"Sex in Seattle" is Fun Filled Asian American Answer to "Friends"

Judith van Praag

At the time of conception of "Sex in the City" in 2000, the idea of the producers may have been to create roles for Asian American actors in a comedy, three years later they were ready to adjust that mission statement: SIS-Productions makes theater for you, their audience.

All over the country, theater audiences have been dwindling, but SIS always plays for a full house. How come? They attract people who enjoy TV sit-coms, and who like to recognize themselves in the characters on stage. Mainstream theater too often shows only serious Asian Americans, as if...

As for you die-hard fans of the comedic actors who perform in Sex in Seattle, you wouldn't want me to tell you what the developments are in the lives of "our" four Asian American gals and their male interests. You want to be there yourself, see it, hear it, and respond.

And respond you will. For in Episode 16, the latest in the longest running episodic theater show in the United States, nothing is as it seems. Everybody has ulterior motives, hidden feelings, and thoughts that are made visible to the audience alone. Sometimes it just makes you want to yell, "watch out", or "wake up", or something like that.

F.Y.I. Chloe (Miko Premo) is at it again ...with you know whom ... yes, Harold. His wife Elizabeth is hurt, and rescued by George (who still loves her). But, believe it or not, Kenneth, Elizabeth's old sweetheart is back in the picture!

Jenna (May Nguyen) really is in a bind, she's pregnant with Adam's baby (or is she?). Could be Nathan or even Colin is the daddy...

Tess (Leilani Berinobis) is hot and bothered (what's new?), what with her housemate, hunky Nathan kissing her. All she can do is give her other buddy Colin a cold shoulder.

Could be that one of you has already told on Chloe, for Kathy Hsieh, one of the SIS founders, writers, producers and actors (she portrays the ingénue Elizabeth Ko) said that a while back, a lady stopped her at Pacific Place after a Hugh Grant movie, to tell her that she'd seen Chloe all lovey-dovey with Colin (that must have been Jojo, Miko Premo's ...in real life... boyfriend who's portrayed Colin before). What? You got lost? No worries, the cast and technicians will recap what happened before!

At opening night four Asian-American guys from San Jose, who were in Seattle for a business conference, showed up at the Richard

Hugo House. They loved the show and got so intrigued by all the characters that they really want to know what will happen next. So they're going to plan next year's conference around the time that Episode 17 will come out. How cool is that?

Yes, that's how long we'll have to wait for the continuation of the story. But that's also because members of the SIS Writers Group are creating new plays as well. We'll remind you about Seattle's 3rd Asian American Playwrights Festival (11/19/08) later. For now make sure you reserve a seat, for SIS performances are usually sold-out!

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