



Lend Me A Tenor

A Comedy
by KEN LUDWIG



Synopsis:

Set in September of 1934, Saunders, the general manager of the Cleveland Grand Opera Company, is primed to welcome world famous, Tito Morelli, 'Il Stupendo', the greatest tenor of his generation, to appear for one night only as Otello. The star arrives late and, through a hilarious series of mishaps, is given a double dose of tranquilizers and passes out. His pulse is so low that Saunders and his assistant Max believe he's dead. In a frantic attempt to salvage the evening, Saunders persuades Max to get into Morelli's Otello costume and fool the audience into thinking he's Il Stupendo. Max succeeds admirably, but Morelli comes to and gets into his other costume ready to perform. Now two Otellos are running around in costume and two women are running around in lingerie, each thinking she is with the latin paramour, Il Stupendo.

Production History:

Premiered on Broadway, 1989
Nominated - 7 Tony awards, winning 2
Nominated - 6 Drama Desk Awards, winning 4
Winning 3 Outer Critics Circle Awards
Premiered London, 1984
Produced by Andrew Lloyd Webber,
Nominated for Olivier Award

"A furiously paced comedy with more than a touch of the Marx brothers ... A marvelous combination of wonderful farcical moments and funny lines. ..."
Time Out

Expected Audience appeal:

All ages and backgrounds. This spoof makes fun of the arts world, artists and Cleveland. The two main characters are young twenties. Rated PG for lingerie, no language issues or sexual improprieties.

Other plays by this author:

Crazy For You
Moon Over Buffalo
The Beaux' Stratagem
The Three Musketeers
Treasure Island
Twentieth Century

