

Theatre & Arts Centre

Talisman

Monday 19th - Saturday 24th April at 7.30 p.m.

Ivan Turgenev's

A MONTH IN THE COUNTRY

Translated by David Iffie

The Russian countryside, 1842, and a young undergraduate is the unwitting cause of a romantic turmoil

Directed by Ann Brooks

TALISMAN THEATRE & ARTS CENTRE, BARROW ROAD, KENILWORTH, WARWICKSHIRE
 Box Office: Kenilworth 856548 - Mon to Fri 7.00 to 8.00 p.m.
 week prior to show and show week,
 or telephone Kenilworth 513008 - most evenings.

Founded October, 1942 555th Production
 Monday, 19th to Saturday, 24th April, 1999 at 7.30 p.m.

Talisman Theatre Company

presents
 Ivan Turgenev's

A MONTH IN THE COUNTRY

Translated by David Iffie
 Directed by Ann Brooks
 Designer Graham Sawyer

Cast in order of appearance:-

Herr Shaf, a German tutor	David Draper
Anna, Arkady's widowed mother	Sue Scott
Natalia, Arkady's wife	Pamela Gresty
Michael, a family friend	Bill Barry
Elizabeth, Anna's companion	Maureen Jones
Kolya, Natalia's son	Ben Kelly
Doctor, the local doctor	John Fenner
Vera, Natalia's ward	Katherine Compton
Arkady, a rich landowner	Trevor Thomas
Alex, a student, tutor to Kolya	Jamie Firth
Matthew, a servant	Michael Santos
Katya, a servant	Genma Edington
Anatoly, a neighbouring landowner	John Spenser

Although the play is called 'A Month In The Country', the action is spread over four days. The scene is a country estate in Russia sometime in the 1840's.

Act I Scene 1 The drawing room
 Scene 2 The garden
 Scene 3 The drawing room

Act II Scene 1 A normally unused entry-hall
 Scene 2 The drawing room

There will be one Interval of 15 minutes between Acts I and II.

Stage Manager	Clive Taylor
Assistant Stage Manager	Audrey Jacques
Lighting	Brian Tuck
Sound	Dik Thacker
Wardrobe	Sue Robottom and Margaret Kentabere
Properties	Lorna Spenser and Jonny Skidmore

Set construction by Paul Kelly, assisted by Colin Mountjoy, Michael Santos, Simon Walmesley, Richard Orr, Mick Ives, Roy Baldwin and Tim Eden.

Production photographs by Zoe Felley



Stylish portrayal of hopeless love

A MONTH IN THE COUNTRY - Talisman Theatre, Kenilworth, until Saturday. Running time: 2hr, 55min.

WHEN a middle-aged matron falls for a toy-boy tutor it is bound to end in tears.

The sobbing and wailing start early, but it is all done in a genteel way and the handkerchiefs are packed away in time for tea.

Turgenev's play about a Russian family caught up in an unexpected passion is stylish and skilfully done in this new production by director Ann Brooks. Pamela Gresty is charmingly distracted as social butterfly Natalia

☆☆REVIEW☆☆

fluttering around the household. She is a natural flirt and has the local doctor worrying about her pulse, family friend Michael at her beck and call and her husband enslaved.

Unsuitable

She loves the attention, but has no intention of straying - until she falls totally and hopelessly in love with her son's young, and totally unsuitable tutor.

Jamie Firth is easy on the eye as young tutor Alex. Marion McMullen

Rising admirably to tough task

A Month in The Country, Talisman Theatre, Kenilworth

IN THIS intensely-felt production of a ground-breaking play, the cast captured its emotional extremes with ease and kept this family melodrama flowing, despite the technical demands of the lead parts.

Pamela Gresty's rendition of the lovesick country lady Natalia was totally convincing and John Fenner's comic doctor provided welcome contrast to her emotional turmoil.

Talisman Theatre Company's brave decision to take on an English translation of a Russian play rewarded

the audience with a Talisman Theatre premiere of the highest quality.

This is surely a must-see for any admirers of the works of Turgenev, or his successor Anton Chekhov.

The play runs until Saturday. Call the box office on 01926 856548.

Richard Staines



SOCIAL TANGLE: Katherine Compton (left) and Pamela Gresty in a scene from A Month in the Country at the Talisman Theatre