

LASAGNA AND CONDOMS

ACE's *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* puts Cupid on the hot seat

Written by Joe DiPietro with music by Jimmy Roberts, *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* is a series of skit-like vignettes punctuated by songs loosely hung around themes of love, sex, relationships and marriage. First performed Off-Broadway in 1996, the popular and award-winning musical is on now at Actor's Cabaret under the direction of Anthony Krall.

Without much of a plot but familiar to anyone who's been in love, lonely, committed or just plain horny, *I Love You* takes a ribald and slightly jaundiced but generally warm-hearted look at the human need for connection and the lengths we all go to achieve it.

"Who is this woman talking?" someone on a first date asks in an aside, wondering why we lie to be liked. And elsewhere, a character says first dates are based on blind hope, imploring her prospective mate to fast-forward right to the sex.

Later, love is called an "ambitious and delicious curse." A particularly funny bit is about a law firm offering to sue anyone's disappointing sex partner.

Musically, *I Love You* is likeable but largely forgettable, alternating between Disney-era Elton John and *Little Shop of Horrors*. The cast's voices are uneven but roundly capable; each performer charms in her own way, with highlights coming from actresses India Potter and Ashley Apelzin in particular.



ELLA GREEN, BRENT ANDERSON AND ERIC BLANCHARD IN ACE'S *I LOVE YOU, YOU'RE PERFECT, NOW CHANGE*

It's impossible not to smile as a middle-aged married couple played by Brent Anderson and Jane Griffin Byrd tango, singing uproariously: "We're married! And we're gonna have sex!" Later, Anderson sweetly serenades Byrd, reminding himself that, despite temptation, the pay-off of long-term commitment has been worth it.

I can't say the show offers many groundbreaking insights into the human condition. Nicely, modern dating is referenced (meeting partners online, for example) but the show has real risk of showing its age: The dating world has changed a lot since 1996. Several punchlines alternate between groaner and predictable: Men won't ask directions, women don't like football, men like action movies, women like to shop.

With recent statistics showing the cultural cachet of cars and driving diminishing amongst teens and millennials,

I wonder how well a skit about a father and the open road went over for the young couples in the crowd.

There is, however, always truth in old jokes, and the theme of losing oneself to a partner or parenthood will never go away. There's also real joy and value in shared misery — laughing despite oneself as all our dirty laundry and uncomfortable peccadillos are writ large across a stage.

The show is a fun, entertaining diversion with enough in it for those at any stage in their life: from singles and passionate young couples to gray-feathered lovebirds and beyond.

Love is a certain kind of insanity, but without it what a dull world it would be.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change runs now through May 21 at Actor's Cabaret of Eugene; \$16-\$48.95 with dinner options, tickets at 541-683-4368 or actorscabaret.org.



the
**BEST.
SUMMER.
EVER.**



Friendship, Accomplishment, Belonging

Indoors and out. On their own or in a group. Archery to arts, canoeing to cannonballs, your kid will have an amazing experience, all in a safe, inclusive and nurturing environment.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Camps available for children ages 2^{1/2} to 15.

ONLINE REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

YMCA SUMMER CAMPS
www.eugeneymca.org



City of Eugene and Eugene Urban Renewal Agency Budget Committee Meetings Notice

The City of Eugene and Eugene Urban Renewal Agency Budget Committee is preparing to review the proposed budget for fiscal year 2016-2017 (FY17) and to provide its recommendations on the budget to the City Council. The Budget Committee wants your help in setting funding priorities for our community. Please join the Budget Committee at its upcoming meetings to learn more and to speak about your priorities.

City Manager's FY17 Proposed Budget Presentation
Wednesday, May 11, 2016 • 5:30 p.m.

Public Comment and Deliberation on FY17 Proposed Budget
Wednesday, May 18, 2016 • 5:30 p.m.

Public Hearing, Deliberation and Action on FY17 Proposed Budget
Thursday, May 26, 2016 • 6:15 p.m.

All meetings will be held in the Bascom-Tykeson Room, Downtown Public Library, 100 W 10th Avenue.

How You Can Get Involved

Members of the public are encouraged to express their views on the FY17 proposed budget. Public testimony will be taken at **5:30 p.m. at the May 18** and **6:15 p.m. at the May 26** Budget Committee meetings. Public testimony can also be submitted by sending a written statement to the Budget Committee or City Council, c/o City of Eugene Finance Division, 100 W 10th Avenue, Suite 400, Eugene, Oregon, 97401; submit a written statement at the meeting or public hearing; or via the Budget Committee contact form at www.eugene-or.gov/budget. At the bottom of the webpage, click the "Contact the Budget Committee" button.

How to Get More Information

The FY17 proposed budget is available on the City of Eugene web site at www.eugene-or.gov/budget starting on Wednesday, May 4, 2016. Hard copies of the FY17 proposed budget are available for public review at the City of Eugene Finance Division (100 W 10th Avenue, Suite 400, Eugene, Oregon 97401), Downtown Public Library reference desk (100 W 10th Avenue, 2nd floor, Eugene, Oregon 97401), and at the City Manager's Office (Lane County Public Service Building, 125 E 8th Avenue, Eugene, Oregon 97401), Wednesday, May 4, 2016. Budget Committee meeting materials and webcasts are available at www.eugene-or.gov/budget by selecting the "Budget Meeting Materials" link. Please contact the City of Eugene Finance Division at 541-682-5512 if you have any questions or need additional information.

This notice was published on Thursday, April 28, 2016 at the City of Eugene's website, and may be viewed at <http://www.eugene-or.gov/DocumentCenter/View/27097>