



The Rome Savoyards and Plays in Rome

Present

The Philanderer

by **George Bernard Shaw**

Directed by **Sandra Provost**

**A cleverly entertaining, irreverent, timeless and topical
social satire in newly abridged version**

About the Play

The Philanderer is a strikingly prescient play, a poignant, social satire by Nobel Prize and Academy Award winning playwright George Bernard Shaw. It was written in 1893 but due to the strict British Censorship laws at the time, it was not produced on stage until 1902. Drawing from his own personal experience, in this play Shaw intentionally and happily takes irreverent aim at a number of targets, namely social hypocrisy, the sanctity of marriage, the infallibility of the medical profession, as well as the varieties of character and sexual temperament. Despite the title, this is actually a play about women. Indeed drawing inspiration from what he considered to be the quintessentially Ibsenite woman, *The Philanderer* is also considered to be Shaw's tribute to the modern woman.

At the play's outset Charteris *The Philanderer's* Shaw-like title character has turned his courtship - and sexual drive - to a soignée widow, Grace Tranfield. "*A lady and gentleman are making love to one another in the drawing room of a flat.....*" He is attempting to propose to her when Julia, his *other* lady-friend, hyperemotional and rather husband-craving bursts in on them. Matters get complicated further when Grace's father, Cuthbertson, a drama critic, arrives arm in arm with a long-lost school friend he has run into by chance—Julia's father, Colonel Craven. As the plot thickens and the story unravels around the other characters involved, more disclosures and unexpected surprises ensue.

Topical, cleverly entertaining and timeless, *The Philanderer* remains very popular to this day, with numerous successful productions to date. The National Theatre performed the play in 1978–79 and a recent New York City production was a revival by the Pearl Theatre Company in 2012. The Shaw Festival at Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario has performed the play numerous times from 1971 to 2014.

A compelling story, brought to vibrant, contemporary life by this forthcoming, entertaining abridged version presented by The Rome Savoyards to inaugurate their new and 12th theater season ad Teatro San Genesio.

Cast (in order of appearance)

Edoardo Gattolusi, Camilla Mazzitelli, Fabiana De Rose,
Gregory Garbinsky, John Calderone, Jax, Harry McCrory, Sébastien Follain

Performances

Tue to Fri 5-8 November 2019 at 20.30
Sat and Sun 9-10 November 2019 at 17.30

Teatro San Genesio

Via Podgora 1 (near Viale Mazzini; nearest metro stop Lepanto)

Tickets

full 15€, reduced 13€ (groups and seniors, members of
Plays in Rome association), reduced 10€ (students and children)

Bookings and info

playsinrome@yahoo.com; Tel: 347-8248661