

ENTERTAINMENT

GLT comedy is a light-hearted spoof worth the time

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Undergoing a tax audit is never a fun thing, but when you know you've made some less than legal claims, it's downright nerve-racking, as the protagonists learned in Georgetown Little Theatre's *Love, Sex and the IRS*, which opened Thursday night at John Elliott Theatre.

The story centers around Jon and his roommate Leslie, who have been through thick and thin together since their college days.

And, as friends are wont to do, Jon offered to file Leslie's income tax forms, to help him out.

The thing Jon forgot to mention was that he filed Leslie as a woman, instead of a man, so he could claim 'Leslie' as his wife.

All went well, the refunds came in and Leslie was none the wiser—until the man from the IRS knocked at the door.

And while all this is happening, Jon's fiancée Kate has been seeing Leslie behind Jon's back and has plans of leaving him for Leslie.

A surprise visit from Jon's mom, a nosy apartment build-

ing superintendent and an unexpected visit from Leslie's girlfriend set the stage for a hilarious play of mistaken identities, miscommunication and lots of laughs.

Sheri Buker is the epitome of innocence (or not) as Kate, Jon's fiancée. Her wide-eyed innocence and sexy on-stage presence makes her a credit to her part.

Marcel Jordon is the impetuous, crafty Jon who is taxed to the limit to find a way to explain his situation to his auditor. At times Jordon tends to over-act a bit, but still gives a good performance.

Playing Leslie, Tyler Bignell steals the show as the nervous roommate. With his long hair and over-exaggerated stage presence, he actually is quite credible as a woman.

Gary McIlvray is priceless as the no-nonsense monotone-speaking Floyd Spinner of the IRS. McIlvray commands the stage when he enters Jon and Leslie's apartment, in his 'secret service' mode and his official stature.

Patti Caruso is quite credible as the nosy, narrow-minded

Vivian, Jon's mother. She barges in and takes over not only the apartment, but the stage, with her boisterous manner.

Ro Palumbo-Coates had a particularly challenging part, as Mr. Jansen, the apartment super. With her Bronx accent and cocky strut, she actually gave the character life and was a hit with the audience.

Acting alongside Palumbo-Coates was her son Brendan Coates, who played the somewhat sinister Arnold Grunion, a

justice of the peace who makes house calls. Coates might have had a brief part, but contributed lots with his stage presence.

Cat Skirrow played Leslie's girlfriend Connie, who had a knack for being a little gullible in the hands of Jon. Skirrow played her character well.

The set was quite realistic with a New York skyline in the background, and certainly gave the play its setting. Lighting and musical cues were on the money and the play ran like a well-oiled

machine.

Love Sex and the IRS would certainly not be considered one of GLT's monumental plays, but rather tends to be a light-hearted spoof that will give the audience a few well-deserved laughs.

In spite of that fact, it's still worth a night at the theatre to sit back, relax and watch Jon and Leslie sweat, as the rest of the players slip in and out of the picture.

The play continues its run this week.

Fundraising concert in May stars Susan Aglukark

Halton Family Services (HFS) will be hosting a benefit concert on Saturday, May 31, at the Meeting House in the Town of Oakville, with the help of one of Canada's most celebrated singer/songwriters, Oakville's own Juno Award winner Susan Aglukark.

Nancy Brown, Executive Director of Halton Family Services, says, "Adequate funding for our services is increasingly difficult to obtain. Support of this concert

will help us to provide counselling and support to our most vulnerable low-income individuals, couples and families."

Starting at 7:30 p.m. Canadian songstress Kelita will open the show followed by award-winner and social awareness activist, Aglukark.

"We are very excited to have Susan. Her music speaks to the suffering of families not only to her Native Inuit in the Far North, but here in our own

community. She's a great example of a woman who has endured trauma and has triumphed over it," says Brown.

HFS is a non-profit organization, established in 1954 and funded by four United Ways in Halton. HFS serves more than 2,500 individuals, couples and families a year.

Tickets are available for this event and more information can be found on Halton Family Services website, www.haltonfamilyservices.org

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