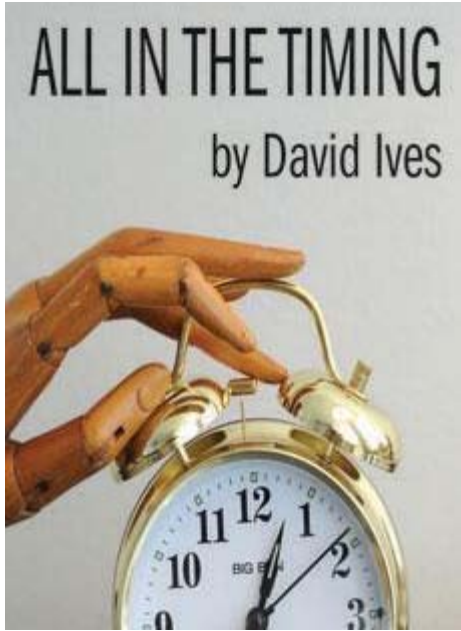


It will be 'All in the Timing' for 'An Ives Evening' on stage in C.D. Smith Theatre

9/19/14



The Alfred University (AU) Performing Arts Division will pay homage to American playwright David Ives during four nightly presentations of “An Ives Evening/All in the Timing,” Wednesday, Oct. 1 to Saturday, Oct. 4 beginning at 8 p.m. in the C.D. Smith Theatre, Miller Performing Arts Center on campus.

General admission is \$10 while cost for senior citizens and non-AU students is \$5; admission is \$2 for AU students. Please email performs@alfred.edu or call 607.871.2828 for reservations.

Ives is known for his short comic plays that follow deep cerebral paths to examine and expose the inner complications and details of American life. His plays have been described as “witty, quirky, heady, and surprisingly logical.”

The seven selected pieces that make up “An Ives Evening/All in the Timing” are “Words, Words, Words;” “The Universal Language;” “Phillip Glass Buys a Loaf of Bread;” “Sure Thing;” “Foreplay, or The Art of the Fugue;” “The Philadelphia;” and “Seven Menus.”

“Words, Words, Words” walks through the process of three chimpanzees typing randomly in a science experiment to create “Hamlet.” “The Universal Language” follows the story of a con man running a scam to teach a made-up language to any willing (and paying) student. “Phillip Glass Buys a Loaf of Bread,” an operatic satire, was composed by Phillip Glass, contemporary composer from Baltimore. “Sure Thing” centers on a chance meeting in a restaurant that may result in a budding and lasting relationship. “Foreplay, or The Art of the Fugue” follows the story of a man named Chuck who tries to win over the heart of a girl through three different miniature golf “first” dates. “The Philadelphia,” a play set in a New York City diner explores the idea of distant cities being portrayed as states of mind or states of being like Cleveland being described as “death, without the advantages.” And lastly, “Seven Menus” examines marital relationships, changes, and exchanges while taking place in a restaurant as well.

Student performers include Morgan Rairigh, a first-year art and design major from New Hope, PA, as Kafka in “Words, Words, Words,” Martha in “The Philadelphia,” and Dawn in “Seven Menus;” Abigail Hurley, a sophomore Spanish major from Barrington, RI, as Swift in “Words, Words, Words” and Dawn in “The Universal Language;” Nicki Jones, a sophomore theater and English major from Muncy, PA, as Milton in “Words, Words, Words” and Alma in “Foreplay, or The Art of the Fugue.”

Also, Brian O'Connor, a sophomore English major from Chittenango, as Don in “The Universal Language” and Fluff

in “Seven Menus;” Aubrey Fry, a senior math and physics major from Jasper, as First Woman in “Phillip Glass Buys a Loaf of Bread,” and Amy in “Foreplay, or The Art of the Fugue;” Rachel Romack, a senior theater and psychology major from Ithaca, as second woman in “Phillip Glass Buys a Loaf of Bread,” Betty in “Sure Thing,” and Hazel in “Seven Menus;” Nathan Yard, a senior biomedical materials engineering science major from Quakertown, PA, as Glass in “Phillip Glass Buys a Loaf of Bread,” Chuck I in “Foreplay, or The Art of the Fugue,” and Paul in “Seven Menus.”

In addition, Noah Mitchell, a first-year student from Elizabethtown, PA, as Baker in “Phillip Glass Buys a Loaf of Bread,” and Bill in “Sure Thing;” Delaney O’Hare, a first-year theater major from Wallkill, as Annie in “Foreplay, or The Art of the Fugue” and Phyllis in “Seven Menus;” Andrew Hazer, a junior theater major from New York City, as Chuck II in “Foreplay, or The Art of the Fugue,” Waiter in “The Philadelphia,” and Jack in “Seven Menus;” Sean Heverin, a first-year art and design major from Merrick, as Chuck III in “Foreplay, or The Art of the Fugue” and Barry in “Seven Menus;” and Samantha Faller, a first-year engineering major from York, PA as Ally in “The Philadelphia,” and Ruth in “Seven Menus.”

In addition to those performing, several students will be designing for the first time. Sophomore art and design major from Middleburg Heights, Ohio Nick Labate will be designing costumes for “Phillip Glass Buys a Loaf of Bread” and collaborating on the poster and other publicity visuals with junior art and design major from Whitehall, PA Jason Dearing. Dearing and first-year student Grace Beekman from Middleburgh will join junior Cassidy Teagle from New York City to design the floor plans and props for “Foreplay, or The Art of the Fugue” and “The Philadelphia.” Teagle will also design the costumes for both of those pieces.

Alongside the 15 students involved in the making and delivery of this production, Becky Prophet, theater professor, and Zach Hamm, technical director in the Performing Arts Division, and AU senior political science and theater double major Jamal Welcome of Brooklyn will be collectively directing/staging the performances. Welcome will direct “Sure Thing” while Prophet will direct the other six plays. Hamm will work as the technical director alongside Prophet to coordinate, light, and stage all seven plays.

Prophet is an alumna of Alfred University holding a bachelor of arts degree in English. She earned a master of arts degree and Ph.D. from the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor. Having spent nearly three decades working and teaching in theater, she has acted, directed, and taught in Massachusetts, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Atlanta. She enjoys directing plays which challenge students and audiences and favors theater which addresses for social and political change. She is active in the Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival (KC/ACTF) and Association for Theatre in Higher Education and has created an intensive directing institute for students, presents numerous workshops and papers, and directs new plays at every conference.

Hamm has worked on dozens of productions along the East Coast, particularly in New York, North Carolina, and Virginia. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in architectural studies and art from Connecticut College, New London, CT and a master of fine arts degree in technical theater production from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. At AU, he is responsible for supporting two dance performances, three theater productions, and in excess of 10 music events in the Miller Performing Arts Center annually while teaching.