

The Virgin Islands Consortium

The Show Must Go On: Caribbean Community Theater Welcomes an Audience

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Set design for 'Getting Sara Married' is well underway for its June 19 opening date. By. KIA GRIFFITH FOR VI CONSORTIUM

ST. CROIX — “We look forward to seeing the public in a modified format, different than the videos they’ve been watching!” Caroline Pott, Caribbean Community Theatre’s President of the Board exclaimed, as she volunteered her time on Sunday afternoon toward preparing the theater for its reopening.

During the past two and a half months, since Governor Albert Bryan, Jr.’s official territorial stay-at-home order, CCT found creative ways to interact with their audience

and devoted members through Facebook. A week-long celebration of the 'Bard of Avon', William Shakespeare, through videos submitted by loyal board members, directors and actors—young and young at heart alike—comprised of moving interpretations of his various Sonnets to commemorate his birthday in April.

"The arts help us think about humanity," shared Denise Blanchette, referring to how liberal arts studies, exploration, and appreciation bring us back to the notion of being human toward one another, especially during this pandemic.

Now that the territory is in its "Open Doors" stage of the current pandemic, the theater is looking forward to reopening to the public for auditions on June 9 and 10 at 7 pm, for the July production of 'I and You', an award-winning play by Lauren Gunderson, directed by Heather McRae. Show dates are July 31, August 1, 7, and 8 at 8 pm. Two Sunday matinees will take place on August 2 and 9 at 4 pm.

'Getting Sara Married', a comedy by Sam Bobrick and directed by Michael Baker, is the next production to take the stage on June 19-20 and 26-27 at 8 pm. Two Sunday matinees will take place on the 21 and 28 at 4 pm.

According to Eileen Bishop Des Jardins, Managing Producer, CCT has revised their current season and hopes to open Season 36 with 'Sweat', written by Pulitzer-prize winning playwright Lynn Nottage. Sweat was originally scheduled to end Season 35. 'Love Letters' by A.R. Gurney is a staged dramatic reading featuring Denise Blanchette and Paul Knipler. Show dates are Saturday, July 11 at 8 pm and Sunday, July 12 at 4 pm.

As a result of the pandemic, social distancing is required at this tight-knit community theater. Although there are no social distancing guidelines specific for live theater, CCT will follow appropriate guidelines by reducing maximum capacity and keeping seating of parties at least 6 feet apart. Audience members are encouraged to maintain a 6-foot distance in the bar and concession line.

Come hurricane or pandemic, the show is still going on at CCT for 35 years and counting. The theater is located at #18 Estate Orange Grove, Christiansted, VI 00820. To avoid lines on show days, CCT is working to set up online ticket sales for your convenience. Until then, cash ticket purchases can be made at the box office. Visit their website at www.cct.vi. For all other inquiries, call (340)718-4229 or send an email to eileencct@gmail.com.