

Manpreet Singh Kular

My Darling Judith said to spark wide range of emotions

By Julie Slack CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

An evening of laughter, drama and tears is what's in store for audiences who take in the Milton Players Theatre Group's latest offering, says the director of the production.

The Players will stage My Darling Judith, written by well-known playwright Norm Foster, at the Milton Centre for the Arts November 1, 2, 3, 7, 8 and 9.

Steve Prevost, a Miltonian who's been directing plays for many years, said he's enjoying directing My Darling Judith because it's a play that inspires a wide range of emotions in audiences.

"Foster is well known for his comedic roles," he said. "But there's some serious heated arguments — some serious and tender moments over and above the comedy.

"Plays like this are good — the ones that can make you laugh and make you cry," he continued. "There's ample opportunity for both here."

The play centres around David Stafford, who has grown tired of his long-time wife, Judith. He meets Anna, someone new, basically a trophy wife. He connives to get his wife Judith involved with someone else to speed up the process of getting married to a younger,



Members of the Milton Players Theatre Group rehearse for their latest play, My Darling Judith, that opens Saturday night at the Milton Centre for the Arts. Here (from left), Tara Bostock, Ryk Simpson, Anna Finlan and Michael Anania play their parts.

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beautiful woman. He asks his employee Carl to seduce Judith, who has been manipulated and controlled over the years by David.

As marriages crumble, affairs flounder and new friendships form, the relationships between the four characters are bound to ring familiar to the audience, Prevost said.

The parts are played by Milton residents Ryk Simpson (David), Anna Finlan (Judith) and Michael Anania (Carl). Carlisle resident Tara Bostock plays Anna, the mistress.

Prevost is passionate about theatre and encourages residents to come out to see a "firstrate play in a great setting."

"Live theatre is something that in this day and age is being overshadowed with all the media that's available to us," he said. "Once upon a time, it's all that was available and now, it's on the fringes.

"It's live every night. Things can happen and actors have to work out of a jam," Prevost said. "Audience members are in the same room with them — there's the feeling of live theatre — you'll never get that with a screen or a television set and it's an important part of our culture."

Furthermore, Prevost said, it's a really good play by a Canadian playwright, best known for Melville Boys, and the cast is brilliant.

'There's four cast members and all are pretty well equal in terms of line load — there isn't really a lead," he said, noting they work well together and have brought a lot of good ideas to the table. "They've been to every rehearsal on time, ready to work and get the job done."

Tickets cost \$27 and available at the centre's box office, by phone at (905) 878-6000 or at www.miltoncentreforthearts.com.

Julie Slack can be reached at jslack@miltoncanadianchampion.com or on Twitter @milton-

