

'Turkey' not just for Thanksgiving

Relationships contribute to fresh comedic approach in Otterbein's latest production 'An Absolute Turkey'

BY SARAH DOUGLAS
Staff Writer

Need something to take the stresses of winter quarter away? Look no further than the Otterbein Department of Theatre and Dance's latest production, "An Absolute Turkey."

The comedic production, which opens tonight in Frische Theatre, is directed by Ed Vaughn and Assistant Student Director Seth Cotterman.

The play, full of comedic undertones and sexual innuendos, is sure to be a hit for students.

Based on the French play "Le Dindon" by Georges Feydeau and translated by Nicki Freil and Peter Hall, this complex and witty comedy about dysfunctional relationships shows that not every marriage has the ability to withstand trials and temptations.

"This play is about the sexual tensions and power struggles of a rather ridiculous group of people in 19th century France," junior Amanda Huxtable said, who plays the role of Armandine, a flirtatious socialite.

Huxtable went on to say, "Students who attend this production can expect to see a very naked butt, plenty of cleavage, hilarious Germans, a sexy French maid, and way too many people in one bed!"

The story takes place at a shabby local hotel, where four couples inadvertently book the same room.

Throughout the night, mischief takes place as the couples prove that being faithful to one another is not an easy feat.

Junior Christina Scariano and freshman Jake Robinson take on the roles of the play's main couple, Vatelín and Lucienne.



PHOTO BY ED SYGUDA

THREE'S A CROWD: "An Absolute Turkey," the newest production to come from the Otterbein Department of Theatre and Dance, questions marriage and the lengths couples will go to get even with their spouses.

The couple has a rather normal relationship for the time period in which equality in a marriage is more important than fidelity.

With this attitude in mind, Lucienne cooks up a scheme at the hotel to catch her husband, Vatelín, in an adulterous affair.

"Unfortunately things do not go as planned. At the hotel there are other love affairs occurring between characters which leads to riot and mayhem," junior Kolby Kindle said, who plays Pontagnac, a man helping to keep Lucienne and Vatelín apart.

It is safe to say that "An Absolute Turkey" is unlike any other play Otterbein has presented.

Many cast members said that it was because of the bizarre relationships and unique comedic aspect that they wanted to be involved in the production in the first place.

"I thought it was a clever show that had very developed characters. I thought it was very interesting how every character was linked to one another, and how love and lust force people to do bizarre things," Kindle said.

The crew agrees, stating that this production has allowed them to expand their horizons.

"It's a chance to work on a different style of play" says lighting designer Dana White. "The approach requires everyone to work a little 'over the top' and we get to exaggerate a little."

Aside from the outrageous characters and comedic plot, viewers should also pay close attention to the dynamic costumes and scenery.

"The show is visually beautiful with a stunning set and gorgeous costumes," Kindle said.

When asked why students should go to see the show Kindle said, "It is a light-hearted play that viewers will laugh until they cry and walk away with a smile on their face."

This farcical comedy is sure to keep you entertained. The show will run February 5-8, and again February 12-15. Tonight's performance begins at 7:30 p.m. in Frische Theatre. **t&c**