

Nu Sass Productions Presents



ROSENCRANTZ & GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD



**CAPITAL
FRINGE
FESTIVAL**
JULY 9th-26, 2009



uninjured, risk-taking performing arts

Nu Sass Productions Presents...

ROSENCRANTZ & GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD

Directed by
Jobie Watson

Written by
Tom Stoppard

Stage Management & Assistant Direction
by Lauren Gillroy

Graphic
Design by
Will McHenry

Produced by
Aubri O'Connor
Emily Todd

Website Design by
Brian Flores
Benjamin Lu

The Company

Rosencrantz.....Aubri O'Connor
Guildenstern.....Tiffany Garfinkle
The Player/Claudius.....Prairie Griffith
Alfred/Gertrude/Polonius.....Stephanie Svec
Tragedian/Hamlet/Polonius.....Raven Bonniwell
Tragedian/Ophelia/Soldier.....Sophie Howard

Director's Notes...

Are They?

Rosencrantz and Guildenstern. Dead. Are they?

Good question.

"All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely players: They have their exits and their entrances; and one man in his time plays many parts," As You Like it, Shakespeare.

In reading R&G are Dead there is definitely a sense of the idea of the world as stage as expressed by Will in As You Like It. The challenge with this idea in R&G is that it is just an idea and, unlike in Will's plays, it never really turns active. Matter of fact, nothing on the surface ever really happens, although, incidents abound. We discover that we spend our time waiting around to find out if the ambiguously obvious is true. Are they really - ?

On the upside, Ros and Guil (and the play itself) are awfully witty, charming, and sort of heroic word slingers. This makes the play a challenge to read and grasp, much less, to perform.

More than this incident abounding non-active word slinging makes this play challenging. Stoppard's pronouncement in his introduction to the play is the ultimate gauntlet - the nail in the proverbial coffin, so to speak. He says that, if nothing else, the play should be funny.

Ha.

You want to know if Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are dead? You tell me if it's funny.

About Nu Sass...

Nu Sass Productions is a brand new arts production company created by Aubri Lee O'Conner and Emily Todd. Nu Sass is located in the DC Metro Area and was founded to encourage women in all aspects of theatre, to provide greater opportunity for strong actresses and other artists to take on challenging rolls traditionally not offered to them, and to celebrate the joy and energy to be found in the creation of theatre on all levels. Thank you for coming to celebrate that joy and energy with us today.

Nu Sass Productions wishes to thank...

Brian Flores Benjamin Lu

Will McHenry Jenn Root

Doug Wood

Warehouse Theatre The Princeton Review

Nu Sass relies on donations from friends, family, and people like you. For their generous support we would like to thank...

Benefactors

Chantal Forgues
Margaret Haltmaier
Susan Haltmaier
Donald O'Connor
Stella Sheldon

Contributors

Ann & Rick Cavanaugh
Georgia & Art Diefendorf
Brenda Goodman & Jesse
Rabinowitz
Mary & Jed Hudson
Abbe Kaufmann

For a complete list of our donors, more information about the company, or to make a contribution to Nu Sass, please visit our website:

www.nusass.org

This production is presented as part of the 2009 Capital Fringe Festival, by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc. New York City, and is supported in part by the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities and the Pink Line Project.