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Mainstage Season Continues with 'Company'

The Lindenwood University Department of Theatre will continue its 2006-2007 Mainstage Season with the Stephen Sondheim's groundbreaking musical "Company."

Performances will be at 7:30 p.m. on March 8, 9, 10, 16 and 17 and at 2 p.m. on March 10 in Jelkyl Theatre, located in Roemer Hall on Lindenwood's main campus, 209 S. Kingshighway. Ticket prices are \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors and \$8 for students (ages 12-18). For ticket reservations, contact the Lindenwood Box Office at 636-949-4878. Group rates are available.

The clashing sounds and pulsing rhythms of New York City underscore this landmark "concept" show, considered by many to have inaugurated the modern era of musical theatre. The music and lyrics are by Stephen Sondheim and the book is by George Furth.

The executive director and choreographer for the production is graduate MFA student Stacy M. Snyder. The stage manager is Jeanette Mattingly. The cast includes: Mike Dowdy as Robert, Andi Bloome as Amy, Peter Colombatto as Paul, Whitney Compton as Susan, Nicole Lombardi as Kathy, Adam Loyd as Peter, Shonelle McGill as Joanne, Katie McGowan as April, Theresa Nigus as Jenny, Devon AA Norris as Larry, Wes Rankin as Harry, Tara Rispin as Marta, Michelle Sauer as Sarah and Luke Wall as David.

The set designer is Donnell Walsh. The student set designer and master carpenter is Phillip Hughen. The lighting designer is Stephanie Robinson. The properties mistress is Shauna Staryak. The costume designer is Shonelle McGill. The musical director and conductor is Shane Williams.

"Company" follows bachelor Robert as he makes his way through a series of encounters with April (the stewardess), Kathy (the girl who's going to marry someone else), and Marta (the "peculiar" one), as well as with his married friends. On the night of his 35th birthday, he contemplates his unmarried state. In vignette after hilarious vignette, we are introduced to "those good and crazy people," his married friends, as Robert weighs the pros and cons of married life.

An honest, witty, sophisticated look at relationships, "Company" is as contemporary and relevant as ever (a revival of the musical is currently enjoying hit status on Broadway). It features a brilliant, energetic score containing many of Sondheim's best-known songs (including "Another Hundred People," "The Ladies Who Lunch" and "Being Alive") and an ensemble of quirky, memorable Woody Allen-esque characters which doubles as the show's chorus."

For more information, contact Ted Gregory, director of theatre, at 636-949-4966 or tgregory@lindenwood.edu.

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