

Charley's Aunt' playing at Glendale Centre Theatre

Performing in a scene from "Charley's Aunt" are, from left, Anthony Lofaso, Ethan Haslam and Ethan Leaverton.

(Courtesy of Angela Manke)

By MARK KELLAM

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When two college buddies convince a friend to cross-dress as one of their aunts from Brazil, you have the plot behind the comedy classic "Charley's Aunt," which is currently playing at the Glendale Centre Theatre.

The production, which opened with two performances on New Year's Eve, is directed by Carter Thomas, a Crescenta Valley High graduate who has performed in a national tour of "Mary Poppins," acted in several shows at the Glendale Centre Theatre and helmed three productions at the local venue recently.

He directed and revamped a production of "Alice in Wonderland" and wrote and directed a production of "The Ghost and Mrs. Muir" last year.

While he said he enjoys performing, the 2018 graduate of Crescenta Valley High added he's also finding directing is a great experience.

"I love getting to do the whole process and getting to see it from the audience's perspective and how they see the show," Thomas said.

Ethan Haslam, who plays the title role in "Charley's Aunt," has taken on the well-known major part before.

However, he said this production is a nice challenge for him because Thomas has put his own spin on the play, which has made it much more of a physical comedy.

Haslam, who works at a restaurant in Glendale, said the rehearsal schedule worked out well for him because it wasn't too hectic and it let him find the pacing of the show.

Thomas is slated to direct the Glendale Centre Theatre's production of the musical "Oliver" later this year.

For more information about "Charley's Aunt," visit glendalecentretheatre.com or call (818) 244-8481.

