



RUN FOR YOUR WIFE

by **Ray Cooney**





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One of the Worlds Longest Running Comedy Play EVER!

This Performance is under License from Samuel French, UK

Language: Options available
English with a touch of Hindi & Punjabi
Hindi with a touch of English & Punjabi

Duration: 130 minutes

Written by: Ray Cooney

Directed by: Rishi Mehta

Creative Director: Niten Mehta

Producer: Shalu Mehta

Genre: Romantic Comedy, Physical, Farce

Performed over 70 times by us here in India



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Synopsis

Run for your wife, is one of the world's longest-running and the funniest comedy ever written. This British farce written by Ray Cooney has been adapted for the Indian audience and has been performed over 70 times by us here in India.

Set in the South Delhi, it is the story of taxi driver 'Sabby Gill', who has been getting away with having two wives in different homes relying heavily upon a very precise schedule which he adheres to religiously.

Trouble ensues when a head injury causes his schedule to go awry. To make matters worse, there are two inspectors at both his homes looking for him while investigating the incident.

What follows is a laugh a minute riot as Sabby tries to keep his secret through the contrivance of false stories and fabrication of a web of lies.



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Some Facts about Run for your wife – Source WIKIPEDIA

Cast members have a precise schedule as well with many entrances and exits that create pressure and humor through this adult comedy.

Richard Briers and Bernard Cribbins took the lead roles in the original West End theatre production. It had a highly successful nine-year run in various theatres: Shaftesbury Theatre (March to December 1983), Criterion Theatre (December 1983 to March 1989), Whitehall Theatre (March 1989 to May 1990), Aldwych Theatre (May to September 1990) and Duchess Theatre (September 1990 to December 1991).

A film adaptation was released in February 2012. Both Richard Briers and Bernard Cribbins had cameo roles.



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Tech Riders

- Stage Size Minimum Dimensions (Approx 40 Feet Width, 30 Feet Depth and 2 and half feet Height) – if stage size is more than this, its perfect. Two wings each for entry and exit on left and right side.
- Lights – General Yellow Halogens (PAR cans) with a few multi colour PAR cans/ LED's.
- Sound – Audiable sound in the Hall. Foot Mikes (4 to 6) depending on the stage size or Head Mikes.

Back Stage Green Room/ Box Facility:- (One for males & One for female's).

- Mirror & Lights
- One Table and Three to Four Chairs.
- Water, Tea / Coffee and Snacks for the artist during Interval.
- One room (in case venue is Hotel for cast to get ready and wait before the show starts)

Cast and Crew:- 15 Total members.

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Some of the Venues performed at



Sir Mutha Venkatasubba Rao
Concert Hall,
Lady Andal Auditorium, Chennai

Parsi Anjuman
Delhi



CLUB5



PEAREY LAL
BHAWAN



RUN FOR YOUR WIFE

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Glimpses



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Glimpses



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Feedback | Reviews

Bhupesh Jatiani – “Run for your wife - As they say, the more you laugh longer you live. This Act increased my life by 5 years, cause I was constantly laughing throughout 100 mins play. Hats off to the team for doing justice to the longest running comedy script ever. Special thanks to Robin Pupneja aka Lucky paaji who held the whole act together and made sure we laughed our hearts out. Great work people, now you have added one more person to your Fan list.

P.S. - Amazing work by the team, during the play when the kettle broke and the actors made that incident a part of the play rather freaking out. Cheers !!!!!”

Yogesh Shukla – “Awesome presentation of play and every character acted so well. They are the future stars of film industry. wonderful play”

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Dr Coomar Arunodaya – “I’ve been seeing u...since loong..! u create the magic on stage....wish, i could take u all to my city, for a show...!! your run for a wife and boing-boing..were good enough to hook ups...dulari-dhamaal..simply, gr888.....!! keep playing, behroopiya's...stay blessed....)”

Gopal Sahai “Great...performance indeed. Amazing performances by all artists”

Vaibhav Sharma “Absolutely brilliant performance. Loved it!”

Pansy Jasjit Singh “AWESOME... keep on entertaining... God bless all”

Shaifali Bargota “had an amazing show called Run For Your Wife...Keep coming up with such comedy elements smile emoticon good work guys ...like emoticon”



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Audience Reactions





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In the Media

WIVES, LIES & LAUGHTER



FUNNY MONEY, Out of Order: It Runs in the Family — British playwright Ray Cooney's farces and its adaptations have always assured its audience a laugh riot. One of his longest-running comedies, *Run for Your Wife*, that premiered in 1983, is now being brought to Chennai by Gurgaon-based theatre company, Behroopiya Entertainers.

