Bucknell Department of Theatre and Dance presents

William Congreve's Comedy

Love for Love

April 18, 19, 20 and 21, 1997 Coleman Hall University Theatr

Bucknell's Department of Theatre and Dance presents

Love for Love

A Comedy by William Congreve

Direction: Robert Gainer
Set Design: Elaine Williams
Light Design: Heath Hansum
Costume Design: Karen Anselm
Movement: Danna Frangione
Voice/Text: Barry Kur

Cast:

(in order of appearance)

Valentine

Christopher Scholl	
David Carpenter	Jeremy
Randy Faust	Scandal
Jeremy Walker	Trapland
Levent Onar	Snap
Theodore Avgerinos	. Steward to Sampson
Todd Ross	Tattle
Janellen Duffy	Mrs. Frail
Ted Burnes	Foresight
Michael Brennan	. Servant to Foresight
Xan Franklin	Nurse
Stacy Spatola	Angelica
Shannon M. Kearns	Mrs. Foresight
Kelly George	
Glen Henderson	Sir Sampson
Landon Sulick	Ben
Ethan Page	Sailor
Cesar Ruiz	Sailor
Michael Ferry	Fiddler
Ann Bonner.	,
Derek Powell	Buckram
Heather Schweiger	Harpsichordist

Time: 1690's Place: London

Act I: Valentine's Lodgings – morning

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Act II: A Room in Foresight's House - same day

Act III: Foresight's Gallery adjoining Miss Prue's Bedchamber – evening

Act IV: Valentine's Anteroom leading to His Chamber - next morning

Act V: A Room at Foresight's House - later that day

Smoking, the taking of photographs, or the use of recording devices is strictly prohibited.

Production Staff

Technical Director	Heath Hansum
Ass't Technical Direction	Ted Ozimek
Stage Manager	Stef Bischoff
Ass't Stage Managers	Debby Krantz, Elena Dodge
Ass't to Director	
Ass't to Costume Director	Lisa Forrest
Costumer	Pam Miller
Master Electrician	
Costume Construction	Justine Berger, Deane Clements
	Sarah Hart, Carolyn Jamison
	Betsy Klingler, Sara Pfaff, Gretchen Phillips
Lighting TA	Leanne Wissinger
Sound TA's	
	Karen Forgione
Costume TA's	Catherine Lisciandra, Jessica Lurker
	Vanessa Peet, Kathleen Thomson
Costume Running Crew	
	Amanda Parker, Colin Ward
Scene Shop TA's	Eric Charles, Ashley Elder,
	Jonathan Fischer, Rodney Young
Painting	Stef Bishoff, Maggie Scott, Christin Smith
	Derek Byron, Sandie Pisieczko
	Todd Ross, Suzi Esser
Props TA's	Derek Byron
	Sandie Pisieczko
Publicity TA's	Molly Ellis, Christin Smith
Lightboard Operator	Matthew Parker
Stage Carpenter	Maureen Kelly
Ushers	Provided by Cap & Dagger

The Department of Theatre and Dance

Danna Frangione, director of dance	Technique and theory
Robert Gainer, director of theatre	Acting and directing
Gary Grant, chair	Theatre history, theory, directing
Heath Hansum	Technical direction, lighting
Er-Dong Hu	
Elaine Williams, driector of scenography .	Design
Laurie McCants	Adjunct Instructor
Christine Fry	Secretary
Pam Miller	Costumer
Lisa Forrest	Costume Intern
Ted Ozimek	Technical Direction Intern

Upcoming Events

Bucknell Dance Co. Spring Performance, Weis Center May 2 & 3, 8 p.m.

Karen Anselm, Guest Costume Designer is Director of Theatre at Bloomsburg University and Vice Chair of ACTF, Region II.

Barry Kur, Guest Vocal Coach is an Associate Professor and Master Teacher of Voice in the School of Theatre Arts at Penn. State University.

-NOTES-



William Congreve:

- 1670 Born at Bardsley, near Leeds, Yorkshire. His father fights for the King during the Civil War, commanding a garrison. The family settles in Ireland where Congreve goes to school, and then to Trinity College, Dublin, where he is a contemporary of Jonathan Swift.
- 1691 Having enrolled in the Middle Temple, he soon gives up law for literature when he publishes a novel of intrigue *Incognita*, or love and duty reconci'd.
- 1693 Achieves sudden fame with the staging, on Dryden's recommendation, of his first play, The Old Bachelor. "Written for amusement in the langor of convalescence, yet it is apparently composed with great elaborateness of dialogue and incessant ambition of wit." (Dr. Johnson, Lives of the Poets). His second play, The Double Dealer, is also staged this year, starring Anne Bracegirdle, known for her virtue, yet said to be Congreve's mistress.
- 1694 Love for Love first staged.
- 1697 His only tragedy, The Mourning Bride, produced.
- 1698 A Short View of the Profaneness and Immorality of the English Stage by Jeremy Collier is published an instant success with the Puritans. It is a violent and combative attack on the on the work of contemporary dramatists, particularly Congreve, Dryden, and Vambrugh. Congreve publishes a response to Collier before the end of the year: False and Imperfect Citations.
- 1700 Congreve's The Way of the World is performed by Thomas Betterton's company.
- 1705 Congreve and Vambrugh meet financial disaster with the opening of their new Queens Theatre in Haymarket, London.
- 1714 On the accession of George I, Congreve is appointed Secretary of Jamaica.

