



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 15, 2010

MATRIX:MIDLAND presents:

What: Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet" performed by Actors From The London Stage

When: February 4, 5 and 6 @ 8 pm

Where: Little Theatre, Midland Center for the Arts, 1801 W. St. Andrews Rd., Midland, MI 48640

Cost: \$25 adult; \$16 student

Information: Call Ticket Office at (989) 631-8250 or (800) 523-7649 or www.mcfta.org

She was a Capulet. He was a Montague. At 16, they met and fell in love, a love touched by passion, hatred, innocence and betrayal. In the course of time, swords clash, everlasting love is promised and a treacherous sleeping potion is swallowed. MATRIX:MIDLAND Winter Escape presents Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet" performed by Actors From The London Stage on February 4, 5 and 6 at 8 pm in the Little Theatre of Midland Center for the Arts, 1801 W. St. Andrews Rd., Midland, MI. Tickets are \$25 for adults; \$16 for students. Tickets are available online at www.mcfta.org or by calling 800-523-7649. This exciting experience of classic theater is cosponsored by Covenant HealthCare, Northwood University, and Saginaw Valley State University. Funded in part by the Maxwell K. Pribil Memorial Fund.

One of Shakespeare's earliest plays, "Romeo and Juliet" is an iconic romantic tragedy, as two innocent young lovers fall victim to family hatred and cruel destiny. It was among Shakespeare's most popular works during his lifetime and, along with Hamlet, continues to be one of his most frequently performed plays.

Five superb actors from Actors From The London Stage assume all the roles in the play. Using minimal sets and costumes, the self-directed ensemble of professional actors, all veterans of The Royal Shakespeare Company and Britain's National Theatre, bring to life the rich words of William Shakespeare as they create a uniquely intimate, uncomplicated and enjoyable theatrical event for all ages.

Now in its 35th year, Actors From The London Stage is one of the oldest established touring Shakespeare theater companies in the world. It was developed by Professor Homer Swander at the University of California-Santa Barbara and founded by the renowned British actor, Patrick Stewart. This unique program is housed and work shopped in England and produced on campuses throughout the United States by the University of Notre Dame's program "Shakespeare at Notre Dame." The actors will also conduct a week-long residency of classes and workshops at area campuses and at Midland Center for the Arts.

This presentation is supported by the Performing Arts Fund, a program of Arts Midwest funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that a great nation deserves great art, with additional contributions from Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, General Mills Foundation, and Land-O-Lakes Foundation.

MATRIX:MIDLAND presents professional, world-class entertainment to the mid-Michigan region. For over 30 years, Matrix has hosted an extraordinary schedule of cutting-edge entertainment including cinema, music, comedy, family programs, world-renowned authors and more.

Midland Center for the Arts, Inc. is a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation formed under the laws of the State of Michigan incorporating six groups: Alden B. Dow Museum of Science and Art, MATRIX:MIDLAND, Midland County Historical Society, Midland Symphony Orchestra, Music Society and Theatre Guild. Activities at Midland Center for the Arts are supported in part by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts. For the latest Center news, visit our web site at www.mcfta.org.

Contact:
Julie Dukes
Communications Manager
(989) 631-5930 x 1602
dukes@mcfta.org

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Midland Center for the Arts • 1801 W. St. Andrews Rd. • Midland, MI 48640 • (989) 631-5930 • (989) 631-7890 fax • www.mcfta.org