Vodka Variations
an evening of Chekhov shorts

Adapted from the works of Anton Chekhov by Marianne Kubik
from translations by Constance Garnett and Julius West
Directed by Marianne Kubik

February 19, 20, 21, 25, 26, 27, 28 at 8:00pm
Ruth Caplin Theatre
VODKA VARIATIONS
an evening of Chekhov shorts
Adapted by Marianne Kubik from translations by Constance Garnett and Julius West

Directed by Marianne Kubik
Scenic Design by Rachel DelGaudio
Costume Design by Kaitlin Sikes
Lighting Design by Fabian J. Garcia
Sound Design by Madison Lahey
Voice, Text, and Accent Coaching by Kate Burke
Production Stage Management by Kristina McCloskey
Technical Direction by Mark Molchaney

TIME & PLACE: Russia, 1890s
There will be one fifteen-minute intermission between acts.

ACT ONE

Selections of 5 Novelettes, Op. 15: II.
Orientale, Alexander Glazunov, 1886

The Proposal
Lomov ......................................................... Joseph Bromfield
Cherbukov ...................................................... Roger Ainslie
Natalya .......................................................... Lauren Elens

Selections of Variations on a Theme of Tchaikovsky, Op. 35a: III.
Andantino tranquillo, Anton Arensky, 1894

A Work of Art
Sasha ............................................................... Tu-An Truong
Koshelkov ...................................................... Evan Bergman
Anna ............................................................... Lily Roth
Boris .............................................................. Joseph Bromfield
Uhov .............................................................. Les Rorick
Minsky ............................................................. Roger Ainslie
Ostrenko ....................................................... Joseph Bromfield
Shashkin ...................................................... Vadim Stepanov
Nina .......................................................... Julia Ruth Holland
Madam Smirnov ............................................. Sally Nobinger

Selections of Variations on a Theme of Tchaikovsky, Op. 35a: VI.
Allegro con spirito, Anton Arensky, 1894
Selections of Quartet on a Theme “B-la-f:” III.
Serenata, Alexander Borodin, 1886

On the Telephone
Nastya ......................................................... Dana Colagiovanni
The Telephone ............................................... Les Rorick

Selections of Gopak, Modest Mussorgsky, 1880

How I Came to be Lawfully Wed
Sergei ........................................................ Vadim Stepanov
Sergei’s Father ............................................. Les Rorick
Sergei’s Mother .......................................... Sally Nobinger
Zoe ............................................................ Lily Roth
Zoe’s Mother .............................................. Julia Ruth Holland
Zoe’s Father ............................................... Tu-An Truong

Selections of String Quartet in F Major, Op. 12: III.
Scherzo, Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov, 1875
Selections of String Quartet No. 12 in F Major, Op. 96: II.
Lento, Antonin Dvorak, 1893

The Death of a Civil Servant
Tchervyakov ............................................ Joseph Bromfield
Masha ........................................................ Sally Nobinger

Selections of Sarabande in G Minor, Anatoly Lyadov, 1895
Selections of Sarabande in G Minor, Felix Blumenfeld, 1895
Selections of Kalinka, Ivan Larionov, 1860

Forgot!
Ivan ............................................................ Roger Ainslie
Dmitri ........................................................ Vadim Stepanov
Irina ........................................................... Julia Ruth Holland

ACT TWO

Selections of Ochi Chernye, Yevhen Hrebinka and Florian Hermann, 1884

The Bear
Popova ............................................................... Dana Colagiovanni
Luba ............................................................... Sally Nobinger
Smirnov ............................................................ Evan Bergman
A Gardener ......................................................... Tu-An Truong
A Cook .............................................................. Lily Roth
A Maid .............................................................. Julia Ruth Holland

Selections of String Quartet in F Major, Op. 12: IV. 
Finale, Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov, 1875

A Tripping Tongue
Vassitch ............................................................ Joseph Bromfield
Katya ............................................................... Lily Roth

