

Tame that shrew! A new take on an old classic

Brampton Guardian

BRAMPTON— Resurrecting a Brampton favourite is what this year's Shakespeare in the Square is all about— but it won't be the same show you've seen before.

The 2013 presentation of *The Taming of the Shrew*, which runs at Garden Square Tuesdays to Thursdays at 7 p.m. until Aug. 15, is a cut-down, to-the-point presentation of one of the Bard's classic plays.

Director Rob Woodcock says the shortened version— which runs about an hour— “tell the whole story, hitting on all the important bits”.

Last year's presentation of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* was the Rose Theatre's first attempt at presenting a trimmed down, not-too-serious version of Shakespeare— and it was very well-received.

“Some people are afraid of Shakespeare because of the language and they may perceive it has hard to follow,” said Woodcock. “I do believe (this format) makes it more accessible and approachable.”

And besides that, it's funny.

While the play was first penned sometime in the 1590s, and focusses on a man “taming” his headstrong bride until she becomes obedient, Woodcock has chosen to set the play in the 1950s, and lighten it up a little.

Why the 1950s?

“It was the last true misogynistic time in North America— where a woman speaking her mind might be perceived as ‘out of place’,” said Woodcock, who hopes the audience will enjoy this version.

The play was staged twice before— in 2008 in Garden Square, and 2002 in Ken Whillans Square— and had a good reception both times.

It's a play, said Woodcock, that Brampton audiences seem to enjoy.

The cast of 12 features a mix of GTA actors, with Trevor Cartlidge of Toronto as Petruchio, Alison Dowling of Toronto as Kate, and Brampton actors Joseph Cochrane as Baptista and Katrina Gibson as Tranio.

For more, visit www.rosetheatre.ca (<http://www.rosetheatre.ca>). Shows are weather permitting and are pay-what-you-can.



Cowboy - Gremico - Mark Grice. Clayton Gray and Female - Bianca - Georgia Shultz.



L to R: Alison Dowling and Joseph Cochrane



L to R: Mark Grice, Clayton Gray and far right Joseph Cochrane

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Cowboy Mark Grice and T Shirt Clayton Gray

L to R: Katrina Gibson, Clayton Gray and Mark Grice.

Alison Dowling is angry.

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Cowboy marked on List of Cast photo.
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