

COTSWOLD
PLAYHOUSE
Stroud's Own Theatre www.cotswoldplayhouse.co.uk

Parliament Street, Stroud, GL5 1LW
PROGRAMME 2011

Tickets are on sale from Stroud Tourist Information Centre, Subscription Rooms, Stroud,
01453 760960 around 4 weeks before the show opens.
Evening performances are at 7.30pm unless otherwise stated

The Cotswold Players present
She Stoops to Conquer: 14th to 18th June 2011

They say women and music should never be dated...
First produced in 1773, this delightful comedy has been a favourite of audiences for more than two centuries. There are two comic situations central to the plot: young Charles Marlow, coming down from London to visit his prospective fiancée's family is deluded into thinking that what he has arrived at is an inn and treats the house with contempt. Secondly, he is bashful to the point of incoherence with ladies of his own background but is just the opposite with barmaids, serving wenches and the like - so Kate 'stoops to conquer' to find out the real nature of the man she hopes to marry...

Along the way there is an abundance of merry mix-ups, racy dialogue and sly satire of the sentimental comedies of Goldsmith's day. The characters burst with warmth and wit and the comedy retains the essential naturalness and humour that made it such an immediate success over 200 years ago.

Tickets £11 from 16th May

Stroud Arts Festival and OperaUpClose present
La Bohème: 24th June 2011

La Bohème has been transported to modern day Kilburn from the original in 1830's bohemian Paris. This adaptation is sung in English and has been conceived to make La Bohème as immediate, relevant, accessible and emotionally engaging for today's audiences as it was when it was first performed in 1896. This young and vibrant cast of world-class trained singers, accompanied by live piano, offer a fresh take on the original for opera fans and an eye-opening introduction for those who thought opera wasn't for them!

In its first incarnation at The Cock Tavern Theatre in Kilburn, this contemporary adaptation of La Bohème met with rave reviews and proved to be so popular with the public that OperaUpClose had to extend the run four times to meet demand, making it the longest continuously running opera in history.
Tickets £15

Find out more at OperaUpClose's web site - <http://www.kingsheadtheatre.com/la-boheme.html>

Bristol Old Vic Theatre School presents
Tom Jones: 1st July 2011

A comic masterpiece, *Tom Jones* is deservedly a classic in English literature. Sheer fun and bursting with bawdy scenes, it's a feast from beginning to end.
Expelled from Mr Allworthy's country estate for his wild temper and sexual conquests, the good-hearted foundling Tom Jones loses his money, joins the army, and pursues his beloved across Britain to London, where he becomes a kept lover...
Our hero's actions were, in 1749, as shocking as they are funny today. Catch this West Country tour on its whistle-stop visit to the Playhouse...

Tickets £11 from 6th June

The Cotswold Players present

Midsummer Night's Dream: 6th to 8th and 11th to 15th October 2011

COTSWOLD PLAYERS CENTENARY PRODUCTION

This play was the one that opened the Playhouse back in 1957 and will celebrate the inception of The Cotswold Players one hundred years ago.

The two worlds of fairyland and clownland meet here and mingle. Such immortal characters as Oberon and Titania, Bottom and Puck take us through a riot of poetry and prose. The fantastic tale unfolds set in a woodland outside Athens giving opportunities for enormous creativity in set design and costume. There is something here for everyone...

The Cotswold Players present

Damages: 15th to 19th November 2011

There's only an hour on the clock until the print deadline and two explosive stories to consider for the front page. Should the red top run with topless children's TV presenter or the horrific teenage rape story? Can they afford to be sued over either, or are they being manipulated?

Super injunctions, affairs, love and loss, binge drinking, pedantic old newshounds - Damages has them all. This topical, witty and very funny play by playwright and screenwriter Steve Thompson is a satirical look at the newspaper business and the lengths they go to get a scoop.

The play is set in real time, with curtain up at 8pm

Jadis Shadows present

The Country Wife: 26th November 2011

'*The Country Wife*', being the most infamous of the Restoration comedies, will be presented in full romp, but the Jadis Shadows team will be taking a glance at bringing fresh savour to the farce and sexual connotations of the play while placing a focus on the many similarities between 17th Century London and modern Britain.

Written by William Wycherley, at the height of London's Restoration Period, the play takes an audience into a century where pleasure was supreme and appearances were everything. London playboy Horner has a plan; a cunning plan to enable him to continue any affair he wishes without the unpleasant business of a husband's suspicions or jealousy. A plan which proves a great success; but will he, finally, be able to reach for that last forbidden fruit? How will his lovers respond once they discover the extent of his liaisons? Will he and his rakish friends be able to control a situation rapidly becoming out of hand? And will he finally discover within himself any truer, faithful emotions?

Packed full of elaborate characterisation and high farce this is a fast paced play designed to delight and entertain.

The above programme and ticket prices are subject to change.

For more details visit our website www.cotswoldplayhouse.co.uk

For priority booking at reduced prices and to guarantee your tickets for future

Playhouse productions, become a "Friend" by phoning Steve Goodwin on

01453 873381 or by filling in the form on the website.