



vienna theatre project
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Vienna, 28 September 2004

Dear Teacher,

We hope you've had a successful and productive start into the new school-year!

Here's to inform you about our upcoming November 2004 production at the Ensembletheater: the world premiere of **William Shakespeare's TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA – a modern version**, by *the shakespeare project*.

TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA production information at a glance

Location: Ensembletheater – Petersplatz 1, 1010 Vienna
Dates & Times: **November 3-18**, 2004 (daily except Sunday, 8:00 p.m.)
Premiere: Wednesday, November 3, 2004 – 8:00 p.m.
Teachers' Preview: Tuesday, November 2, 2004 – 8:00 p.m.
Matinee Performances & Workshops available November 11-18
With: **Barbara Jansenberger, Kathy Tanner, Lisa Gray
Daniel Williams, Greg Nelsen, Richard Lee-Berke**

Directed and designed by **Gregory Fuller**

Dramaturgy: **Martin Buxbaum** Production Management: **Agnes Kitzler**

Performances in English

Running time approx. 120 minutes (including one intermission)

Content and language suitable for all levels and ages 12+

THE PLAY

In case you've always been wondering how Shakespeare went about writing one of his plays, how he is connected to the Russian mafia, and whether he is actually in heaven – everything you need to know about the greatest poet of all times will be disclosed in this breath-taking, funny, and witty modern version of *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*. Over a period of 6 months, enthusiastic young writers got the chance to re-write this early romantic comedy, not only by breathing fresh spirit into a text written 500 years ago, but also by bringing the Bard himself back to life and onto the stage. In fact, the poor guy is stuck in purgatory with a woman – his muse, an over-the-top "Sex in the City-20-years-later" creature – who keeps screwing things up. At least that's what he thinks. The new version not only explores Shakespeare's eternal values of love, betrayal and friendship in a 21st century college setting, but also sheds light on a very human side of Master Shakespeare. This time we will get to know the man behind the genius for real.

the shakespeare project

Started as a writing project initiated by Martin Buxbaum at the University of Vienna's English Department, *the shakespeare project* quickly developed into a group of dedicated young writers who turned Shakespeare's somewhat flawed early romantic comedy into a hilariously entertaining modern play while staying true to the plot and spirit of the original.

ADDITIONAL OFFERS & INFORMATION

PREVIEW

The production of **William Shakespeare's TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA – a modern version** will open with a free Teachers' Preview performance on Tuesday, November 2, at 8:00 p.m., to which you are cordially invited. Advance reservations are required and will be handled on a first-come-first-serve basis (max. 2 tickets per teacher). This offer is for teachers only.

TICKET PRICES

Regular tickets for **TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA** are 17€, student tickets are 12€ (free seating). For groups of 10 or more students, tickets cost only 9€ per person, and one teacher ticket is free. For adult groups of 10 or more, tickets cost only 15€ per person. In both cases, advance reservations are recommended.

MATINEE PERFORMANCES & WORKSHOPS

For groups of at least 30 students, we offer workshops and/or matinee performances on the following days: November 11-13 & 15-18, with flexible start times in the late morning or early afternoon (generally between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.). Ticket prices for workshop or performance alone are 9€ per student, both together cost 12€ per student. Teacher tickets are free. Please arrange matinee performances and/or workshops directly with the vtp office.

REHEARSAL VISITS

If you're interested in watching a rehearsal, by yourself or with a group of students, we are offering the opportunity to attend a rehearsal at the Ensembletheater, see how a particular scene develops and ask questions in between and afterwards. The date for such a rehearsal visit is flexible – any time between October 10 and 29. Advance reservations are necessary so that that day's rehearsal can be structured accordingly. Rehearsal visits without ticket purchase are 5€ per student. Rehearsal visit & performance are 12€ per student. Rehearsal visit & workshop & performance are 15€ per student. The usual teacher regulations apply.

TICKET RESERVATION

To reserve tickets or make arrangements for a rehearsal visit, workshop or matinee performance, please contact the vienna theatre project directly at +43 1 920 2583 or via email at office@viennatheatreproject.at.

TEACHING MATERIALS

Upon request, teaching materials to read and discuss the play in class are available in pdf- and doc-formats. These materials include information about

- the authors
- the play
- characters
- themes
- Shakespeare's original play
- excerpts and assignments
- suggestions for teachers
- tips on how to write a modern version of a classic
- vocabulary (English-German)

To receive these materials (available mid-October), please send us an email message and specify the format in which you would like the materials to be emailed to you (pdf or doc).

PLAYTEXT

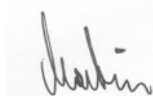
The playtext of **William Shakespeare's TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA** – a modern version by *the shakespeare project* is not in print (obviously), but xerox copies of the script can be purchased directly from the vienna theatre project for €6.50 per copy.

VIENNA THEATRE PROJECT INFO

To find out more about the *vienna theatre project*, please visit our website at www.viennatheatreproject.at, where you can also subscribe to our electronic teacher newsletter, which provides advance information about upcoming productions and projects (please indicate that you are a teacher and give the name of your school in the comments box).

We hope that our offers are of interest to you and look forward to hearing from you and meeting/seeing you at one of our performances.

Best regards,



Martin Buxbaum
Artistic & Executive Director

PS We're also enclosing information about our new school workshops and hope that these are of interest to you as well.