Peninsula Players recreate off-Broadway musical comedy in Ilwaco

FOR COAST WEEKEND

ver worried about a blind date? Ever felt uncertainty in a relationship? Ever broken up? All are issues highlighted in a musical comedy presented by Peninsula Players in Ilwa-

co, Washington, this month.

"I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change" opens Friday, March 9, and runs three weekends through Sunday, March 25, at the River City Playhouse. Tickets are on sale at Long Beach Peninsula locations, or reservations may be made by phone.

The show is presented as a series of musical vignettes about love and relationships. Scenes show characters reflecting on being single, facing a first date, meeting the parents, marriage, pregnancy, parenting and breaking up.

Director Rita Smith said it is intended for adult audiences. The show was off-Broadway's second longest-running show and has played in London and around the world, where it's been translated into 17 languages, including Mandarin, Catalan and Turkish.

"A friend saw it and said it was hilarious," Smith said. "It's definitely adult humor — it's hysterical. There's a lot of truisms in it, even though it is played over the top."

In New York and elsewhere, the show has been staged with as few as four performers. Smith has chosen a larger group; all portray several characters. Actors include Smith, Robert Scherrer, Missy Bageant, Bryan Foster, Bob Goldberg, Melissa Goldberg, David Immel, Bette Lu Krause, Rachel Lake, Kevin Perry, Rose Power, Diana Thompson and Matthew Warner.

By PATRICK WEBB

IF YOU GO

"I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change"

Who: Peninsula Players

What: "I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change."

Where: River City Playhouse, 127 Lake St., Ilwaco, Washington

When: 7 p.m. Friday, March 9, and Saturday, March 10; 2 p.m. Sunday, March 11; 7 p.m. March 16, 17, 23, 24; and 2 p.m. March 18 and 25. Doors open half an hour before showtimes, except at the 6:15 p.m. March 9 gala openina

Admission: \$15

Tickets: Okie's in Ocean Park, Stormin' Norman in Long Beach and Ole Town Café in Ilwaco: at the door, if available

Reservations: Call Rita Smith at 360-665-0028 or 360-244-3517

More details: peninsula-players.com

PATRICK WEBB PHOTOS When a young couple surprises the parents with news that they are breaking up, it leads to unpleasant reactions, including hostility in this scene

from "I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change." Seated are Missy Bageant and Matthew Warner. Behind them are Robert Scherrer and Bette Lu Krause.