Theatre press release

ISU Theatre’s “Amadeus” is a story of musical genius

AMES, Iowa – ISU Theatre’s story of musical genius, Amadeus, opens in Fisher Theater beginning Friday, February 28, with the final performance taking place on Sunday, March 9.

Amadeus (loved by God) is the middle name of one of the greatest musical geniuses of Western Civilization, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Such genius was bound to create jealousy. Upon his death when he was only 35, a composer said to a colleague, “Of course it’s too bad about such a great genius, but it’s good for us that he’s dead. Because if he’d lived longer, really the world would not have given a single piece of bread for our composition.”

This play by Peter Shaffer is about the envy of one rival, Antonio Salieri, who may have been a third rate composer, but deeply loved first rate music and was able to tell the difference between his own work and that of Mozart’s. This recognition did not lead to hero worship, but to a plan for Mozart’s destruction.

Amadeus is, as Shaffer himself wrote, “a fantasia based on fact.” It is also a script that has drawn some of the greatest actors in the world, awards on two continents, and finally the Academy Award for Best Picture.

Iowa State University Theatre’s production of this exploration of creation and destruction opens on Friday, February 28 at 7:30 in Fisher Theatre in the ISU Center. Other performance dates are March 1, 7, and 8 at 7:30 p.m. and March 2 and 9 at 2 p.m. in Fisher Theater, Ames.

Tickets are priced at $17 for adults, $15 for seniors, and $9 for students. Tickets can be purchased through any TicketMaster, the Iowa State Center Ticket Office in Ames, or at the door before performances.

A publicity photo is available upon request.

For more information, e-mail isutheatre@iastate.edu, visit www.theatre.iastate.edu, or call 515-294-2624.

For Immediate Release
HOMETOWN INFORMATION

Mason Tyer (Mozart) is a junior in performing arts and philosophy from Winterset.

Christopher Priebe (Antonio Salieri) is a senior in performing arts from Amana.

Alexander Criswell (Venticelli 1) is a sophomore in aerospace engineering from Mahtomedi, Minnesota.

Adam Krokh (Venticelli 2) is a freshman in performing arts from Akron.

Lauren Dentler (Constanze Weber) is a junior in performing arts from Victoria, Texas.

Michael Clinkscales (Joseph II) is an open option junior from Urbandale.

Christopher Culver (Count von Strack) is a sophomore in music and performing arts from Cedar Rapids.

Carter Roeske (Count Orsini) is a junior in performing arts from Maple Grove, Minnesota.

Zack Hackbarth (Baron von Swieten) is a senior in English from Ames.

Kyle Folvag (Major-Domo/Citizen of Vienna) is a junior in advertising from Ankeny.

Leo Livingston (Salieri’s Valet) is a sophomore in English and performing arts from Harper’s Ferry.

Kim Paul (Salieri’s Cook) is a senior in psychology from Midland, Michigan.

Mackenzie Watson (Tersa Salieri) is a junior in performing arts and journalism and mass communication from Waconia, Minnesota.

Alyssa Maldonado (Katherina Cavallieri) is a junior in performing arts and psychology from Elgin, Illinois.

James Cody Ward (Citizen of Vienna) is a sophomore in math from Reinbeck.

Emily Linch (Citizen of Vienna) is a sophomore in English and world languages and cultures from Ames.

Jessica O’Riley (Citizen of Vienna) is a sophomore in performing arts from Cromwell.

Calli Sandahl (Citizen of Vienna) is a senior in speech communication from Savage, Minnesota.

Miranda Shunkwiler (stage manager) is a senior in performing arts from Brooklyn Center, Minnesota.

Lauren Dursky (assistant stage manager) is a sophomore in performing arts from Pleasantville.

Katie Olsen (assistant stage manager) is a junior in technical communication from Rochester, Minnesota.