Gunn High School Theatre Department Proudly Presents

ANTON CHEKHOV'S

THE CHERRY ORCHARD

ADAPTED BY DAVID MAMET
"I have as yet no clear picture of Chekhov’s plays. But it is possible that in the future, perhaps a hundred years hence, people will be amazed at what they find in Chekhov about the inner workings of the human soul." —Leo Tolstoy

What about The Cherry Orchard, a play in which "nothing happens"... we are told of events, we see people's reactions to them. It is a play in which there are no protagonists, (or is every character a protagonist...). We are given a selection of various people with whom to sympathize or not. And nothing really does happen; merely, as Uta Hagen observes, "one era ends and another begins..." both for Russia and for dramatic literature, for Chekhov's plays are generally regarded as a foundation in the development of the "modern" in theatre.

David Mamet, whose adaptation of The Cherry Orchard we use, muses: "What did Chekhov do when he had two hours' worth of scenes and thirteen characters running around a country house? He had, as any playwright has, three choices. He could shelve the material as brilliant sketches; he could examine the material and attempt to discern any intrinsically dramatic through-action, and extrapolate the play out of that... (and at the end of The Cherry Orchard? Everyone goes home, they go back to doing exactly what they were doing before the play began).... His third alternative is to come up with a pretext which will keep all thirteen characters in the same place and talking to each other for a while..."

In responding to Stanislavski’s original gloomy production of The Cherry Orchard which was directed as a social tragedy of the passing of the old order, Chekhov responded furiously... "This is a comedy, not a drama! I describe life... Sometimes dull and philistine, but never tedious or whimpering. First they turn me into a weeper then into a simply boring writer!..." Stanislavski got the message and revised his interpretation and when it opened in Petersburg on April 2, 1904 it was an enormous success.

Welcome to Lyubov Ranevskaya’s estate.

Jim Shelby
The Gunn High School Theatre Department
Proudly Presents

Anton Chekhov's

The Cherry Orchard

Adapted by David Mamet

Director
Jim Shelby
Student Director
Jenni Witt
Stage Manager
Robert Wolbach
Costume Design
Susan Altstatt
Artistic Design
Laura Flippen
Lighting Design
Dave Fisher
Sound Design
Olga Heifets
Walter Cinibulk

There will be one ten minute intermission
Please, no food, drink or photography in the Studio Theatre.
The Cast

Lyubov Ranevskaya, a landowner  
Sasha V. Motalygo

Anya, Lyubov’s daughter  
Elyse Kleidon

Varya, Lyubov’s adopted daughter  
Jackie Parker

Leonid Gaev, Lyubov’s brother  
Ethan Ryan Slagle

Yermolay Lopakhin, a merchant  
Alexi Zeller

Petya Trofimov, a student,  
tutor to Lyubov’s drowned son  
Jordan Allen-Dutton

Semeonov-Pischik,  
a neighboring landowner  
Yoni Tamler

Charlotta, a governess  
Molly Hersage

Yepikhodov, a clerk  
Jason Selznick

Dunyasha, a maid  
Mary Heather Cogar

Firs an 87 year-old valet  
Matthew Parker

Yasha, Lyubov’s valet  
Yuval Miller

Stranger, Station Master  
Samuel M. Anderson

Servants  
Julian Davis

Charlotta’s Dog  
Audrey Hannah

Sugar “Mad Dog” Otis
The Crew

Stage Manager
Robert Wolbach

Assistant Stage Manager
Kate Brauman

House Manager
Paula Lin

Lighting
Courtney Rowe

Board Operator
Dave Fisher

Design Heads
Olga Heifets

Crew Heads
Kate Brauman

Crew
Brian Flegel

Set Construction
Maya Haptas

Design Head
Abraham Heifets

Master Carpenters
Courtney Rowe

Crew
Marc Tsukakoshi

Sound Design
Robert Wolbach

Sound Board Operator
Alexi Zeller

Walter Cinibulk

Moe Slagle

Rocky Rakove
Costumes
  Head
  Crew

Properties
  Head
  Crew

Publicity
  Co-Head
  Co-Head
  Crew

Photography

Make-up
  Head
  Crew

Running Crew
  Head
  Crew

Poster and program cover

Program

Kate Julian
Sarah Davis
Ann Altstatt
Julia Cohen
Jacquie Pratt
Jennifer Mac Donell
Rachel Mills
Cathy Harkness
Lisa Coffman
James E. Holloway

Sari Krieger
Kristin Kleidon
Mika Flat
Emily Mead
Michelle Cheng

Lisa Whittlesey
Jenny Marchick
Heather Spera

Matt Horn
Brian Flegel
Sarah Flippen
Maya Haptas
Abraham Heifets
David Kramer
John Perry
Moe Slagle
Jenni Witt
J. Ebenezer Merlin
Special Thanks to:

Lucy Stern Community Theatre
TheatreWorks
West Bay Opera
Foothill College Theatre Department
Francis Hamada, FX House Associates
Peet’s Coffee
The Holloway Family
The Pratt Family
The Zeller Family
Jorgen Wedseltoft
The Spangenberg Theatre Staff
Be sure to attend Gunn's Spring Shakespeare Production on the Spangenberg Theatre stage March 10-19, 1994.

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About the seats...
It is with humble and sincere apologies that we subject you to such unyielding and poorly maintained repositories for your posteriors. Gunn is aging, alas, and clearly the Studio Theatre is in need of some cosmetic surgery. The Gunn Theatre Boosters are currently engaged in a furious fundraising campaign whose aim is nothing less than an entire reseating of the intimate theatre space whose unkindly chairs you currently experience. Any contributions towards this end in terms of energy, donations and ideas will be sorely appreciated by future generations of Theatregoers. Your means can help comfort their ends...