

"Run for your Wife" by Ray Cooney

Presented by Kalidas
on December 1, 7 & 8 2007 at ICC
 Director Baal Bhagat
 Assistant director Janani Parthasarathi



Kalidas - Cast and Production Crew

Standing (from left): Nilesh Patel, TM Rao, Aanand Parthasarathi, Srinu Venkatesh, Akhil Hiranya, Baal Bhagat, Nagavasantha, Janani Parthasarathi, Padmanabh Kamath, Dave Anderson, Sanjay Maggirwar, Samir Bhagawat
Sitting (from left) Shantha Rao, Nagappa Ravindra, Vasantha Ravindra

A Good Two-some Play

Kalidas, the amateur drama group of the Indian community in Rochester, presented an entertaining play this December for the third consecutive time. Run For Your Wife is a clever comedy around a most ordinary, if improbable situation, but with great potential for laughter-generating mix-ups. It was first performed in England in 1982, the author Ray Cooney playing the principal role



There are a number of two's in this play: Two friends, one of whom is a cab driver with two wives in two different districts in London. One

night the man is mugged and lands in a hospital. He doesn't come to either of his two apartments, causing concern in both the wives who frantically dial two different people at two different police stations. The rest



is all about how the cabby, with the reluctant complicity of his unemployed friend who lives upstairs in one of his apartments, dodges questions from the cops in the two apartments where he arrives at different times. His tales grow more and more suspicious. To add to the chuckles, there comes a character with two personalities: man and woman. [This very funny gay intervention was not politically incorrect in the 1980's when the play was written and first performed, but may not be taken in good humor by some in our own times.] In the end, the bigamist hero can no longer keep up manufacturing unbelievable lies, and he confesses to the detectives about his marital entanglement with two women, whereupon the officers declare him to be a damn liar.



Run For Your Wife, which could as well have been called Run From Your Wives, is essentially a farce around the themes of mistaken identities, doomed impersonations, and one lie leading to a bigger one until it all explodes. Its goal is simply to take the audience on a tour of hilarious situations, with no profound message or insight, except perhaps to remind us of the story of the man who cried wolf once too often, so that when he spoke the truth, no one would believe him.

This two-dominating comedy was appropriately directed by two people, Baal Bhagat and Janani Parthasarathi who succeeded very creditably in bringing out the best in the characters. Without mentioning anyone in particular I will simply say that they all acted their respective parts with an amazing display of histrionic talents. The Indian community in Rochester in general and Dr. Padmanabh Kamath in particular, who initiated Kalidas, have every reason to feel fulfilled and proud by this additional feather in their cap. I have little doubt that we will be seeing many more plays of this quality in Rochester in the years to come. And I wish them the very best in this.

by Professor V.V. Raman

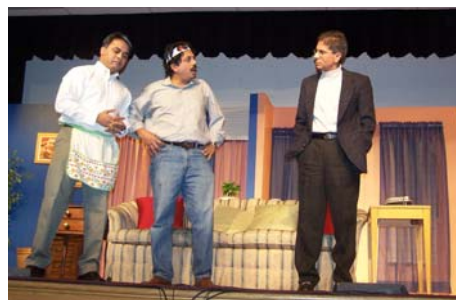
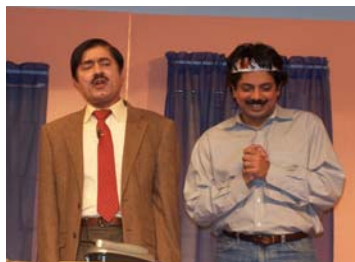
"Thanks a... looooooooooooooooooooooot... for the fantastic evening. Enjoyed thoroughly every scene and dialogue, so did my all guests. Keep it up!!!

By Vinod Luthra

"You and all the other people responsible for last night's triumph can be very proud indeed of the India Community Center's Kalidas. The entire event, the social hour preceding dinner, the delicious meal, the illuminating brief lecture about Indian theater, and the play itself proceeded flawlessly and (as promised) on time. Everyone at my table seemed to be enjoying the evening as much as I did, and the chosen play, "Run For Your Wife" was most amusing. I'd like particularly to compliment the cast for their increasing dramatic skill. Aanand Parthasarathi, just as one example, has developed the fine comedic sense necessary for a "straight man" role; but everyone else also performed wonderfully as well. The preliminary collage was enticing, the set ingenious, the sound and lighting effective. All in all, the entire production was a great success, and you and everyone connected with it deserve to be most heartily congratulated. I expect it was a huge amount of work, but it certainly paid off and it earned community-wide respect."

By Katherine Alling

While the euphoria lasts and you are all celebrating the immense success of the three-day run of Run for Your Wife, I want to direct this mail to Janani and salute everyone involved in the production. The play was an obvious flourish in



the Kalidas mold. Last night I and my wife shared in the belly-laughter of all around us at the ICC. While I may have missed some of the linguistic nuances and idiosyncrasies of the British, the actors captured clearly the colloquialisms of the English language, namely, 'bloke,' 'pansy' etc.

By Shiva Ramaswamy

Dr Ashok Shah awarded A prestigious Mastership by the American College of Gastroenterology



Ashok N. Shah Professor of Medicine in the Gastroenterology and Hepatology Unit at the University of Rochester Medical Center, has been awarded a prestigious Mastership by the American College of Gastroenterology. Mastership is rare honor conferred upon physicians who have demonstrated distinguished service to the College and to the field of clinical gastroenterology, patient care and education. Shah was one of four to be honored this year and is the only recipient from Western New York. The College has awarded only 103 Masterships in its 75-year history.

Dr. Shah has trained more than 75 fellows in Gastroenterology since 1973. He was Co-Director for the Annual GI Postgraduate Seminars from 1980-2001, which were conducted in order to educate internists, family physicians and physicians on recent advances in gastroenterology and hepatology. From 1978 to 1992 Dr. Shah was Director of Endoscopy at the Isaac Gordon Center of Gastroenterology at the Genesee Hospital affiliated with the University of Rochester. He moved to the University of Rochester Medical Center in 1992 and was appointed as Director of Endoscopy from 1994-2002.

Dr. Shah was a Founding Member of the Rochester Chapter of the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America (CCFA) in 1978. He was honored by the local CCFA in 1995 for his voluntary services over many years. In 1987, he founded the Celiac Society of Rochester and has been their consultant since then. Dr. Shah is local resource for comparative Religions, Vedantic and Gandhian philosophy.