



Stage Write

The Newsletter of ONSTAGE PLAYHOUSE

Volume 15, Number 4

January 2006

A bride and groom's future together is challenged in the magical, romantic comedy *Prelude to a Kiss*

by *Jeanne Danis*

Lovers sometimes complain that "marriage changes everything." And the upcoming comedy-romance at OnStage Playhouse shakes this bromide for all it's worth in *Prelude to a Kiss*, opening Friday, January 13.

When a strange old man plants a congratulatory kiss on a bride during her wedding reception, a "magical moment" creates a cosmic disturbance, and nothing is ever the same in this modern fairy tale.

Playwright Craig Lucas, in this 1992 comedy which he later turned into a film, explores what happens in a soul-transference between totally different people. Director Daniel Zisko's talented cast brings the fantasy alive.

Playing the bride and bridegroom, Julie Ann Compton and Jason Anderson lead the troupe with Neal Sullivan as the old man. Joey Georges, Lisa Moctezuma, Alexander Nguyen, James E. Steinberg and Layla N. Stuckey fill out the cast.

Prelude to a Kiss will play Thursdays through Saturdays at 8 pm, Sunday matinees at 2 pm through February 11. Tickets are \$14, or \$12 for seniors, students, and active military. Group rates are available for 10 or more. This show is not recommended for young children.

There is ample free parking nearby, both on the street and in the Pacific Trust Bank parking lot behind the theater. For information and reservations, call (619) 422-7787. Reservation requests may also be made on our web site, located at www.onstageplayhouse.org.



Peter (Jason Anderson) notices a strange indifference from his bride Rita (Julie Ann Compton) as an amused Old Man (Neal Sullivan) looks on.

photo by Tony Eisenhower

Opening Night Receptions

We are very pleased that Barbara Scott's family wishes us to continue her legacy of the "Opening Night Receptions." This was her passion here for many years. With the \$2000 Don Scott and family donated, we will be able to carry on her tradition in her memory as she would have liked us to do..

The “V” Word

by Teri Brown

“Vagina. Doesn’t matter how many times you say it, it never sounds like a word you want to say.” – Eve Ensler, *The Vagina Monologues*.

Well, we are going to be saying the “V” word for two special nights in February at OnStage Playhouse. And we are going to be saying it a lot! I am extremely pleased to announce a staged reading of *The Vagina Monologues* as part of the worldwide V-Day campaign to stop violence against women. One hundred percent of all proceeds will be donated to V-Day’s Spotlight Campaign and Casa Seguras, a South Bay safe house for abused women and children.

The power of *The Vagina Monologues* around the world is its ability to galvanize, enlighten, inspire a sense of self and activism, and communicate issues that are often difficult to articulate or hear. The play allows audiences to immerse in topics that are otherwise taboo, silenced by the media, or stifled by the mind that does not want to contend with such painful or personal images.

I am honored to be directing and organizing this amazing event. The talented cast features many familiar faces: Julie Anderson-Sachs, Chrissy Burns, Christina Christianson, Debbie David, Connie DiGrazia, Kaly McKenna, and Lori Pennington. In approaching this project, I selected not only some of the best actresses I know, but some of my closest friends.

Women share many stories and experiences. Sadly, some involve abuse. The women involved in this project are no exception. We are strong women who have personally survived rape, incest, domestic abuse and what many consider personal tragedy. Our individual stories and details do not matter. We survived. We continue to live. Others are not so fortunate. We do this for them.

Please help stop the violence.

Performance dates are Monday, February 13 and Tuesday, February 14, 2006 and the ticket price is \$15.00. All seating is first-come, first served. As this is a fundraiser for our community, no discounts will be given.

Please call 619-422-RSVP (7787) to make your reservations, or request your reservation on line at www.onstageplayhouse.org. Act soon because reservations are pouring in already!! Please note that this production contains mature themes and language.

RENEWAL

by Charles Nichols

In April 2004 we took a critical look at our theatre. It became apparent that five years of hard usage had brought us to the point where “renewal” had become essential. So we undertook seven upgrade projects.

Some of these are visible to you as audience members, others worked behind the scene to help us improve the quality of our theatre offerings. The upgrade program cost \$11,998. For our small theatre company that is a very substantial investment. All the more so since we were making the investment in a leased building. This is what we accomplished:

New carpeting.

New theatre seats.

Upgrade and decoration of the lobby.

Dressing room upgrade.

Resurfaced the stage floor.

Added a stage light dimmer control unit.

Purchased additional stage lights.

This ambitious program was funded from these sources:

1. A generous grant from the COL Frank C. Wood Memorial Fund at The San Diego Foundation — \$9,383.
2. A generous donation from Raylene J. Wall, who directed our production of *Godspell*, for the six new spotlights — \$1,760.
3. OnStage Playhouse General Fund — \$855.
4. TOTAL FUNDING — \$11,998.