Selections of String Quartet No. 12 in F Major, Op. 96: IV. 
Finale, Antonin Dvorak, 1893

Carelessness
Strizhin ............................................................. Evan Bergman
Viktor ............................................................... Tu-An Truong
Dasha ............................................................... Lauren Elens
The Telephone ....................................................... Les Rorick

Selections of Suite for String Quartet in C major, Op. 35: II. 
Scherzo, Alexander Glazunov, 1891

The Jubilee
Khirin ............................................................... Les Rorick
Clerks ............................................................... Tu-An Truong, Vadim Stepanov
Shipuchin ........................................................... Roger Ainslie
Tatiana ............................................................. Lauren Elens
Merchutkina ........................................................ Dana Colagiovanni
Board Delegate ...................................................... Tu-An Truong
Board Members .................................................. Vadim Stepanov, Joseph Bromfield

Selections of Trepak, Pyotr Tchaikovsky, 1892
WHO’S WHO IN VODKA VARIATIONS

Roger Ainslie (1st Year, M.F.A. Acting): W\E: A Theatrical Piece of the Wall (U.Va. Drama); 24/7 (Live Arts); House, M.D. (Fox television); iCarly (Nickelodeon).


Kate Burke (Associate Professor, Voice and Speech).

Dana Colagiovanni (1st Year, M.F.A. Acting) One Man, Two Guvnors (HTF); The Taming of the Shrew, Steel Magnolias (Wayside Theatre); A Christmas Carol (Nebraska Theatre Caravan).


Fabian J. Garcia (1st year, M.F.A. Lighting Design): Fall Experimental Dance Concert (U.Va. Drama), Macbeth (WTAMU), Into the Woods (WTAMU).

Julia Ruth Holland (2nd Year, Drama): The Forgetting River; Fall Experimental Dance Concert (U.Va. Drama); Romeo and Juliet (SotL); Legally Blonde (FYP).

Marianne Kubik (Associate Professor, Movement).


Kristina McCloskey (4th Year, Drama): A Flea In Her Ear (U.Va. Drama)

Sally Nobinger (4th Year, Drama & English): Crazy for You, Spring Awakening (U.Va. Drama); As You Like It, The Merry Wives of Windsor, The Winter’s Tale (SotL).

Michele Regine Artist/Sculptor who answered the call, to U.Va. Studio Arts, to create a naughty candelabra.


Lily Roth (1st Year, Undeclared): The Rimers of Eldritch (U.Va. Drama).

Kaitlin Sikes (1st Year, M.F.A. Costume Design and Technology).


The Chekhov String Quartet
Music Director and First Violin ......................... Fiona Hughes
Second Violin ........................................ Jacob Roege
Viola ................................................... Sarah James
Cello .................................................. Hunter Lawrence

Candelabra designed by Michele Regine

PRODUCTION STAFF

Assistant Stage Managers ......................... Madeleine Lawson, Emily Yates
Run Crew ........................................ Margaret Mester, Cherise Pack
Department Chair ................................ Tom Bloom
Department Technical Director .................... Steve Warner
Assistant Technical Director ....................... Austin Manning
Scenic Charge ........................................ Hilary Landowski
Scene Shop Foreman ................................. Chris Rybitski
Carpenters ........................................... Anderson Granger, Malinda Smith,
& the Students of Drama 2230
Painters .............................................. Jackson Casady, Malinda Dana,
Evelyn Davis, Evelina Dubrowsky, Louis Lukaczyx,
Danton Wein, Susan Xie
Prop Master, Prop Shop and Storage Manager .... Sam Flippo
Costume Design Faculty Advisor ................... Gweneth West
Assistant Costume Designer ........................ Haley Tynes
Costume Technology Faculty Advisor .......... Marcy Linton
Costume Shop Manager ............................. Dorothy Smith
Shop Assistants .................................. Jacqueline Ford, Andrea Goldstein,
Hannah Klein, Jessica Utz
Stitchers ............................................. Students of Drama 2310
Wardrobe Supervisor ................................. Mfon-Abasi Obong
Wardrobe Crew ...................................... Devin Rothwell, Hannah Klein
Lighting Design Faculty Advisor .................... Lee Kennedy
Master Electrician .................................. Matthew Ishee
Assistant Master Electrician ......................... Patricia Gallegos
Electricians ......................................... Ana Cackley, Olivia Comm, Chelsea Dickens,
Chloe Downs, Michael Giovinco, Steven Johnson, Brian Morris
Light Board Operator .............................. Jacqueline Ford
Sound Design Faculty Advisor .................... Michael Rasbury
Sound Engineer .................................... Max Krembs
Sound Board Operator ............................. Jess Platter
Business Manager ................................. James Scales
Assistant Business Manager ....................... Judy McPeak
Drama Administrative Staff ....................... Barbara Koonin, Theresa Lamb
U.Va. Arts Box Office Manager ..................... Andrew Burnett
Special Thanks

