Mark-n-Sparks presents

SEVEN LOVES

Friday, February 10, at 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, February 11, at 7:00 p.m.
Sunday, February 12, at 4:30 pm

Getty Villa, Auditorium

This performance is approximately 90 minutes, with no intermission.
PLEASE silence all cellular telephones and other electronic devices.
No unauthorized videotaping, audiotaping, or photography is permitted during the performance.
Seven Loves
Conceived and Directed by Mark Valdez
Music Director Steven Argila
Co-Produced with Mark-n-Sparks

Singers
Rodney Gardiner
Karla Mosley
Gabriel Navarro
Daniel T Parker
Tatiana Wechsler
Lauren Worsham

Band
Steven Argila: Keyboards
John Ballinger: Guitar
Adam Snow: Drums/Percussion
Blake Estrada: Bass

Production Team
Scenic Designer: John Iacovelli
Lighting Designer: Dan Weingarten
Sound Designer: John Nobori
Assistant Scenic Designer/Puppet Designer: Robert A. Frye
Stage Manager: Gabrielle Bruno
Lobby Installation Designer: ashley sparks
Lobby Installation Graphic Designer: KD Diamond
Puppeteer: Mark Ferrando
Production Assistant: Arturo Reynoso

PROGRAM

The Origin of Love
Hedwig and the Angry Inch
All

Sing for Your Supper
The Boys from Syracuse
Tatiana Wechsler, Lauren Worsham, Karla Mosley

Hero and Leander
Myths and Hymns
Gabriel Navarro

I've Grown Accustomed to Her Face
My Fair Lady
Karla Mosley

The Campfire Song
The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical
All

I Will Love You
Marie Christine
Lauren Worsham
When She Smiles  
Lysistrata Jones

Gabriel Navarro

Speak Low  
One Touch of Venus

Tatiana Wechsler

Cleopattere  
Till the Clouds Roll By

Rodney Gardiner

Come Home With Me/Wedding Song  
Hadestown

Rodney Gardiner, Tatiana Wechsler, Gabriel Navarro

That Dirty Old Man  
A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum

Daniel T Parker

Sleepy Girl  
The Trial of Persephone

Lauren Worsham

I Know My Wife  
Olympus on My Mind

Rodney Gardiner

All Along  
Penelope

Tatiana Wechsler

I Do Like You  
A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum

Daniel T Parker, Rodney Gardiner

My Funny Valentine  
Babes in Arms

Karla Mosley, All

Xanadu  
Xanadu

All

DIRECTOR’S NOTE

Valentine’s Day is, genuinely, one of my favorite holidays. Chocolate? Flowers? Champagne? What’s not to like?! AND it’s a day when we celebrate love…all kinds of love: romantic, familial, self, pure, committed, flirtation, and friendship.

If we are fortunate enough, then we’ve known each of these loves. These specific seven types are a modern interpretation of classic Greek philosophy, building off Plato’s Symposium where Socrates, Aristophanes and others gathered to drink and talk about love…as you do.

I’ve long been fascinated by the cabaret form. Specifically, how songs—through their arrangement and interpretation—can serve as a portal to better connect and understand a person, a subject, or a body of work. It’s a deeply personal form, unconcerned with the razzmatazz of musical theater and the grandeur of opera. It’s just people, singing. #nofilter
So it seemed like the right combination: cabaret to explore aspects of love. And, to tie it all together, it made sense to turn to musicals based on Greek and Roman myths and characters as a source for the songs.

What we have put together are an assortment of songs, exemplifying the seven types of love...plus some bonus songs, for fun. It’s not so much a journey as it is a series of invitations to reflect, recall, and consider your loves.

To paraphrase that classic line, “Love is a cabaret, old chum. Come to the cabaret.”

Enjoy,

Mark Valdez

THE SINGERS

Rodney Gardiner, over the course of ten seasons at Oregon Shakespeare Festival has played major roles in Shakespeare, musicals, and new plays. Rodney has also played major roles at other important regional theatre, including Berkeley Rep, Guthrie Theater, and The Globe Theater. Most recently Rodney has appeared on screen in recurring roles on both OWN’s award winning David Makes Man and Netflix’s From Scratch.

Karla Mosley TV/Film: The Bold and The Beautiful, Hart of Dixie, Hi-5, The Guiding Light, Burn After Reading; Theater: (NY) Culture Project: Expatriate; (Regional) TUTS & The MUNY: Dreamgirls; Arena Stage: Sophisticated Ladies; Education: NYU Tisch; Other: 6-year Philanthropic Director of LA’s Ammunition Theatre Company, co-founder of 1:1 Productions championing women of color in front of and behind the camera. @KarlaMose

Gabriel Navarro is ecstatic to be making his Getty Villa debut! Selected Credits: MTW’s Cinderella (Prince Topher), MTG’s Brigadoon (Charles Dalrymple), The 5th Avenue Theatre- Austen’s Pride, Tuacahn’s Summer 2018 Season - Prince of Egypt/Cinderella/Matilda, Tokyo Disney’s Concert of Love (Aladdin), SDMT 42nd Street (Billy Lawlor). He is currently earning a BFA in Musical Theatre at USC! @GabrielNavarroJr www.gabrielnavarrojr.com


