

BC theatre preview: 'Boeing Boeing'

By Amanda Heskett
Staff writer

"Boeing Boeing" will be opening in the Black Box theater on Nov. 16, directed by Peter Savage. It's a farce styled play, set in the sixties. Clara Reichhard, who plays Gretchen in the show, said that it's "a first class experience for under 15 dollars!"

The story is about a man, Bernard, who is engaged to three air hostesses; Gloria, Gabriella and Gretchen, and all of their flights get changed, so they end up in the same place at the same time. Bernard, his maid Berthe, and his friend Robert try to prevent them from meeting.

Katelyn Didio, who plays Gloria said, "my experience working on this show has been very different than others I have been a part of." This show is set apart greatly in the fact that there are several varied dialects in it. "The dialects and hugely diverse characters will bring a unique feel to this black box," Katelyn said.

When asked about her experience on the show, Lisa Arrona, playing Gabriella said, "It's been so fun to be a part of this production. The cast and crew are working on the show at a constant basis, and cast members have actually been seen sweating while in character because they of their intense dedication.

Katelyn hopes "the audience gets a taste of how interactions between men and women have changed since this time period" and that they "have an open mind while watching." Lisa says that "there is no doubt that if you like to laugh you should come to see this show. It's so over the top and absurd that it's almost impossible to keep a straight face."

"You know how whenever someone tells you a joke and then around 3 days later you remember it and start laughing just as hard as you did the first time you heard it?" This is the kind of experience Lisa hopes the audience will have. Katelyn mentioned that she expects the play should "make you laugh all the way through while simultaneously getting an important message across for you to ponder."

Washington and Lee University Wind Ensemble

By Amber Blanton
Staff Writer

The resonant sounds of music filled the air in the Scott Concert Hall at Brevard College on Saturday, Nov. 4, when the Washington and Lee University Wind Ensemble gave its audience a breathtaking performance. The ensemble was composed of students and community members who sought to share the journey of a soldier leaving for war through their musical presentation "Shipping Out."

The concert began with the energetic "American Fanfare" symbolizing the soldier's first thoughts of joining the war and fighting for his homeland. The next piece, "New York from a Distance," described a typical day in the land the soldier loves.

The first movement, Brooklyn, features several soloists and portrays a calm night on Brooklyn Bridge. The second movement is extremely busy and illustrates crowds of people wandering around Times Square. The final movement, Manhattan, has a heavy jazz influence that leaves the audience waiting for more.

Next, the soldier could be found searching for guidance and strength when the wind ensemble played "Be Thou My Vision." This piece involves a traditional Irish melody that captures the humility, faith and strength found in the hymn text.

The next piece was "Do Not Go Gentle Into That Good Night." As the music was performed, listeners could feel the tension of the human struggle to endure and refusal to go down without a fight.

The tension in the atmosphere was broken by the fanfare of trumpets in the first measures of "Muse." This piece was written to depict the inspiration the composer received from those closest to him. Like the composer, the soldier received inspiration and guidance from the people around him as he tried to decide if he would enlist.

The music once again became calm and reflective as the beauty of "Dusk" traveled around the auditorium like an evening breeze. This short, passionate piece represented the time for the soldier to make his decision.

The decision was finally made in "First Suite in E Flat" as the music rose in intensity. The final movement ended in an adventurous march that symbolized the soldier going off to war.

The Washington and Lee University Wind Ensemble's ability to provide its audience with an evening of fun entertainment, while telling a story through music, is an example of its great talent. Overall, the evening was a huge success with good and powerful music heard by all.



Photo by Amber Blanton

The Washington and Lee University Wind Ensemble performing Saturday, Nov. 4 in the Scott Concert Hall.