Bill Bennett, Sarah Cain, Edith Clowes, Katia Dianina, Brad Fraizer, Robert Geraci, Greg Harris, Reed Johnson, Michael Marsh-Soloway, Daniel Sender, Richard Warner.

DIRECTOR’S NOTE

If you want a story about an iPhone, ask Chekhov and you’ll get one the next morning. Best known for his full-length plays, Anton Chekhov published hundreds of short anecdotes and farces earlier in his brief life. Tonight’s collection comes from his 20’s. That’s the age of our U.Va. student community. To be wise, one doesn’t need to be old. A country doctor who learned the art of observation as a child in his father’s general store, Chekhov’s keen objective eye made him Russia’s most famous short story writer and master at illuminating the failure of humans to communicate with one another, often with ridiculous consequences. In creating this celebration of the funny side of Chekhovian, I wanted to celebrate his inspiration: the bourgeois culture of late 19th Century Russia, poised on a bridge between serfdom and revolution and burgeoning with technology and the arts; distinct from, and yet very like, our own. We’ve assembled this celebration in the fashion, the manners and traditions, and the music and language you’ll experience tonight. It’s been an adventure infusing our research into the creative process with a stellar collection of U.Va.’s undergraduate students, graduate student designers and technicians, and members of our new M.F.A. acting company. What I uncovered is that, even from a difference of 125 years and 5000 miles, I know Chekhov’s characters. They’re my aunts and uncles, my neighbors, and me. And when I laugh at them each night, I can laugh at myself, and then this day-to-day living gets a whole lot easier. It even becomes charming.

—Marianne Kubik
The Kennedy Center
THE JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

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This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KCACTF representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for invitation to the KCACTF regional festival and may also be considered for national awards recognizing outstanding achievement in production, design, direction and performance.

Last year more than 1,300 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.

Panel Discussion and Chekhov Live!

In concert with this production, the Department of Drama has coordinated a panel discussion “Anton Chekhov’s Russia: its Culture, Arts and Influence” in the Ruth Caplin Theatre on February 26, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. This free event features director Marianne Kubik, Katia Dianina, Associate Professor U.Va. Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures; Robert P. Geraci, Associate Professor U.Va. Department of History; Reed Johnson, Ph.D. Candidate U.Va. Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures; and moderator Edith Clowes, Brown-Forman Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures at U.Va. This event is free and seating is on a first come, first served basis.

The Department of Drama is also pleased to present Chekhov Live! at 5:00 p.m. on February 27 in the Ruth Caplin Theatre. This hour-long, original, one-person show features Terry Glaser, a professor from the University of San Diego, as the great Russian author himself as he talks about his colorful life and works and answers questions from the audience. Tickets for Chekhov Live! are free but must be reserved in advance at the U.Va. Arts Box Office, www.artsboxoffice.virginia.edu, or by calling 434-924-3376.