



NEWS

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GENERAL ENTERTAINMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUSPENSE, INTRIGUE, PASSION — *LES LIAISONS DANGEREUSES*

Otterbein Summer Theatre will open the season with the intrigue of *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* (Dangerous Liaisons) June 26 through July 13 with Equity guest actors Tim Gregory and Karen Radcliffe. Both actors graduated from Otterbein.

Gregory appeared in last summer's revival of *Charley's Aunt*. He was the first Otterbein student to win the prestigious Irene Ryan National Scholarship. His career has included work at Chicago's Shakespeare Repertory and Apple Tree Theatre as well as Ford's Theatre in Washington D.C. and the Contemporary American Theatre. He has appeared in the films *The Prodigy* and *Small Talk* as well as television shows and commercials.

Radcliffe has made numerous television appearances with parts on *The Trials of Rosie O'Neill*, *L.A. Law*, *Beauty and the Beast* and a recurring role on *Dallas*. Her film credits include *When the Bough Breaks*, *D.O.A.* and *Robocop*. On stage, she has acted at the Ft. Worth Shakespear Festival, Actors Theatre of Louisville and locally at Players Theatre. Recently she performed in Geva Theatre's new play reading series in *The One-Eyed Man Is King*. She last returned to Otterbein in 1992 to star in *The Heidi Chronicles*.

Currently Radcliffe works as the director of development for the Holliston Foundation in Pasadena, Calif., where her primary job is grant writing for renovation of historic landmarks.

Directed by Artistic Director Dennis Romer, *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* is set in France among aristocrats before the revolution. It is, nevertheless, a play for all time about sexual manners and manipulation, ending in tragedy.

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In a tale of high comedy and high drama, the Marquise de Merteuil hatches a plan for her ex-lover, the Vicomte de Valmont, to seduce the 15-year-old Cecile Volanges, as revenge against Cecile's fiancé - a man who threw over the Marquise for the Vicomte's mistress. The Marquise and Valmont are among the most compelling and irresistible villains to command center stage in recent memory. To them sex is an instrument of power, a weapon of revenge and a benchmark of salon reputation. This plot is created not only to humiliate the young couple but also as a diversion to amuse themselves - a parlor game almost.

Meanwhile, the Vicomte has his sights set on Madam Tourvel, woman famous for her strict morals, religious fervor and the happiness of her marriage. She resists his advances of course but the more she resists, the more he wants her and uses every manipulative device possible to gain her affections.

But what began as a game becomes of dire importance to all involved as the Vicomte finds he has honestly fallen in love with Madam Tourvel. It is a situation that can only lead to tragedy all around but is nonetheless an engrossing tale of suspense and passion.

Les Liaisons Dangereuses will be performed in the Campus Center Theatre, 100 W. Home St., June 26-29, July 2 and 3, July 5 and 6, and July 10-13. Tickets go on sale beginning June 16 and can be reserved by calling the box office at 823-1109 12:30 to 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 12:30 to 2 p.m. on Sundays. The box office will be closed June 30 and July 4. Ticket prices are \$14 for Sunday matinees and Wednesday performances, \$15 for Thursday and Friday nights and \$16 for Saturday and opening nights.