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A Little Night Music Program [1990]

University of Southern Maine Department of Theatre

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The University of Southern Maine
Theatre Department
and
Music Department
presents

A Little Night Music

November 30 - December 9
Russell Hall, Gorham Campus
A Little Night Music
Music and Lyrics by STEPHEN SONDHEIM
Book by HUGH WHEELER

Suggested by a Film by Ingmar Bergman
Originally Produced and Directed on Broadway by Harold Prince

This production is a collaboration with the University of Southern Maine Theatre Department and Music Department

Stage Director: Walter Stump
Music Director: Bruce Fithian
Set Designer: Charles S. Kading
Costume Designer: Sue Picinich
Lighting Designer: Fred Fauver
Choreographer: Nancy Salmon
Orchestration, programming: Denis Drobinski
Accompanist: Roger Williams

CAST

Desiree Armfeldt: Kim Fletcher
Madame Armfeldt: Pamela Cote
Fredrika Armfeldt: Jessica E. Antone
Fredrik Egerman: Geary W. Smith
Anne Egerman: Michelle Powers
Henrik Egerman: Peter McInnis
Count Carl-Magnus Malcolm: Mark LaPierre
Countess Charlotte Malcolm: Sarah Sheperd
Petra: Mara Faith Kelley
Frid: Martin Lescault
Malla: Cindi Whittaker

Liebeslieder

Mrs. Nordstrom: September Houle
Mrs. Segstrom: Alice DeYoung
Mrs. Anderssen: Erica Perry
Mr. Erlanson: Martin Lescault
Mr. Lindquist: Joshua Alan Chard

PROGRAM NOTES

Although set in Athens, there is no question that Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream stems from the author's fascination with the one evening of the year when all of the mystical creatures of the woods conspire to play havoc with lovers. Scandinavian writers have chronicled the event for centuries. Even such dour authors as Henry Gibson (St. John's Night) and August Strindberg (Miss Julie) have explored the mysteries of Midsummer's Eve when the troll king emerges. Even today, the unforgettable line spoken by the unforgettable Puck on the unforgettable night of nights haunts the souls of all lovers. Stephen Sondheim's A Little Night Music, sometimes called a tone poem about love and lovers, is just such a haunting. It is a poem about the foolishness of love, it is a dream about the awakening of love, and it is a lyrical tapestry reaffirming Puck's admonition, "Lord, what fools these mortals be." Enjoy.

Walter Stump, director

Special Thanks To:

Mark's Florist of Windham
The Marketplace Restaurant, Portland
Portland Stage Company

A Little Night Music is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International, 545 Eighth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10018
"The Night Waltz"
"Now"
"Later"
"Soon"
"The Glamorous Life"
"Remember"
"You Must Meet My Wife"
"Liasons"
"In Praise of Woman"
"Everyday a Little Death"
"A Weekend in the Country"

Act Two
"The Sun Won't Set"  Liebeslieders
"It Would Have Been Wonderful"  Fredrik, Carl Magnus
"Perpetual Anticipation"  Mrs. Nordstrom, Mrs. Anderssen
"Send in the Clowns"  Desiree
"The Miller's Son"  Petra

CREW
Scenic artist: Craig Foley
Technical director: Fred Fauver
Master carpenter: El Houghton
Costumer: Chris Kinnie
Stage manager: Amii Alexandra
Stage manager: Noah Spiegel
Stage manager: Catherine Perreault
Box office manager: Heather Kelpin
House manager: Shane Smith
Rehearsal pianist: Roger Williams
Prop master: Jeanne Paterak
Prop crew: Liz Loabe
Costume cutter/stitcher: Deborah Staggs
Wardrobe supervisor: David Aaron Swander
Costume crew: Rene Maynard
Costume crew: Anne Gaylord
Costume crew: Tim O'Malley
Madame Armfeldt's make-up: Athena Gaudreau
Photo design: Jonson Hamilton
Light board operator: Jonson Hamilton
Light board operator: Patrik Lundin
Pre-set: Stephanie Bell
Repatch: John Boston
Follow spot operator: Jeff Vincent
Running crew: Jamie Andrews
Sound technician: Eric Kruger
Sound operator: Doug Murphy
Set construction: Stage Craft Lab
Costume construction:
Anne Gaylord
Jillian Pressey
Cathy Dudley
Noah Spiegel

JESSICA ELIZABETH ANTOINE, Fredrika, is a sophomore theatre major at USM. A Little Night Music is Jessica's first show in Russell Hall. She will be a member of the English Tour in May, and hopes to pursue a career in acting or in working with young children in theatre.
JOSHUA ALAN CHARD, Mr. Lindquist, is a junior Elementary Education major. He has appeared with the Russell Square Players in The Great American Mail Order Catalogue and The Night of the Iguana. Other credits include West Side Story, Peter Pan, and Bye Bye Birdie. Joshua plans to incorporate his acting and singing experience into his teaching style.

PAMELA COTE, Madame Armfeldt, is making her debut with the Russell Square Players. She has been active in the Lewiston and Auburn areas with the Community Little Theater, and with the All-Student Theater Project. She has played Domina in A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum, Berthe in Pippin, Bloody Mary in South Pacific, Annie in Annie Get Your Gun, and Bunny in Babes in Arms. In January, she will play the witch in ASTP's production of Into the Woods.

ALICE DEYOUNG, Mrs. Segstrom, is a vocal performance major in the music department. This is her first performance with the Russell Square Players. She has performed in many community theater productions including 42nd Street, The Music Man, Godspell, Company, and A Christmas Carol.

