

## Classic Lorca Productions at Prospect Playhouse

Kevin Creary

The Cayman Islands Drama Society unleashes their first production since the retirement of founding members, Peter and Penny Phillips.

The House of Bernarda Alba and Blood Wedding could easily qualify as a tribute to the couple, as they not only boast exceptional talent but also showcase the diversity of drama and culture.

The classic double bill running at the Prospect Playhouse, Red Bay is directed by Nick Dereza.

Blood Wedding is a tragedy by the Spanish dramatist Federico García Lorca. Set in the 1930's, it is about a woman who marries a man that she doesn't love; as the man she truly loves moves on to marry her cousin.

Theatre critics have often grouped it with The House of Bernarda Alba as a "rural trilogy." Lorca's plan for a "trilogy of the Spanish earth" remained unfinished at the time of his death and he did not include The House of Bernarda Alba in it.

In his description of the Blood Wedding's unique stage arrangement, actor and volunteer, Peter Kosa said: "This is out of the fringe. The way it's being staged, the community and the setting will include the audience. On the stage, it is unusual and unique."

Drama teacher and actor, Anthony Chipp who plays the groome said, "Blood Wedding is about a wedding where the bride is torn between two men, the background is in rural Spain. The play includes some violence, passion and destruction."

Adam Cockerill plays Leonardo, and Peter Kosa plays the role of the groom's father in Blood Wedding

"Blood Wedding is a rural tragedy. It is a poetic tragedy," Adam Cockerill said.

The plays were described by director Nick Dereza as a mixture of realistic acting combined with stylized movement. The bride,

played by Hannah Cook, has all her fears acted out around her.

Among the ten or more nationalities involved in the play are Caymanians, Trinidadians, British, Americans, and Canadians.

There are at least 50 volunteers involved with the productions, 25 of them form part of the cast, and the others are responsible for the production.

Blood Wedding and The House of Bernarda Alba, are two fine plays which offer a sensational depiction of love, hate and jealousy, interspersed with complementary musical background.

The House of Bernarda Alba which is the first play to be shown each evening, is about a widow who struggles to give her five daughters a 'proper upbringing.'

The wealthy mother insists that her children should only marry men who satisfy her discriminating tastes, and she is relentlessly committed to the demolition of any relationship between her daughters and men below her standard.

The cast looked vivacious and eager to fine-tune their art for the opening of the plays.

The productions are running from 26th May through till the 5th June 2011.

The members all had high praises for Peter and Penny Phillips, whose contribution to the Drama Society and the Cayman Islands they unanimously extolled.

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*The House of Bernarda Alba*



*Kristine Gray Plays Adella*



*Play Opens 26th May at Prospect Play House*



*Peter Kosa*

# DJ

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