"*Run for Your Wife* is one of our earliest productions. We have done over 70 shows in North India in the last five years. Although it is a farce, this play is not a mindless comedy. The script is very well written by Cooney that it makes you think as well," says Rishi Mehta, director of the play and founder of the five-year-old company. The two-hour play tells the story of a bigamist taxi driver (Sabbey Gill) who relies on adhering to a precise schedule in order to get away with having two wives in two different parts of the city. A head injury becomes the reason for his trouble. The rest of the story is about how Sabbey tries his best to keep his secret with a web of lies and fabricated stories.

"In the age of Netflix and all other digital platforms, people showing up to watch theatre itself is a big deal. So we choose scripts that are highly entertaining to the audience," says the 43-year-old director, who has been in the theatre for more than 10 years.

adaptation that is brought into an Indian context is set in New Delhi. "All the names have been changed to suit the place and the British usages and puns have been replaced with Indian ones. We have also added a bit of Hindi, Bengali, Punjabi and Haryanvi for a more local flavour," shares Rishi.

When asked about the challenges that are involved in a high-quality comedy production, he says the most important part of it is the timing. "In this six-actor play, there is one person who is dedicated to making sure that the soundtrack is provided exactly after a punch line. If the timing is not right, the dialogues will fall flat and that will in turn create a ripple effect," says Rishi, adding that unlike a tragedy or a thriller, the expectation of the audience to get a response from the audience is more in a comedy.

The story takes place between two different households and thus runs in two timelines. While the costumes used are contemporary, the set is built in such a way that it is divided into two different colours. However, there is no narrator who introduces the characters or explains anything to the audience. "The author here has assumed that his audience is intelligent. They are empowered to think for themselves and figure things out throughout the play," shares the director.

At Sir Mutha Venkatasubba Rao Concert Hall, November 24, 8.30 pm. Tickets from ₹ 600 onwards available online. —Fathima Ashraf

Gurgaon-based Behroopiya Entertainers brings to the city, Ray Cooney's *Run for Your Wife*, in an Indian context



GURGAON IS TALKING ABOUT

A tale of three wives



OMG MOMENT: (L-R) Rishi Mehta as Lucky Singh-Pali, Madhu Rajesh as Rajesh Gill and Gaurav Singh as Sabbey Gill



Vandana Awasthi



The audience seemed to quite enjoy the play



Pooja Hattar as Mona Gill



UPPER MADNESS



Manish Awasthi

IS THERE A THIRD? Remember Govinda in the 2000 movie *Sandwich*, where he tries to get away with having two wives, while both of them are unaware of each other's existence? The play *Run for Your Wife*, which was presented recently by The Crest by DLF at Club 5, DLF 5, Gurgaon, had a plot similar to the Govinda starer. The play, which was directed by Rishi Mehta, who is the UK's longest running comedy, has been adapted by Rishi Mehta for the Indian audience. The plot revolves around Sabbey Gill, a taxi driver with two wives — Rajesh Gill in Sector 34 and Mona Gill at The Crest DLF 5, Gurgaon. While Sabbey manages to keep the two away for a long time, a head injury throws his plan abruptly, thanks to the two inspectors — one from Sector 34 and the other from DLF 5 — both desperately hunting for Sabbey for investigation. In spite of the series

of false stories, Sabbey makes up with the help of his friend Lucky Singh-Pali — another hilarious character in the play — it all ends up badly for him after his wives catch him red-handed. But, the cherry on top of the cake is when a third Mrs Gill turns up.

A RIGHT AN AFFAIR: Rishi told us, "This play was a challenge to bring to stage, especially with a British script and lots of British puns. I am grateful of the fact that most of my actors are professionals who are working with top corporate companies in NCR. They come and work

with us after office hours and on weekends, and perform like full-time professional actors." Madhu Rajesh, who played Rajesh, told us, "A play is the real test of an actor's entertainment quotient. As a team, we have to practice constantly to get the energy in place for this play." Prashant Dhar, vice president, DLF 5, says, "We keep organizing all kinds of events here. It is a happening community where a lot of high profile people stay. Everyone gets together for such events, in which the residents of DLF 5 have exclusive access. We had heard a lot of good things about the play, which is also the longest running comedy in the UK."

—Bhargavi Deshpande@timesgroup.com