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pathos, and there's not an expletive in sight — a trademark of Cariani's.

This AAUW production of "Love/Sick" is directed by well-known and respected local director Susi Brown, with assistance by Bobbi Brice.

Brown is no stranger to Cariani's work. She read his first play, "Almost, Maine," shortly after it was published in 2004. The play flopped when it ran Off Broadway in 2006, but it went on to find enormous success on community stages around the U.S. and the world. It's even edged out Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" as the most-produced play in U.S. high schools. Brown saw "Almost, Maine" on stage in Sebastopol, California and knew she wanted to direct it. In 2010, she went on to do just that, helming a production at the Coaster Theatre in Cannon Beach.

"After that, I waited until Cariani finished working on other pieces. I watched for 'Love/Sick' to be released on a daily basis and ordered it when I saw the manuscript was available," Brown said. "His humor, his understanding of the human condition, his command of dialogue, and his absurd situations interests me. I find actors truly enjoy his writing, and they like to tell his stories through his characters' voices. We all have fun. It's my number-one rule when working on a show."

For the production at the PAC, actor Daric Moore has composed 11 musical pieces to accompany the play, including an overture, scene changes, an intermission piece and a rousing curtain call.

"Daric and our engineer, Dave Gager, call it The 'Love/Sick' Soundtrack. It has exceeded all expectations I had when I asked him if he would consider creating some original work for our show," Brown said.

Moore's soundtrack will be available for purchase as a CD for \$5 in the lobby on performance dates.

The eight actors performing — sometimes one, sometimes multiple roles — are Priscilla Fairall, William Ham, Lori Wilson Honl, Toni Ihander, Daric Moore, Nancy Montgomery, Barry Sears and Sheila Shaffer. They appear two at a time, portraying 18 different characters. Dave Gager is the sound technician; the running crew is Isaac Gray and Cheyenne Lyon; lighting design is by Larry Bryant.

The Partners for the PAC and the Astoria chapter of the American Association of University Women are active in the cause to continue to breathe life and funds into the Save the PAC effort. Proceeds from ticket sales for this production benefit Clatsop Community College student scholarships and support the continuing use of the CCC Performing Arts Center, located at 588 16th St. at Franklin Avenue in Astoria. Tickets are \$15 each. Doors open one hour before the performance. Refreshments will be available during intermission. For more information, contact Sara Meyer of AAUW at chuck555@gmail.com or 503-791-0426; or Charlene Larsen of Partners for the PAC at crl.larsen@charter.net



Top: William Ham, left, and Toni Ihander rehearse a scene in "Love/Sick."

Above: Sheila Shaffer performs during a rehearsal for the play "Love/Sick."

Right: Lori Wilson, right, and William Ham perform during a rehearsal.



'LOVE/SICK'

7 p.m. Friday and
Saturday, Sept. 16,
17, 23 and 24

4 p.m. Sunday,
Sept. 18 and 25

CCC Performing
Arts Center

588 16th St. at
Frankline Avenue,
Astoria

\$15