SPA To Gillian on Her 37th Birthday Program [1997]

University of Southern Maine Department of Theatre

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.usm.maine.edu/theatre-programs-1998-1999

Part of the Theatre History Commons

Recommended Citation
https://digitalcommons.usm.maine.edu/theatre-programs-1998-1999/7

This Program is brought to you for free and open access by the Theatre Programs 1990-2000 at USM Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Programs 1998-1999 Season by an authorized administrator of USM Digital Commons. For more information, please contact jessica.c.hovey@maine.edu.
Student Performing Artists

Present

To Gillian on Her 37th Birthday

By Michael Brady

Directed by Elias Abraham Bresnick

April 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 1999 at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 4th at 5:00 p.m.

The Lab Theatre at Russell Hall
Director's Notes

I distinctly remember the first time that I saw To Gillian on Her 37th Birthday. Excluding the show itself, it was memorable for three reasons. It was the first time a show ever made me weep. It was the first time I ever fell in love, period. And it was the first time I ever seriously considered directing. As the years went by, I've seen the show performed several times. Each time I thought, "when the time is right, I will direct this show. Someday... when the time is right." Last September I saw a scene from the show done and it stirred the old embers and got the creative juices flowing. I knew that perhaps now, the time was right.

Gillian is a show about love. It's about love, life and family. It is about people and the problems that people face. We all look for love in life. Those who find it are considered blessed. What of those who first find it, and then have it taken from them? What happens those people? How does it effect these people? How, in turn does this change the way they relate to the people around them? These are some of the important questions raised by the show. We've explored them over the past few months. We are glad that you have come to explore them with us tonight. On behalf of the cast, crew and staff, please enjoy the show.

Elias Bresnick - Director

Special Thanks
Tara Ingalls, Tom Vail, Anne Gottlieb, Wil Kilroy, Lisa Pixley, Michael Brady, SPA and its officers, friends and family. All of those who helped us, and all of those who didn't help us.

Michael Brady, Broadway Publishing Co.
Cast
(By order of Appearance)

David ............................................ Kurt Ela
Rachel ............................................ Jessie Robinson
Cindy ............................................ Elizabeth A. Chambers
Kevin ............................................. Liberty Freeman
Paul ............................................... Josh Chenard
Esther ............................................. Piper Major
Gillian ............................................. Samantha Kinne

Crew

Director ........................................ Elias Abraham Bresnick
Scenic Designer ................................ Christopher M. Foss
Costume Designer .............................. Elizabeth Padula
Costume Designer .............................. Kimberly Morrill
Lighting Designer .............................. Matthew P. Curtis
Sound Designer ................................. Andrew Ross
Stage Manager ................................. Jason C. Waron
Props Supervisor .............................. Richelle Marsh
Scenic Painter ................................. Alison A. Guinn
Technical Director ............................. Caleb Wilson
Lighting Technician ............................ Nathan Raleigh
Publicity ........................................ Daniel Bourque
Light Board Operator .......................... Jill Caton
Sound Board Operator ........................ Michael Thomas Toth

Artistic Staff Biographies

Elias Abraham Bresnick- Director
Eli is a nontraditional theatre student hailing from Canaan, Maine. You may have seen him last as Detective Elliott Mitchell in the U.S.M./Oak Street Theatre world premiere of Dirt. Although he has over ten years experience of community and professional theatre, this is his first time as a director. He would like to thank his cast and crew for their time, energy, creativity, perseverance, patience and honesty. He loves them all.

Christopher M. Foss- Scenic Designer
Chris is a junior theatre major at U.S.M. He designed the set for SPA’s last production of Some Things You Need to Know Before the Worlds Ends (A Final with the Illuminati). Other credits include, Assistant designer for West Side Story here at U.S.M., and Props Crew for Mad Horse Theaters production of Road to Nirvana. He will be Props Head for U.S.M.’s upcoming production of Saints, Sinners & Fools on the main stage. Chris has worked professionally both locally and in his hometown of Hanover, NH. Chris looks forward to working as the Props Apprentice at the Maine State Music Theater in Brunswick this summer.

Elizabeth Padula- Costume Designer
Elizabeth is an undeclared sophomore at U.S.M. Previous work has included assistant designer for The Danube and The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man-In-The Moon-Marigolds both of which were on the mainstage here at Russell hall. She would like to express her gratitude and thanks to Susan Picinich and especially Kim Morrill for her ideas and knowledge.

