



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 5, 2004

Upcoming Cornish College Theater Productions

The Merry Wives of Windsor: April 16-25

E/R: Emergency Room: April 22-24

Cornish College Sophomore Theater Ensemble #1: April 22-25

Cornish College Sophomore Theater Ensemble #2: April 22-25

The Merry Wives of Windsor

By William Shakespeare; Directed by Hal Ryder

Friday, April 16 at 3:30 pm; Saturday, April 17 at 3:30 pm; Sunday, April 18 at 3:30 pm

Friday, April 23 at 3:30 pm; Saturday, April 24 at 3:30 pm; Sunday, April 25 at 3:30 pm

Seattle Center Fountain Lawn. Free and open to the public. For information, call 206.726.5011.

According to legend, Shakespeare's *The Merry Wives of Windsor* was written after Queen Elizabeth I saw part one of *Henry IV* and liked the character of the rotund knight Sir John Falstaff so much that she wanted to see a play in which Falstaff fell in love. A queen's whim is not to be taken lightly - Shakespeare wrote this sprightly comedy in two weeks. Falstaff, having fallen on rough times, retires to Windsor, rids himself of his former partners in crime, and plots to seduce two of the foremost women of the town. Intrigues, jealousies, disguises, duels and hairbreadth escapes in a laundry basket ensue. Under the direction of Hal Ryder, this production continues Cornish College's tradition of outdoor performances of Shakespeare, previously held at Volunteer Park. With the move to its new home at Denny and Lenora, Cornish College has created a new alliance with the Seattle Center for this annual event.

E/R: Emergency Room

A play conceived by Ronald L. Berman, M.D.; Directed by Kathryn Mesney

Written by Ronald L. Berman, M.D., Zaid Farid, Richard Fire, Stuart Gordon, Gary Houston, Carolyn Purdy-Gordon, Tom Towles, and Bruce A. Young.

Thursday, April 22 at 8 pm; Friday, April 23 at 8 pm;

Saturday, April 24 at 2 pm; Saturday, April 24 at 8 pm

Broadway Performance Hall, 1625 Broadway Avenue, Seattle

Produced in collaboration with the Performance Production Department.

Tickets: \$8 general; \$5 students, seniors and Cornish College alumni.

Tickets can be purchased through Ticket Window at 206.325.6500 or www.ticketwindowonline.com

For information, call 206.726.5011.

Set in a Chicago hospital on a busy Saturday night, E/R: Emergency Room is a fast-moving and funny look at life under extreme conditions. The ensemble features members of the Cornish College Theater Department's graduating class of 2004, portraying a vivid menagerie of characters who work in or pass through the hospital.

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Conceived by physician/playwright Ronald Berman based on his own experiences in a Chicago emergency ward and originally produced by Chicago's Organic Theatre Company, E/R was nominated for "Best Regional Play" and was the inspiration for the TV show, starring Elliott Gould. In Seattle, it was a long-running success for the Pioneer Square Theatre.

Cornish College Sophomore Theater Ensemble #1

Directed by Wayne Rawley

Thursday, April 22 at 8 pm; Friday, April 23 at 8 pm; Saturday, April 24 at 8 pm;

Sunday, April 25 at 2 pm

Raisbeck Performance Hall, Ned & Kayla Skinner Theater, 2015 Boren Avenue, Seattle

Free and open to the public.

Cornish College Sophomore Theater Ensemble #2

Directed by Amy Wheeler

Thursday, April 22 at 8 pm; Friday, April 23 at 8 pm;

Saturday, April 24 at 8 pm; Sunday, April 25 at 2 pm

Raisbeck Performance Hall, Ned & Kayla Skinner Theater, 2015 Boren Avenue, Seattle

Free and open to the public.

More details for the two Sophomore Theater Ensembles will be available online: www.cornish.edu

ABOUT CORNISH COLLEGE OF THE ARTS

Cornish College of the Arts is the premier, accredited arts college in the Northwest, inspiring the highest standards of artistic and academic excellence. Founded in 1914 by Nellie Cornish, Cornish College is the only private, accredited college in the region offering baccalaureate degrees in visual and performing arts. Cornish College offers a Bachelor of Music and a Bachelor of Fine Arts in art, dance, design, theater and performance production. Uniquely, Cornish College provides a rigorous educational environment for the cultivation of technical mastery, artistic integrity and practical knowledge. The faculty at Cornish is comprised of practicing master artists and professional educators, renowned in their respective fields. The college maintains a low student to faculty ratio, allowing for individualized teaching and mentoring. Cornish College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges and the National Association of Schools of Art and Design.

Over the years, Cornish has hosted a parade of important artists in the roles of students, teachers or as visiting artists-in-residence, including John Cage, Merce Cunningham, Martha Graham, Ping Chong, Kenny Werner, Obo Addy, Mark Morris, Meredith Monk, Rinde Eckert, Bebe Miller, Ruth St. Denis, Ted Shawn, Robin Holcomb, Chet Huntley, Syvilla Fort, Ralph Towner, Thornton Wilder, Lou Harrison, Bill Frisell, Morris Graves, Jane Ira Bloom, Kraig Patterson, Musicians Accord, Bun Ching Lam, Brendan Fraser, Myra Melford, Sharon Isbin, Joanne Brackeen, Oliver Lake, California Ear Unit, Colorado Quartet, and Gary Peacock, among others.

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