

PRESENTS

The University Classic Players in



Adapted by *David Burke*Directed by *Ron Pyle*Scene design by *Jason Waggoner*Costume design by *Jeffrey Stegall*Lighting design by *Richard Streeter*

CAST OF CHARACTERS

BENNET HOUSEHOLD	
Elizabeth Bennet	Christi Massa
Mr. Bennet	Allen Fredericks
Mrs. Bennet	Carmen Scott
Jane Bennet	Rebecca Kaser
Mary Bennet	Kaitlyn Chisholm
Kitty Bennet	Caitlyn Murphy
Lydia Bennet	Lauren Jacobs
Bennet Maid	Jillian Foster
BINGLEY HOUSEHOLD	
Mr. Darcy	David Bean
Mr. Bingley	Benjamyn Toler
Caroline Bingley	Hannah Summer
Charles, the Butler	Josh Privett
Dancing Ladies	Jillian Foster, Lydia Stewart
LUCAS HOUSEHOLD	
Charlotte Lucas	Gina Nagengast
Lady Lucas	Joanie Pegram
Sir William Lucas	Ellis Schoolfield
DE BOURGH HOUSEHOLD	
Lady Catherine	Jennifer Olinger
Mr. Collins	Jonny Burkholder
Anne De Bourgh	Jamie Foster
Col. Fitzwilliam	Josh Privett
De Bourgh Maid	Katharine Golightly

OFFICERS OF THE REGIMENT

Mr. Wickham	
Narrator	
UNDERSTUDIES	
Elizabeth Bennet	
Mr. Darcy Dave Massa	
PRODUCTION STAFF	
Producer	
Assistant DirectorLaura Spencer	
Production Manager Rodney McCarty	
Assistant Production ManagerRandall Snively, Micha Moyer	
Stage Manager	
Prop Master	
Technical Engineer	
Assistant to the Production Manager	
ChoreographyLauren Jacobs	
Costume/Makeup/Hair Manager	
Wig Master Alicia Carr	
Assistant Wig Master Elizabeth Sowers	
Costume Construction Becky Sandy, Barb Filipsic, Cynthia Long Joyce Parsons, Valli Rassi, Kimberly Schmidt	
Dramaturg	
Sound Designer	
Audio Engineers	

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 ("Lizzy") Bennet is not quite so promising.

Because the Bennets have no son, their family home, Longbourn, 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 Lizzy.

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

ADAPTOR'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 ring so true 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.

RODEHEAVER AUDITORIUM

May 4 & 5, 2011, 8 p.m. May 6, 2011, 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 personal communication devices be turned off during the program.

Tickets for this production have been sponsored by