KIM FLETCHER, Desiree Armfeldt, is a theatre major, having appeared as Maxine in The Night of the Iguana, traveled to England representing USM as well as serving as assistant director for The Happiest of the Three. Before USM she worked at the Theatre Project in Brunswick during two summer theatre seasons.

SEPTEMBER HOULE, Mrs. Nordstrom, is a vocal performance major at the USM after transferring from the University of Maine. She has performed in several choral groups, musicals, and operatic events in her hometown of Camden, and in the Portland and Orono areas. This past summer she was awarded the Meyer Vocal Prize as part of the Bay Chamber Concert Prizes Competition. She plans to pursue a career in opera.

MARA KELLEY, Petra, debuted in Russell Square in last years production of Grannia. She has performed in Maine, Boston, Worcester, and Connecticut and some of her credits include A Chorus Line, Kiss Me Kate, Godspell, and The Apple Tree. Mara plans to attend graduate school after receiving her vocal performance degree and wants to remain active in theatre.

MARK A. LAPIERRE, Count Carl-Magnus Malcolm, is a sophomore theatre major at USM. Mark has been seen as Hank in Night of the Iguana, Iron Dick in Grannia, Marjavel in Happiest of the Three, and Mitch Peterson in Nighthade. Mark would like to thank Walter Stump for being so wonderful in this show.

MARTIN LESCAULT, Mr. Erlanson/Frid, is a senior Music Education major here at USM. This is his first appearance with the Russell Square Players. After A Little Night Music closes, Martin will be appearing as Rapunzel's Prince in Into the Woods, an AST production in Lewiston.

PETER M. MCINNIS, Henrik, is a vocal major at USM and studies voice with Bruce Fithian. This is his debut with the Russell Square Players, but he is no stranger to the stage. Among his credits are A Chorus Line and The Wiz. He has appeared in numerous opera scenes with the music department and, last season, had the honor of soloing with the Chamber Singers and the Portland Symphony in a pops concert.

ERICA R. PERRY, Mrs. Anderssen, is a junior music education major. This is Erica's first production with the Russell Square Players. Previous roles include Nora's secretary in Working, Yum Yum's understudy in The Mikado, Daisy Mae in Lil' Abner, Papagena in The Magic Flute, Consuela in West Side Story, and Venus in Orpheus in the Underworld.

MICHELLE POWERS, Anne, is a communication major at USM with an interest in singing and acting. She studies voice with Ellen Chickering and has performed with USM's student theatre ensemble and in Portland Players' production of Once Upon a Mattress as Lady Larken. Some of her favorite roles include Sarah Brown in Guys and Dolls, Anna in Tintypes, and Nina in The Good Doctor. After graduating Michelle hopes to pursue a career in newscasting and continue working in music and theatre.

SARAH SHEPERD, Charlotte, is making her debut with the Russell Square Players. Some of her past credits include Lili in Carnival, and Lady Thiang in The King and I with the Hyde Park Players of Vermont. Sarah studies voice with Ellen Chickering.

GEARY W. SMITH, Fredrik. A Little Night Music marks Geary's fourth season with the Russell Square Players. He has been seen in The Crucible, Homesteaders, and Night of the Iguana. Geary can also be heard as the voice of Maine Street 90 on WCSH-TV. After graduating Geary plans to go on to graduate school.

CINDI WHITTAKER, Malla, is a junior at USM studying technical theatre. Malla is her first role on the mainstage at Russell Hall. She was last seen onstage as Claire in Voices, a Lab theatre production. Others roles include Guenevere in Camelot and Elsa in The Sound of Music, both produced in Cindi's hometown at Brewer High School.
CRAIG FOLEY, Scenic Artist, graduated from USM in 1985 with a B.A. in Theatre Arts. He went on to the University of Florida to receive his MFA in Acting/Directing and now resides in Worcester, Ma., where he regularly directs and designs for the Worcester Four Theatre Ensemble. He is also a faculty member of the Department of Fine Arts at Worcester Academy.

ROGER WILLIAMS, accompanist, of Jamaica, has a diploma in music education from the Jamaica School of Music where he studied with Laura Kargul. He decided to pursue his studies with her at USM where he is now enrolled as a piano performance degree candidate. He most recently accompanied performances of *Porgy and Bess* at the Jamaica School of Music.

BRUCE FITHIAN, music director and associate professor of music, has been on the USM Music Faculty since 1984. He has established himself as a recitalist and concert artist both in America and abroad, appearing with the Théâtre National de l'Opéra de Paris and the Nouvel Orchestre Philharmonique (Paris), and at the Teatro Royale (Madrid), the Villa de' Medici (Florence), and the Accademia di Santa Cecilia (Rome). In the United States he has appeared with the Boston Early Music Festival, the Handel and Hayden Society in Boston and as part of the Christ Church Concert Series in New York City. An active composer, he has written an opera and several song cycles. Fithian is a member of the Bel Canto Quartet and is president of the Maine Chapter of the National Association of Teachers of Singing.

WALTER STUMP, stage director, holds a Ph.D. in Theatre History and Criticism. Currently chair of the USM Theatre Department, he has coauthored *Imitation: Art of the Theatre*; has just completed a history of censorship in England titled *A Struggle for a Free Stage in London: Revisited*; and will have a new entry-level theatre textbook this summer. He has lectured in London and Cambridge and will be teaching in Paris this summer. He has directed over 200 productions, three of which have gone on to American College Theater Festival regionals three times. His ASCAP-award-winning production of *GYNT* was performed at Kennedy Center. He has written four produced plays, two screenplays and a radio play for CBS Radio Workshop. Walter is the former ACTF Chair of Region I, former National Chair of Chairs, and currently serves as Past Regional Chair.