

Utah Shakespearean Festival announces Fall season's plays and activities

Even though the curtain has risen on the Tony Award-winning Utah Shakespearean Festival's exciting 2005 summer season, the planning and work never stop, and an exciting lineup of plays and activities has already been scheduled for the Fall season.

The Randall L. Jones Theatre will feature three plays, scheduled to run from September 22 to October 29.

All's Well That Ends Well, directed by J.R. Sullivan, reveals the complications that arise when the king forces young Count Bertram to marry the orphaned Helena. Marry her he must, but he vows never to love her or to consummate the marriage, unless Helena can complete a nearly impossible task. Shakespeare once again shows us that callow youth is no match for true love and a determined woman in one of his "dark" comedies.

Pippin, with music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz and directed by Marc Robin, relates the adventures of the son of eighth-century Emperor Charlemagne, who is on a quest to find his true calling and fulfillment in life. His search leads him through war, politics and love. This timeless musical will leave you singing, as Pippin finally finds his "Corner of the Sky" and decides what it is that truly brings the happy life.

The Foreigner, written by Larry Shue and directed by Paul Barnes, is a hilarious recounting of what happens when two Englishmen, Froggy and Charlie, arrive in a rural Georgia fishing lodge. When others at the lodge try to talk to the pathologically shy Charlie, he doesn't respond. Froggy, in order to make things easier for his friend, claims that Charlie is from

an exotic foreign country and doesn't speak English. Imagine all the things Charlie overhears—much more than he should—including the schemes of a very sinister minister.

If you haven't been to the Utah Shakespearean Festival in the fall, you've been missing half the fun! Besides the plays, the Festival hosts numerous family activities on the grounds surrounding the Randall L. Jones Theatre on the corner of 300 West and University Boulevard in Cedar City. These include the Cedar City Arts Festival September 24, the Color Country Quilt Gathering October 1-2, the High School Shakespeare Competition October 6-8, the Great Pumpkin Festival October 15, and the Tent of Terror October 20-22, 26-29, and 31.

Plenty of good seating is available for both the Summer (June 23 - September 3) and Fall (September 22 - October 29) Festival seasons. Tickets can be ordered over the internet at www.bard.org; by telephone at 800-PLAYTIX; and in person at the Box Office, 300 West and University Boulevard in Cedar City.

Corliss Preston (left) as Puck and Michael Sharon as Oberon in the Utah Shakespearean Festival's Summer 2005 production of A Midsummer Night's Dream. (Copyright Utah Shakespearean Festival. Photo by Karl Hugh.)

