

Reviews for *Venus in Fur* at Alliance Repertory Theatre

“Jeff Ronan and Christy Richardson a spellbinding pas de deux that sizzles sexily.”

“As Vanda (she ironically shares the name of the novel/play's heroine), Richardson is perfect as the loud, potty-mouthed ditz *and* the dulcet-toned aristocrat who dominates Tom's play. She manages this sleight of hand by adjusting her posture, accent and pronunciation, and changing costumes in a wink (she seems to have an entire collection related to the play in her oversized bag). She remains in character—whichever one she is playing at the moment—yet we never really know just who she is. Is she a feminist (with a capital F), complaining that women are *always* degraded and blamed for whatever goes wrong, has she been hired by Tom's fiancé to test his fidelity, or is she merely an aspiring actress who has been given a chance to retaliate against heartless directors who have failed to cast her in the past? Whichever it is, Richardson's Vanda is duplicitous, wily, the incarnation of righteous indignation, a dominatrix, an innocent, a con woman—a real shape shifter.”

“For 90 intermissionless minutes, you will be mesmerized, and I guarantee that you will talk about this production (and the play) for days afterward. With its clever dialogue and superb acting, Alliance Rep's production of *Venus in Fur* is one you should not miss!”

--Ruth Ross, NJ Arts Maven

“We never know who's really ‘in charge.’ Jeff Ronan as Thomas and Christy Richardson as Vanda carry it all off with spell binding shifts in character. “

“Richardson has quite a tour de force as she instantly changes from a regal Russian woman to a tough, New York struggling actress.”

--LIZ KEILL, Tap Into--Arts and Entertainment—NJ

"Watch Ms. Richardson's body language-- from her smile, posture, and stance, she is a master in presenting two different diametrically opposed characters in the blink of an eye."

“Both Mr. Ronan and Ms. Richardson elicit laughs and gasps because of their expert delivery and razor-sharp timing.”

--Susan M. Dougherty, for the Westfield Leader and the Scotch-Plains Fanwood Times