

FOR RELEASE:

IMMEDIATE

Mailed July 16, 1987

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio - Theatrefest's production of "High Spirits," the third and final offering in University Theatre's summer repertory, opens on Thursday, July 30, in Kilcawley Center's Chestnut Room.

A tuneful adaptation of Noel Coward's recently revived "Blithe Spirit," "High Spirits" is a lively romping '40s musical.

The ingenious plot revolves around the hilarious mix-ups that result when novelist Charles Condomine, through wacky medium Madame Arcati, accidentally conjures up from the dead his first wife, Elvira, while he is married to his second wife, Ruth.

In the Theatrefest '87 production of "High Spirits," Mark Serman of Struthers, a YSU history graduate, portrays Charles; Maureen Putnam of Uhrichsville, a YSU music education senior, plays Elvira; and Killeen Vogel of Boardman, a YSU voice major, is Ruth. Joan L. Claypoole of Austintown, a YSU senior voice and music history major, plays the role of Madame Arcati.

Chet Domitz of Struthers, a YSU business major, is Dr. Bradman. Mrs. Bradman is played by Paula Rose McConnell of Canton, a YSU theatre major. Crystal Reeher, a Brookfield High School student, completes the cast as Edith, the maid.

The chorus includes several area high school students. They are Erin Chuey of Girard High School, Patsi Cline of Boardman High, Dave Crawford of Wilson, and Christina Peltz of Liberty High School. ~~MELISSA~~ Melissa Landgraver of Austintown Fitch High School is an alternate member of the chorus.

MORE

ADD ONE

Other members of the chorus are Jodie Begeot of Hubbard, Paul Bigby of Warren, Bob Dubec of Boardman, Chris Hamady of Poland, and Frederica Johnson of Youngstown.

The musical farce is directed by YSU senior voice major William Ambert of Hubbard. Scenery and lighting were designed by Todd W. Dicken of Columbiana, a YSU theatre major. Costumes are by Jane Shanabarger of Boardman, YSU instructor in Speech Communication and Theatre.

James Gabriel of Salem, a YSU piano performance student, is the music director. James Johnson of Youngstown, a YSU organ major, will be at the second piano; and Stephen Ley of Pittsburgh, a senior percussion major at YSU, will be on drums.

Michele Lepore-Hagan of Youngstown, a YSU art education graduate, is the choreographer. Cathleen Connors of Warren, a YSU speech communication and theatre major, serves as the stage manager.

"High Spirits," presented dinner theatre style, will run July 30, 31, Aug. 8, 9, 13, 14, 15 and 16. Show time on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays is 8 p.m., with buffet style dinners served at 6:30 p.m. Sunday matinees are at 2:30 p.m. with buffet style brunches served at 1 p.m.

Admission to Threatrefest productions is by reserved seat ticket only, with paid meal reservations required at least two days in advance (by noon on Thursday for Sunday brunch).

Tickets may be reserved by calling the University Theatre Box Office (216) 742-3105. Box Office hours are 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays; 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on performance evenings; and 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. on performance Sundays. Because of heavy demand for tickets, advance reservations are strongly recommended.

The price for tickets to the general public is \$15 for both dinner and show on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings; \$12.50 for brunch and show on Sunday afternoons. Tickets for the show alone are \$7 per performance. Special rates are available for non-university students, senior citizens and YSU alumni.

MORE

ADD TWO

YSU's Kilcawley Center on Spring Street is handicapped accessible. Parking is available in surface lots close to Kilcawley Center for \$1 on Thursdays and Fridays. Parking is free Saturdays and Sundays.

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