

REVIEWS ARE IN FOR *CLANDESTINE MARRIAGE*



"Remaining true to this year's theme of "Violations," David Garrick and George Colman's 1766 comedy recounts the tale of a wealthy young woman named Fanny (Sophia Fabiilli), who loves a simple clerk named Lovewell (Mark Johnston). Fanny cannot tell anyone about their relationship (except her exasperated maid Betty, played by Nora Williams) for fear that her father, the overindulgent, money-obsessed man Sterling (Keegan O'Conner) will disapprove of Lovewell's less-than-affluent status and therefore forbid their union.

Meanwhile, Sterling's elder daughter, Betsy (Kathryn Alexandre), excitedly busies herself with thoughts of dresses and diamonds as her wedding to Sir John Melvil (Andrew Soutter) approaches. But when she unexpectedly catches her betrothed holding the hand of her younger sister, she vows to exact vengeance of the most extreme kind on Fanny. Sir John openly declares his love to a slightly horrified Fanny, confesses this infatuation to a flabbergasted Lovewell and later speaks of it to his uncle, Lord Ogleby

(Kevin Owen), who has his own ploy to make Fanny Lady Ogleby....

Under the skillful directing of Peter Van Wart, the entire ensemble gave a memorable performance. Each individual role was so well acted that the talent of the actors made the play. Not only were their attempts at a wide variety of European accents spot on, but their strong character portrayals had such conviction that each cast member truly brought something original and essential to the success of the collective effort."

– *The Medium*, March 15 2010



"The kids are phenomenal. Daughter two is a bubbly and expressive Sophia Fabiilli who is a guaranteed future sit-com star. I kept seeing her as a stand-in for any of the ladies on 'Three's Company' or 'Fame'. Remember her name! The aforementioned Sir John is another future success story; Andrew Soutter has managed to keep his character within the realm of credibility without resorting to hamminess. The *pater familias*, in spite of having to project a difficult brogue is Keegan O'Connor; his clan ancestors should be proud, he's an attention-stealer every moment he is on stage. Rachelle Magil plays the aunt and gives a sturdy performance that far outsize her stature. For utter temperature-rising attractiveness, Kathryn Alexandre has the most amazing

facial elasticity that is even more demonstrative than some of her lines. Wait till next year, she'll knock some socks off....

As with any period piece, definitive costuming is mandatory and the outfits by Joanne Massingham are exquisite. The detailing, from wigs to shoe buckles is immaculate."

– *Ontario Arts Review*, March 14 2010