Are we through with “renewal”? Not by a long shot. We know there is more to be done. The auditorium space needs repainting. The lobby still needs improvements in décor. The office area needs improvement. Our six year-old computer needs to be replaced by a new one. There are further improvements we need to make in our lighting and sound systems. Our inadequate tool and equipment storage needs to be addressed. Our rental storage space for flats, furniture, and set pieces is inadequate. The building façade needs to better identify the theatre. It will be a continuing challenge to keep our theater space up to date and representative of the quality productions we present.

If you have suggestions on these or other unmet needs or would like to help us fund these efforts we’d like to hear from you.

President's Corner

By *Betsy Keller*

Dear Friends,

It is hard to believe that we are half way through our 2005/2006 Season, and what a season it is! We began with the power of friendship with *Steel Magnolias*, followed by the power of suggestion...*The Crucible*, and then the power of laughter with the *Birthday Suite*. All three productions were diverse and excellent.

Starting in January, we begin with the power of love...*Prelude to a Kiss*. This is a romantic comedy you do not want to miss! The cast is wonderful and they are having a great time together. This translates into another outstanding show being produced at OnStage Playhouse.

Don't wait to the last minute to make your reservations. In fact, I challenge all of you to invite a friend to join you so we can have sold out performances when the show opens and not wait until closing weekend.

The Board of Directors is working hard to improve our organization. If you have any suggestions or constructive criticism, please do not hesitate to call me. I do have a listening ear, and I am truly interested in what you have to say. I can be reached at (619) 205-4113.

I hope you all experience a healthy and happy New Year. Until we meet again...support OnStage Playhouse.

20 Theater Seat Donors

We are very appreciative of our latest seat donors. Martin & Carol Kendrick, Marguerite Mettetal, and Sally Skartvedt made donations to OnStage Playhouse for theater seats in memory of their friend, Barbara Scott. A couple of our theatre patrons, David & Susan Hagstrom, also made a seat donation.

Donations are still being accepted in the amount of \$100 per seat. Donors will be recognized with their name on a plaque in the lobby. You too could join our elite group of donors. Donor cards are available on the donor table in the lobby. Please specify that your donation is for the purchase of the theatre seats.

ONSTAGE PLAYHOUSE AUDITION NOTICE

The Foreigner

Comedy by Larry Shue

Directed by Dave Rethoret

Sunday, March 12, and Monday, March 13 at 7:00 pm

"Froggy" LeSeuer brings his pathologically shy friend to a Georgia fishing lodge. He passes his friend off as a foreigner who doesn't understand English. As a result, his friend learns some dark secrets.

Auditions are held at the theater and appointments are not necessary. For a description of roles and further information about the auditions, please log on to our web site, www.onstageplayhouse.org. The Foreigner runs from May 5 to June 3, 2006. If you have further questions, you may leave a message on the theater phone at (619) 422-7787.

Around the County

We encourage you to support other community theatre companies in the county. Here are some of the upcoming shows being offered by our sister theatre groups in San Diego County.

Harvey

PowPAC
Jan. 20 - Feb. 12
Call (858) 679-8085

Nunsense

Lamplighters Community
Theatre, La Mesa
Feb. 10 - Mar. 5
Call (619) 464-4598

Chicken Every Sunday

Patio Playhouse,
Escondido
Jan. 27 - Feb. 19
Call (760) 746-6669

The Lion in Winter

Scripps Ranch Theater
Feb. 10 - Mar. 11
Call (858) 578-7728

Wait Until Dark

Coronado Playhouse
Feb. 3 - Mar. 12
Call (619) 435-4856

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ONSTAGE PLAYHOUSE

P. O. Box 120044
Chula Vista, CA 91912

ONSTAGE PLAYHOUSE

Office Staff: Kimberly Garland
Technical Director: Chris Warner
Facilities Manager: Chad Oakley

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Rosemary King	Janis Vanderford
Lisa Moctezuma	Dan Zisko

Theater telephone: (619) 422-7787

Visit us on the web at

<http://www.onstageplayhouse.org>

email: OnStagePlayhouse@excite.com

PLAYING AT ONSTAGE. . .

Prelude to a Kiss

by Craig Lucas Directed by Daniel Zisko
January 13 - February 11, 2006

Dancing at Lughnasa

by Brian Friel Director to be announced
March 10 - April 8, 2006

Performances are Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings at
8:00 pm and Sunday afternoons at 2:00 pm

OUR THEATER IS LOCATED IN DOWNTOWN CHULA
VISTA AT 291 THIRD AVENUE, NEAR F STREET.

LOOK FOR THE GREEN AWNING.
ONSTAGE PLAYHOUSE IS AN EQUAL
OPPORTUNITY ORGANIZATION.

OnStage Playhouse is supported in part by a grant from
Supervisor Greg Cox and the County Board of Supervisors.
Theatre renovation was made possible by a grant from
the Colonel Frank C. Wood Memorial Fund at
The San Diego Foundation.