



BOB JONES UNIVERSITY

CONCERT, OPERA & DRAMA SERIES

P R E S E N T S

THE UNIVERSITY CLASSIC PLAYERS
in

jane austen's **PRIDE
&
PREJUDICE**

Adapted and directed by *David Burke*
Scene design by *Jason Waggoner*
Costume design by *Jeffrey Stegall*
Lighting design by *Richard Streeter*

CAST OF CHARACTERS

BENNET HOUSEHOLD

Mr. Bennet Lonnie Polson
Mrs. Bennet Linda St. John
Elizabeth Renée D'Agostino
Jane Lauren Polson
Lydia Angela Haas
Mary Carolyn Apple
Kitty Alisha Shaffer
Bennet Maid Jennifer Polson

BINGLEY HOUSEHOLD

Mr. Darcy Abraham Stratton
Mr. Bingley Brock Miller
Caroline Bingley Jennifer Mielke
Charles, the Butler David Eoute, Jr.
Dancing Ladies Joybeth McCarnan, April Schwingle

LUCAS HOUSEHOLD

Sir William Lucas Doug Schaedel
Lady Lucas Pam Schaedel
Charlotte Lucas Elizabeth Hulshizer

DE BOURGH HOUSEHOLD

Lady Catherine Charlotte Burke
Mr. Collins Jeffrey Stegall
Colonel Fitzwilliam David Eoute, Jr.
de Bourgh Maid Sara Harney

OFFICERS OF THE REGIMENT

Colonel Forster David McQuaid
Mr. Wickham Nathan Bennet
Mr. Denny Jake Wood
Mr. Pratt Steven Lykowski
Other Soldiers Josh McCarnan, Isaiah Stratton

Narrator Anne Nolan

PRODUCTION STAFF

Producer	Darren Lawson
Production Manager	Rodney McCarty
Assistant Directors	David Schwingle, April Thornton
Choreographer and Movement Coach	Anne Nolan
Costume/Makeup/Hair Manager.	Dan Sandy
Makeup/Hairstylists	Sara Harney, Alison Gray
Hairstylist	Rose Marie Blumer
Wardrober	Mary Ellen Rodgers
Costume Construction	Pam Adams, Ellen Ayers, Barb Filipic, Joyce Parsons Becky Sandy, Jean Sponseller, Bess Whittington
Music.	David Diachenko
Pianist	Stephen Schaub
Musicians.	Violin: Alyssa Pritchard, Ariel Habegger Viola: Ruth Rodgers, Cello: Sharon Gerber, Flute: Amanda Barrett
Dialect Assistants.	Demelza Jarrett, Lowenna Jarrett
Dramaturg	Janie McCauley
Stage Manager.	Caleb MacGill
Assistant Stage Manager	Dave Vierow
Audio Supervisor	Max Masters
Audio Production Director	Paul Hancock
Scenic Concept	Marius Pundys

THE PLAY

Mr. and Mrs. Bennet are delighted to learn that the nearby estate of Netherfield has been purchased by one Charles Bingley of London. Mr. Bingley is accompanied by his friend, Mr. Fitzwilliam Darcy, a handsome young man of great wealth and position. As the Bennets have five daughters, the prospect of two newcomers who are both rich and single is quite intriguing. "What a fine thing for our girls!" Mrs. Bennet exudes to her husband, urging him to pay a call on Bingley. Mr. Bennet does so, but without the knowledge of his wife, whose vexation gives him great pleasure.

When the girls finally meet the new arrivals, the eldest daughter, Jane, and the amiable Mr. Bingley grow to mutual admiration from their first meeting. However, the relationship between Mr. Darcy and Elizabeth Bennet is not quite so promising.

Because the Bennets have no son, their family home, Longbourne, is entailed (legally willed) to their closest male relation. This person is the Reverend Mr. Collins, a sycophant to the right honorable Lady Catherine de Bourgh. According to law, this distant relative will own the family estate upon Mr. Bennet's death. Mr. Collins arrives to pursue marriage to one of the Bennet daughters as a conciliatory and gracious gesture. Conveniently, he also finds the Bennet sisters captivating.

A military regiment is stationed in the nearby town, providing a constant source of interest to the youngest Bennet daughters. A handsome new officer, Mr. Wickham, joins the regiment and soon becomes a favorite of all the Bennet sisters, especially Elizabeth.

From this wealth of new arrivals, the story proceeds until a suitable match is found for most, but not all, of the Bennet girls.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

“The work is rather too light, and bright, and sparkling; it wants shade; it wants to be stretched out here and there with a long chapter of sense; ...anything that would form a contrast and bring the reader with increased delight to the playfulness ... of the general style.”

With these words to her sister, Jane Austen allows that the greatest weakness of *Pride and Prejudice* is the unchecked comic spirit it displays. This may be true. But her archly crafted prose has enshrined the book as a popular favorite for almost 200 years.

It is interesting to note that Austen wrote her first draft of the book as a series of letters under the title, *First Impressions*. Indeed, the first impressions of the characters are so engaging that one can almost imagine the entire scene unfolding before the author as she sits at her writing desk. From this image of an author at her desk, our concept for the adaptation and staging of the novel materialized.

What would it be like if we could peek over Jane Austen's shoulder? If she could dip the nib of her pen in the inkwell and scribble her initial impressions, what would she say of Lizzy, her sisters, Darcy, Bingley, Mr. Collins, Lady Catherine—of all these charming characters, as they pop out of the cubbyholes to reveal their foibles? As first impressions are not always accurate, it may be that even such characters as these are deeper and more satisfying than they appear at first glance.

RODEHEAVER AUDITORIUM
April 30 and May 1, 2003, 8 p.m.
May 2, 2003, 2 p.m.

Chimes will sound and lobby lights will flash three minutes before the end of intermission. After the houselights are dimmed following intermission, no one will be readmitted to his seat.

Cameras and recording equipment are not permitted in the Auditorium during any performance. We request that signal watches and personal communication devices be turned off during the program.

Tickets for this production have been sponsored by
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