 Previous government "places" he has held include Commissioner for Hackney Coaches, Customer at Poole, Wine Licenser, and Undersearcher at the Port of London. He has now become friendly with the Earl of Godolphin, whose wife Henrietta succeeded Mrs. Bracegirdle in Congreve's affections.
- 1722 Henrietta's mother, Sarah, refers to her as Congreve's "moll". Henrietta and Congreve retire to Bath together and their daughter Mary is born.
- 1729 Congreve dies in his lodgings off the Strand from internal injuries received when his carriage overturns on a journey to Bath. He is buried in Westminster Abbey.

On Congreve's Work:

VOLTAIRE, from Letters Concerning the English Nation, 1733:

Mr. Congreve raised the glory of comedy to a greater height than any English writer before or since his time. He wrote only a few plays, but they are excellent in their kind. The laws of Drama are strictly observ'd in them; they abound with Characters all which are shadowed with the utmost delicacy, and we don't meet with so much as one low, or coarse jest. The language is everywhere that of men of honour, but their actions are those of knaves, a proof that he was perfectly well acquainted with human nature, and frequented what we call polite company. He was infirm and come to the verge of life when I knew him. Mr. Congreve has one defect, which was entertaining too mean an idea of his own first profession, that of writer, though it was to this he owed his fame and fortune. He spoke of his works as of trifles that were beneath him, and hinted to me in our first converation that I should visit him upon no other foot than that of a gentleman who led a life of plainness and simplicity. I answered that had he been so unfortunate as to be a mere gentleman, I should never have come to see him; and I was very much disgusted at so unreasonable a piece of vanity.

CHARLES LAMB, 1822:

I do not know how it is with others, but I feel the better always for the perusal of one of Congreve's comedies. I am the gayer at least for it; and I could never connect those sports of a witty fancy in any shape with any result to be drawn from them to imitation in real life. They are a world of themselves almost as much as fairy-land.

LORD MACAULAY, 1843:

Two kinds of ambition early took possession of his mind, and often pulled it in opposite directions... He longed to be a great writer. He longed to be a man of fashion... The history of his life is the history of a conflict between these two impulses.

KENNETH TYNAN, 1953:

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William Congreve is the only sophisticated playwright England has ever produced; and, like Shaw, Sheridan, and Wildes, his nearest rivals, he was brought up in Ireland. By sophisticated I mean genial without being hearty, witty without being smug, wise without being pompous, and sensual without being lewd...Because they speak precisely and with affection for the language they are using, it is usually taken for granted that Congreve's characters are unreal. Nothing could be more misguided. These people do not bare their souls (that would smack of nudism), but they are real enough. It is the plot which is unreal.... a labyrinth (that) is so brilliantly peopled that you forget the goal. Congreve's genius is for mixing and contrasting human beings, not for taking them anywhere in particular.

CONGREVE to the critic John Dennis, on the subject of humour, July 1695: For my part, I am as willing to laugh as anybody and as easily diverted with an object truly ridiculous. But at the same time, I can never care for seeing things that force me to entertain low thoughts of my nature. I do not know how it is with others, but I confess freely to you, I could never look long upon a monkey without very mortifying reflections.... I should be unwilling to venture even on a bare description of humour, much more to make a definition of it; but now my hand is in, I will tell you what serves me instead of either. I take it to be, a singular and unavoidable manner of doing or saying any thing, peculiar and natural to one man only; by which his speech and actions are distinguished from those of other men. Our humour has relation to us, and to what proceeds from us, as the accidents have to a substance; it is a colour, taste, and smell, diffused through all; though our actions are never so many, and different in form, they are all splinters of the same wood, and have naturally one complexion; which, though it may be disguished by art, yet cannot be wholly changed: we may paint it with colours, but we cannot change the grain.

Special Thanks To: Melissa-Anne Blizzard, Jim Clark, Iris Gainer, Larry Haire, Clive Heyn, David Himmelreich, Dale Hourlland, David Lien, Rudolph and Carolyn Merkel, Chris Para, Bill Payn, Roz Richards, Roller Mill East, Robbins Marine, Jean Peterson, Heather Schweiger, George Waltman, Leslie Williams, Bloomsburg University Theatre Dept., Bloomsburg Theatre Ensemble and a very special note of appreciation to the Bucknell Association for the Arts for generously supporting the residency of guest artist Barry Kur.

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