

THE 99-SEAT BEAT

It's summer; time to fall in love

BY PHILIP BRANDES

It's summer, and love is in the air.

An 'Arrival' at the Fountain

The essentials: Based on the 1945 classic film "Brief Encounter," "Arrival and Departure," a new drama by Stephen Sachs builds on Noel Coward's screenplay with the casting of deaf actors Troy Kotsur and Deanne Bray (both from Deaf West Theatre company's acclaimed "Big River") as two married strangers who find a romantic connection during their chance meeting at a train station. The show is performed simultaneously in spoken English and American Sign Language with the use of open captioning.

Why this? Fountain Theatre co-artistic director Sachs' 2012 adaptation of "Cyrano" with Kotsur in the title role was luminous. The emotional expressiveness in signing can make spoken language seem inadequate by comparison.

Details: Fountain Theatre, 5060 Fountain Ave., L.A. In previews; opens July 14. 8 p.m. Mondays, Fridays and Saturdays; 2 p.m. Sundays; ends Sept. 30. \$35-\$40 (some Mondays are pay what you can). (323) 663-1525, www.fountaintheatre.com