Matthew P. Curtis- Lighting Designer
Matthew is from Rockland, ME and is a sophomore at U.S.M. majoring in Theatre and Communications. Matt has received over nine All-Festival Cast Awards and has participated in The Boys Next Door, As You Like It, Dance USM!, The Danube, Illuminati, and West Side Story. He would like to thank Eli Bresnick, Michael Toth, Nathan Raleigh and Caleb Wilson for their time and support.
Andrew Ross- Sound Designer
A lover of sound and all things that are noisy. Andy is pleased to be involved in another fine SPA production. He has done sound for various other shows including Illuminati, at U.S.M. (a SPA production), Misery and Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune at Mad Horse Theatre. As always, Andy thanks Meghan for her endless support and boundless inspiration.

Kimberly Morrill- Costume Designer
Kim was Assistant Designer for Dirt and a costume designer for Dance USM! She performed in the Latter Show and in A Taste of Killing on The Tip of The Tongue.

Cast Biographies

Kurt Ela- David
Kurt is a junior theatre major. You may have seen him last “cutting the frabba jabba” as Riff in West Side Story. Some of his other acting credits include Sebastian in Twelfth Night, Paul in The Danube, Bernard in Death of a Salesman, and Calmaccio in Mandragula. He also made his directing debut last fall with... “Illuminati”. He is looking forward to directing on the main stage next year and setting up SPA’s award show this upcoming spring. On a more personal note, he would like to express his gratitude and respect to Eli. For the first attempt at directing is always the hardest. You Done Good Buddy!

Jessie Robinson- Rachel
Jessie, from Isleaboro, ME, is a second year theatre major here at U.S.M. She was most recently seen as Graziella in West Side Story. You may have seen her back stage doing tech work on several shows in the last U.S.M. seasons. This is her first major role at U.S.M. and she’s very proud of the work all of her cast mates have put into this production. “Thank you, thank you everyone for everything. It’s been a great experience.” She dedicates this performance to everyone that she loves.

Elizabeth A. Chambers- Cindy
Elizabeth is a sophomore theatre major here at U.S.M. from Orono, ME. She has been in the following U.S.M. productions: As You Like It (A tree!), Family Values (Kass) performed at Oak Street Theatre, Dance U.S.M. ’98 and ’99, and West Side Story (A Jet Girl). She also assistant stage managed The Boys Next Door and Dirt. Elizabeth would like to show her appreciation to all of the cast and crew with a simple “thank you” for all their hard work and creative talent.

Liberty Freeman- Kevin
Liberty is graduating as a theatre major this semester at U.S.M., as a transfer student from U.M.F. Her past credits include the roles of Hypatia Tarleton in Misalliance, Eve Sandor in The Danube, and Beth in Miss Nowhere Diner which was performed at Oak Street Theatre. She has been nominated three times as an Irene Ryan Candidate, and succeeded one year to the semi-finals. Liberty plans on traveling across country this summer seeing the sites and teaching mischief to young children; and during her voyage, she will always remember this crazy cast of characters, bless them all.

Josh Chenard- Paul
Josh Chenard is a senior theatre major at U.S.M., where he has performed several roles including: Bartholo in The Marriage of Figaro, Barney in As Is, Doc in West Side Story and Vic in the American premiere of Xavier Durringer’s A Taste of Killing on the Tip of the Tongue. Josh has performed locally as Barnette Lloyd in City Theater’s Crimes of the Heart, and John Smith in Pine Tree Players’ production of Run For You Wife. Josh has also performed the role of Timothy James in a dinner theater production of Tammy Jo and Billy Bob’s Wedding for Renegade Productions. Josh is a member of Five a Day, a local acting troupe which travels to local elementary schools educating the students on healthy eating. Josh is the director for the Breakwater School in Portland where he has directed several productions including Little Red Riding Hood: A Spoof and James and the Giant Peach. They say that if you have one true friend you have more than your fair share. I am blessed, I have three. Thank you Luca, Leslie and Patrick.
Piper Major- Esther
Piper is a graduating Senior from Cody, Wyoming. You may have seen her as Phoebe in As You Like It. She was also Lord #2 in a production of As You Like it at Niagara University. She has performed in the Medieval Christmas shows in Kennebunkport. She was an Irene Ryan Partner this last January. She is honored to be part of this project and wishes all of her friends good luck in life and their careers.

Samantha Kinne- Gillian
A sophomore theater major from Cumberland, ME. Sam is hot off the show of West Side Story and is excited to be working with such a talented group of actors, artists and technicians. Favorite credits include Evilene in The Wiz, Mrs. Fremus/ Mrs. Warren/ Clara in The Boys Next Door, Winnefred in Once Upon A Mattress and Hair. This summer she will be in Grannie at the Schoolhouse Performing Arts Center. “Big thanks to my mother for her support and for being such a good person to study for this part.”