

Tuesday, March 25, 2008

'Drat! The Cat!' combines adventure, romance

Oakland University's theatre program continues its 2007-08 season with "Drat! The Cat!," a show rarely performed since its not-quite-two-week run on Broadway in 1965.

Part love story, part Pink Panther adventure, this family-friendly production follows the life and loves of an unusual cat burglar who plunders rich pockets, while living by day among the victims of these high falutin' crimes.

The Cat's successful career is interrupted when an earnest young police officer vows to bring the scurrilous fiend to justice. While the show's original lack of success makes it a rarity on stage, audiences may well remember one of its most tender love songs, "She Touched Me," made popular (with a lyrical gender switch) by Barbra Streisand. The show was written by best-selling suspense author Ira Levin and scored by Milton Schafer.

"Drat! The Cat!" is directed by Karen Sheridan, associate professor of theatre, with musical direction by Fred Love, associate professor of theatre.

This show continues Oakland University theatre program's relationship with Terptheatre, whose sign language interpreters work on stage with performers to provide a more holistic theatre experience for deaf patrons. The Terptheatre shadow-signed performance will take place on Saturday April 5, at 8 p.m.

"Drat! The Cat!" opens on the Varner Studio Theatre stage Thursday, March 27 at 8 p.m. and continues with Thursday-Sunday performances through April 6. Tickets are \$16, \$8 for students and \$6 all seats for the Friday, March 28, 10 a.m. matinee. They can be purchased through **Star Tickets Plus!**, (800) 585-3737 and through the Varner Box Office, open Tuesday through Saturday from 3 to 6 p.m. and one hour before performances. All discounted tickets must be purchased through the box office. For ticket information, call (248) 370-3013.

SUMMARY

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