Tatiana Wechsler is an NYC-based actor, singer/songwriter, and creative. Broadway: Mr. Saturday Night. Off-Broadway/NYC: Pericles (Fiasco Theater); X: Or..., Julius Caesar, Othello (Acting Company); The Golden Bride (Folksbiene). Regional: Love’s Labor’s Lost, first woman to play Curly in Oklahoma! (Oregon Shakespeare Festival); Benny & Joon (Paper Mill Playhouse); Love in Hate Nation (Two River Theatre). NYU grad. www.tatianawechsler.com

Lauren Worsham played Phoebe in A Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder (Drama Desk Award, Theatre World Award, and a Tony Award nomination). Other favorites include Magnolia in Show Boat (New York Philharmonic), Lisa in Dog Days (Montclair Peak Performances, Fort Worth Opera and LA Opera) and Flora in Turn of the Screw (New York City Opera). Lauren is also the lead singer for the rock band
PRODUCTION TEAM

Mark Valdez (Director) is the artistic director of Mixed Blood Theatre in Minneapolis. He’s a recipient of a Legacy Artist Fellowship from the California Arts Council. Recent projects include The Most Beautiful Home...Maybe (co-created with ashley sparks) and the animated short film The Curious Cardinal, which will be published as a picture book this summer. Love to all y’all.

John Iacovelli (Scenic Designer) Broadway: Cathy Rigby is Peter Pan (Emmy Award), and The Twilight of the Golds.) and over 450 other productions —internationally and across the nation. He has had a distinguished film and TV career. Awarded the Distinguished Achievement Award in Scenic Design from the US Institute of Theatre Technology. www.iacovelli.com

Dan Weingarten (Lighting Designer) loves to design lights for theater, concerts, dance, opera and themed environments; luckily he has done a lot of it in his life. He also teaches amazing students how to work with light at Cal State Northridge, where he does a lot of other academic things. If you want more info, you can look him up at DanWeingarten.com.

John Nobori (Sound Designer) is a California-based sound designer, composer, and ensemble member of Cornerstone Theater Company. His work has been heard in plays produced by such organizations as Seattle Repertory Theatre and Oregon Shakespeare Festival. He is the recipient of an Ovation Award for his work on The Golden Dragon at Boston Court Pasadena. BA University of California, Irvine.

Robert A. Frye (Assistant Scenic Designer/Puppet Designer) graduated from UC Davis with a MFA in Scenic Design, moved to Los Angeles in 2002 and has since worked on theater projects and multiple television shows. Most notable are Hell’s Kitchen (Emmy Nominated), Master Chef (Emmy Win), and most recently Harry Potter: Hogwarts Tournament of Champions (ADG Award Win). He LOVES the Getty Villa!

Gabrielle Bruno (Stage Manager) received her degree in Theatre Arts from California State University, Northridge. Stage Management/ASM: Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead, A Raisin in the Sun, Mrs. Warren’s Profession, A Christmas Carol, & Man of La Mancha at A Noise Within. Mindplay at the Geffen Playhouse. Production Manager of The 2021 & 2022 Griffith Park Free Shakespeare Festival presented by Independent Shakespeare Co.

PERFORMANCE AT THE GETTY VILLA

The Getty Villa’s public programs are designed to amplify and enhance the Museum visitor’s insight into the people and cultures of the ancient Mediterranean world. Throughout the year, the Villa presents an engaging spectrum of events, anchored by its innovative theater program.
The Villa Theater Lab series fosters the work of artists employing creative, often experimental approaches to the performance of ancient stories. The Villa Auditorium’s range of technologies have enabled teams of both newly emerging and long distinguished artists—directors, designers, musicians, playwrights, and actors—to freely incorporate advanced stage, sound, and visual elements into productions developed in residence here at the Villa.

Each September a major production is commissioned and presented in the Barbara and Lawrence Fleischman Theater, an outdoor performance space based on ancient prototypes. Past collaborators include Round House Theatre, SITI Company, Court Theatre, Troubadour Theater Company, the Theatre @ Boston Court and Deaf West Theatre.

From autumn through spring, the Villa’s public programming also includes music and film screenings. To receive information about Getty Museum exhibitions, performances, and lecture events, please visit sign up for our weekly newsletter, Get Inspired.

THE VILLA THEATER LAB SERIES STAFF

Performing Programs Head       Laurel Kishi
Sr. Project Specialist         Ralph Flores
Sr. Public Programs Coordinator Anna Woo
Sr. Education Specialist       Shelby Brown
Audiovisual Specialists        Heather Alvear, Clark Betty, Chris Jeong, & Marvin Jones, Andrew Wiegert
Getty Villa Events             Heather Leisy, Lars Francisco, & Aaron Lee Harvey