Basse Dance
Jouyssance vous Donneray .......... Thoinot Arbeau


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Our next Production: A MARK TWAIN PRODUCTION

October 31, November 1, 2, and 3 8:15 p.m.

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You are invited to visit the art exhibit of Professor Ray Bullock, head of the Art Department, in the Chronicle-Tribune Art Gallery during intermission.

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As a courtesy to the actors, please do not use cameras during the performance.
PRODUCTION STAFF

Technical Director .................... Harvey Campbell
Assistant to the Director .............. Sue Elsner
Assistant to the Director ............ Bobbi Manning
Assistant Technical Director .......... Debi King

Painting .............................. Lisa Barkman*
......................................... Sue Elsner
......................................... Debi Lewis*
......................................... Brad Nelson
......................................... Ruth SchanelY
......................................... Kathy Showers*

Set Committee ........................ Kathy Block
......................................... Jay Cunningham
......................................... Ron Dilley
......................................... Ann Donovan
......................................... Sue Fisher*
......................................... Brad Moser*
......................................... Deanna Porter
......................................... Robert Schobert*
......................................... Kevin Stewart

Lighting ............................... LISA BARKMAN*
......................................... Brad Moser*
......................................... Robert Schobert*
......................................... Kathy Showers*

Sound ................................. JEFF POND
......................................... Dave Catlot

Properties ............................ MARILYN JONES*
......................................... Laurel Carlson
......................................... Jennifer Horton*
......................................... Becky Lane
......................................... Gloria Nussbaum

Make-up ............................... DEBI LEWIS*
......................................... Kathy Block
......................................... Kris Blessor
......................................... Nancy Jackson

Costumes .............................. Bobbie Bandy
......................................... Marilyn Jones*
......................................... Bobbi Manning*
......................................... Retha Martin
......................................... Don McLaughlin*
......................................... Barb Nelson
......................................... Nyla Nye
......................................... Janet Rutledge
......................................... Ruth Spangler
......................................... Kim Watkins*

House .................................. KATHY SAKUTA
......................................... Joan Olson
......................................... Nancy Ortkrese
......................................... Janet Rutledge
......................................... Ruth SchanelY
......................................... Donna Sheer
......................................... Kim Watkins*

A SPECIAL WORD OF APPRECIATION to all those who have contributed services and articles for this production, Dr. Dale Heath, Miss Pam Nelson, Mrs. Gladys Greathouse, Mrs. Carolyn Duckwall, Mrs. Margaret Jackson, Mr. Wendell Fisher and the staff of the Print Shop. Prof. Wally Roth and the staff of the Computer Center, and the Ponderosa Steak House, Marion, Indiana.

*Denotes Trojan Players Member