Focus

The Portland Observer

Theatre

Paula Productions presents David Mamet's Speed the Plow

CONTRIBUTED STORY FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Hailed as "hilarious and chilling" by Frank Rich of the New York Times and as "the deftest and funniest of Mamet's work" by Robert Brustein of the New Republic, Speed the Plow puts love and loyalty to the test in Hollywood's mercenary environment. Mamet's story centers around Bob Gould's (Cole Akeman) search to "do good" struggling to chose between his old friend and fellow movie producer Charlie Fox (Harold Phillips) and his new love and temporary secretary Karen (Colleen Crabtree.) It's an all out war between entertainment and art, degradation and radiation, in this entertaining and thought provoking play. Speed the Plow first opened on Broadway May 3, 1988 at the Royale Theatre directed by Gregory Mosher and featuring Joe Mantegna, Larry Silver, and Madonna. Mamet's plays also include American Buffalo, Glengarry Glen Ross, Oleana, and many others. No stranger to Hollywood, Mamet's screen plays include The Edge, The Spanish Prisoner, and The Winslow Boy. Director, Kevin Otos has lived in Portland for the last two years and has acted locally at Portland Center Stage and Tygres Heart. Favorite directing experiences have included The Constant Wife. Charlotte's Web, Big Time, Fool for Love, and You're a Good Man Charlie Brown. Otos is a graduate of the Actor Training Program at Florida State University where he was privileged to work with the late Jose Quintero.

Speed the Plow opens Thursday, April 6 and runs Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays through April 26. Curtain time is 8 pm. The Jack Oakes Theater is located at 2820 NE Sandy Blvd., Portland, Oregon, USA. Tickets are \$10. Paula Productions maintains a noreservation, first-come, first-serve accessibility policy. Options can be clarified by calling 503/238-9692.

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