

KANANA
THEATRE

PRESENTS

**LEND ME
A TENOR**

by

Ken Ludwig



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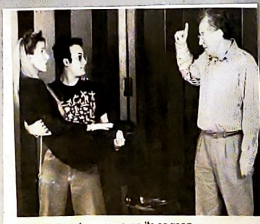
CAST
in order of speaking

| | |
|----------|-----------------------|
| MAX | Stewart Wheeler |
| MAGGIE | Monica Hollands |
| SAUNDERS | Jim Holmes |
| TITO | Brooke Keneford |
| MARIA | Sally Hallowell-Carew |
| BELLHOP | Geoffrey Holland |
| DIANA | Jenefler Haynes |
| JULIA | Mary Holmes |

The Play directed by
Rosemary Keneford

ACT 1, Scene 1 Early afternoon on a Saturday,
in September 1934
Scene 2 Four hours later
ACT 2, Scene 1 About 11 pm that night
Scene 2 Fifteen minutes later

The use of cameras or tape recorders during the performance is not permitted.
The Carleton School Board has adopted a policy of No Smoking in schools.



Kanata Theatre wraps up its season.

F10 The Ottawa Citizen, Thursday, May 13, 1993*

T H E A T R E

Kanata Theatre hits the high notes with its season-ending production

BY IRIS WINSTON

Kanata Theatre has ended its season on a high note with Ken Ludwig's *Lend Me a Tenor*.

The farce with all the usual attributes of mistaken identity, sexual innuendo, numerous doors, frantic activity and cartoon characters, *Lend Me a Tenor* also boasts a well-constructed, playable and almost believable script. (Unusual in a farce.)

And director Rosemary Keneford and her cast take full advantage of having a great deal of fun in the Kanata Theatre production, which opened Wednesday.

Set in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1934, producer Henry Saunders (Jim Holmes) and his anxious assistant, Max (Stewart Wheeler) nervously await the arrival of Italian opera star, Tito Morelli (Brooke Keneford), who is to sing the title role in a 10th anniversary gala benefit of Verdi's *Otello* that evening.

The opera, Saunders' reputation and the Cleveland Operatic Society are apparently on the road to ruin when Tito falls sick.

How can the show go on without the world-famous tenor?

As the plot thickens, Tito's wife, Maria (Sally Hallowell-Carew) walks in on him and various star-struck women walk in.

The part of Otello is to be performed in black face (which during the show is smudged on to the singer ladies as they are locked in passionate embraces with their hero).

The heavy make-up gives Max the chance to step in.

Max, however, before Tito has recovered enough to prepare to go on stage.

All is set for the compilations of mistaken identity, hiding in closets and plenty of laughter.

Rosemary Keneford has kept the pace of *Lend Me a Tenor* lively, but the short of frenetic, so giving performers the opportunity to provide their characters' attitudes with some subtleties.

Bill Williams' six-door, two-room set of a hotel suite is workable and

Review

Lend Me a Tenor
Kanata Theatre
East March High School
To May 15, 8 p.m.

tempered Italian wife.

Holmes plays Saunders convincingly, but is rather more gentlemanly and less authoritative in his presentation than Max's early fear of his boss leads one to expect.

Geoffrey Holland handles himself well as the stage-struck bellhop. Hollands and Jenefler Haynes as the panting young women understand their roles well but would be more effective if they exuded a little more sexiness.

Mary Holmes as the chairman of the board gives a good impression of the board member type, but might be more effective if she toned down the brash aspects and emphasized class.

In general, however, this production of *Lend Me a Tenor* is well-conceived and presented and is good light entertainment.

Iris Winston is a freelance writer who covers community theatre for the Citizen.



Brooke Keneford as Tito and Mary Holmes as Julia rehearse a scene from *Lend Me a Tenor*. Kanata Theatre's closing show, running Wednesday May 12 to Saturday May 15 at the East of March. (Erol McGhon photo)

