

## Worth the trip

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### Court revives 'Travesties'

What do Bolshevik revolutionary Vladimir Lenin, Irish author James Joyce and Dadaist poet Tristan Tzara have in common?

They all lived in Zurich during World War I and they all appear in "Travesties," Tom Stoppard's comedic examination of art, war and revolution in previews at Court Theatre, 5535 S. Ellis Ave., Chicago.

Court artistic director Charles Newell directs this revival of Court's 1995 production. "Travesties" opens Saturday. (773) 753- 4472.

### Eclipse salutes Wilson

Continuing its one season/one playwright commitment, Eclipse Theatre Company devotes 2005 to one of America's finest, Pulitzer Prize winner Lanford Wilson.

"The Rimers of Eldritch," about a murder and sexual assault that unearths the sordid secrets infesting a small Midwestern town, opens the season. Eclipse member Steven Fedoruk directs.

Previews continue through Sunday. "The Rimers of Eldritch" opens Monday at Victory Gardens Theater, 2257 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago. (773) 871-3000.

### Bad advice & tragic love

Chicago veterans Mike Nussbaum and Rondi Reed star as Shakespeare's well-meaning but incredibly irresponsible duo of Friar Lawrence and Nurse in Chicago Shakespeare Theater's production of "Romeo and Juliet."

Carman Lacivita and Julia Coffey play the star-crossed lovers in the production, directed by Tony Award nominee Mark Lamos, beginning previews Saturday at Navy Pier, 800 E. Grand Ave., Chicago. (312) 595-5600.

- Barbara Vitello

### What's new

Bumblinni Brothers Paul Kalina and Chuck Stubbings bid adieu to their alter egos in "Arrivederci Bumblinnis," the duo's swan song (they're retiring the clown/acrobatic act after this run), through May 1 at the Actors Gymnasium, Noyes Cultural Arts Center, 927 Noyes St., Evanston. (312) 409-3527.

Inspirare Theatre stages its inaugural production of David Mamet's controversial "Oleanna," about a gender-war in academia, in a classroom at the Glen Ellyn Civic Center, 535 Duane Street, Glen Ellyn. The play opens Thursday. (630) 735-1313.

Is America a good idea? The Neo-Futurists question nationalism in their new show, "Patriots" opening Thursday at The Neo- Futurarium, 5153 N. Ashland Ave., Chicago. (773) 275-5255.

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