

# / Features



What to do in Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas  
Thursday, July 12, 2007

Make This Your Home Page  
Get GuideLive Newsletters

- Search Site
- Home
- The Arts
  - Books
  - Performing Arts
  - Visual Arts
- Attractions
- Movies
- Music & Nightclubs
- Overnight Reviews
- Restaurants
- Television
  - TV Listings
  - Video Games
- Visitors' Guide
- Columnists
- GuideLive.com/extra
- About GuideLive
- Blog: Over the Top
- Blog: Shop Better Here
- Newsletters
- Submit an Event
- Search Archives



## PREVIEW

### Wherefore art fun on a summer night?

Feasting and festing at the Shakespeare festival, of course

By [LAWSON TAITTE](#) / Staff Critic

During some past seasons, a visit to [Shakespeare Dallas](#) has felt more like a perfunctory nod to culture than a meaningful theatrical experience. Not this year. Both alfresco offerings (*Romeo and Juliet* and *Love's Labour's Lost*) steal the show from the grilled chicken and chardonnay picnics.

It's hard to find a new take on the Bard's most romantic tragedy, but director Raphael Parry has found one in his very contemporary *Romeo and Juliet*. The comic moments sizzle with Christina Vela as the Nurse and Steven Walters as a punk Mercutio. But the star-crossed lovers are the essential elements, and Jenny Ledel and Montgomery Sutton strike sparks. Ms. Ledel has blossomed into a true tragedienne, even while passing muster as a young teen.

The seldom seen *Love's Labour's Lost* makes you wonder why it doesn't come around more often. This elegant and amusing version discovers all sorts of unsuspected talent hereabouts. And the sound system is good enough that you can hear almost every line – which means the cast gets almost every laugh available.

#### How it shakes out

- **LOVE'S LABOUR'S LOST:** Wednesdays through Fridays through July 20. [Ticketmaster](#). \$45 and \$55.
- **ROMEO AND JULIET:** Tuesdays, Saturdays and Sundays through July 21 (benefit performance for the Shakespeare Dallas Rain Campaign on July 22)
- **HINTS:** Because of the recent rains, you might want to bring a tarp to put under your blanket. Weather updates are available at [shakespearedallasweather.blogspot.com](#).

#### Easy ways to pack your picnic

Shannon Sutlief and Bindu Varghese offer tips on planning the perfect picnic in the park

For a girls' night out at Shakespeare in the Park, there are a few certainties: Temperatures are high, budgets are low and someone is going to be a picky eater. My friends and I have found a solution. On the way to the park, we stop at a market where each person buys a couple of items for everyone to share. Each gets something she wants, and no one spends too much. A favorite stop is [Jimmy's Food Store](#), an Italian market in Old East Dallas. For about \$50 split six ways, our latest picnic included salami, cheese and olives from the back counter (about \$10 worth), fresh-baked Italian bread (\$3), Bellino's bruschetta topping (on sale for \$4), strawberries (\$2.50 a pound), an Italian cream baby cake (\$7), a selection of European cookies and a highly recommended bottle of Feudo Arancio Syrah for \$7 (the lone beer drinker grabbed a single bottle for \$1.85). Jimmy's also stocks regular and fancy bottled water, soda and juices. Next time, we're bringing a better cooler in hopes of keeping a tub of Henry's Homemade Ice Cream frozen until the final act.

*Shannon Sutlief*



Linda Blase  
Gregory Lush appears in *Love's Labour's Lost*.

#### On the Town

Guide and GuideLive.com's new weekly feature helps you better plan your day or night out. Each week, we'll offer a themed package of fun things to do, ranging from a picnic in the park to a ladies' night out, to family fun or what to do on a first date.

- ▶ [Subscribe to our newsletter.](#)
- ▶ [Ideas? E-mail us.](#)
- ▶ [Review archives.](#)



Lack of **Education**  
Holding You Back?

Break the shackles  
by getting a  
degree online

education  
connection's  
**FREE SERVICE**  
matches you.

Click here to  
be matched to  
the right  
online school.



Sometimes one can run out of fresh ideas to make picnicking for two memorable. Sometimes one simply doesn't have the time or the inclination to pack a hamper. Then there are times when one just wants to enjoy the outdoors without getting bogged down in the details of what to eat. Alfresco dining for two is a wrap with Picnic to Go from [Greenz](#). The fast-casual restaurant's no-fuss meal is more than sufficient for two. Available through the summer, Picnic to Go offers a choice of two salads (such as chicken Riviera, with strawberries, cantaloupe, grapes) or wraps (such as chicken chipotle, with plenty of greens); two fresh-fruit cups; two bags of chips; and two cookies. And all the items are sturdily packed, so you don't have to worry about getting messy.

*Bindu Varghese*

#### More picnic ideas

- [Corner Market](#)

This super charming, but slightly hidden, spot at Greenville and McCommas offers a case of prepared foods such as entrees, sides and salads; a made-to-order sandwich counter; and a dessert selection that includes truffles, cheesecakes and big hunks of Rice Krispies treats. Chips, bottled drinks and other takeout necessities (except beer and wine) are also available.

- [SushiSamba](#)

If you want to nibble on sesame-soy-glazed edamame and tuna-jalapeño sushi, try the Japan-themed happy box (actually a bento box special). Or go for the box inspired by Peru or Brazil. Each happy box (\$10) features four items. Happy boxes are available Mondays through Fridays from 5 to 7 p.m. Select cocktails are available for \$5 with purchase of a happy box.

Published in The Dallas Morning News: 07.13.07

---

### PREVIOUS OUTINGS



- [Turn a concert at the AAC into a big night out.](#)

Those Keith Urban concert tickets are sizzling in your hand. You're a huge fan of the pop-country superstar, so this show comes mighty anticipated. You even persuaded your boss to let you cut loose early today, giving you plenty of time to arrive at American Airlines Center.



- [Midnight movie and a meal make for a memorable outing](#)

This ambitious outing required a nap beforehand. I had committed to meeting friends for the next installment of midnight movies at the [Inwood Theatre](#), which run every Friday and Saturday night. *Clue* was scheduled for the night we went, and for that kind of cinematic greatness, I was willing to alter my day.

---

### NEXT WEEK'S ON THE TOWN



- [Movie Mania](#)

Kip Mooney finds a movie deal at Blockbuster and dines at the [Blue Goose Cantina](#). Also, check out our roundup of local movie series.

---

### ENTER TO WIN OUR NEXT ON THE TOWN PACKAGE

Enter our On The Town contest for your chance to win our next On the Town package. Up for grabs this week are:

- Two tickets to see the [Goo Goo Dolls](#) at [Smirnoff](#) on Aug. 31
- Two tickets to see [BB King](#) at [Nokia](#) on Aug. 26 with a gift certificate for [Alessio's il Ristorante](#) in Dallas.

#### [ENTER THE CONTEST.](#)

Frequently Asked Questions | [Contact Us](#) | [Privacy](#) | [Site Map](#) | [About Us](#)  
© The Dallas Morning News Co.