



Shakespeare returns

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Shakespeare in the Square makes a triumphant return this year with *Much Ado About Nothing*. In the original play, all the action happens in Messina, a port on the island of Sicily, but Brampton residents will be able to enjoy seven performances of the bard's comedy at the Lorna Bissell Fountain Stage (in front of the Rose Theatre Brampton) from Aug. 8 to 25.

The festival kicks off Sunday, Aug. 8, when two performances at 4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. are scheduled to take place.

The ever-popular outdoor summer theatre festival, put together for the benefit of the residents and theatre lovers in the city, has been possible thanks largely due to the generous support of Brampton's local theatrical community whose members donated their time and wardrobes.

The 45-minute version of the bard's comedy is about two pairs of lovers—Benedick and Beatrice and Claudio and Hero. It will be directed by David Cairns with musical direction by Mike Gauthier and include a stellar line-up of Rose Theatre Brampton veterans such as Cecily Restivo (Ursula), Linda Spence (Beatrice), Kaylan Worsnop (Hero), William Poulin (Leonato), Peter Nelson (Benedick), Michael Lockett (Claudio), Jhunte Grey (Balthasar), David Cairns (Don Pedro) and Tracy Rowland (Beatrice understudy).

Deceit, laughter and infidelity are subplots that guide the play about two completely opposite pair of lovers. Benedick and Beatrice are portrayed as merry, mile-a-minute talkers scoffing their thumb at love, marriage and each other, while in contrast, Claudio and Hero's love for one another is sweet and silent. By means of "noting" which is gossip and rumour, Benedick and Beatrice are tricked into confessing their love for each other and Claudio is misled into rejecting Hero at the altar.

Cost to watch *Much Ado About Nothing* is "Pay what you can." Donations at each performance to help cover production will however be appreciated.

For details about schedules, visit: www.rosetheatre.ca or call the Box Office at 905-874-2800.



Bard's stories. Melissa-Jane Shaw and Scott Lale seen here in a performance of *Taming of the Shrew*. This year, Shakespeare in the Square, returns with seven performances of *Much Ado About Nothing* staged at the Lorna Bissell Fountain from Aug. 8 to 25. *Submitted photo*

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