

UTAH SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

# Every way memorable



Quinn Mattfeld, left, as Edward Ferrars and Cassandra Bissell as Elinor Dashwood perform in the Utah Shakespeare Festival's 2014 premiere production of "Sense and Sensibility." KARL HUGH / UTAH SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

## Fall in love with actors, script in Austen's 'Sense'

If there is any woman who can hold her own against the flowery language and intricate storytelling of William Shakespeare, it is Jane Austen. And if there is a team who can deliver those beautiful lines so compellingly as to incite an array of emotions within the audience, it is the cast and crew at this year's Utah Shakespeare Festival as they present a world premiere adaptation of "Sense and Sensibility."

It is the highlight of an incredibly strong season.

From the masterfully adapted script, courtesy of Director Joseph Hanreddy and J.R. Sullivan, to a beautifully simplistic set that allows for seamless transitions, this theatrical jewel opens the door to Austen's classic work in a way not previously explored.

The story opens on the death of Henry Dashwood (John Oswald), which sets the stage for turmoil as his entire fortune is to be left to his oldest son, John Dashwood (Kipp Moorman), leaving his wife, played by Maryann Towne,



**Lisa Larson**

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and two daughters, Elinor (Cassandra Bissell) and Marianne (Eva Balistriero), without a home and no income to speak of. Encouraged by his wife, Fanny (Nell Geisslinger), John chooses to forgo the promise he made to his father to care for his stepmother and half sisters and instead offers them nothing, forcing them to leave their home and move to a distant community, but not before Elinor attracts the attention of the dashing Edward Ferrars (Quinn

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