



A Café Sam Report: Candide 101 (and the Theatre Menu)
10/19/09

Our Candide Dinner Story

In the beginning, we are first introduced to Candide as a pure, innocent, and sincere boy who lives in the Castle of a Baron in Westphalia. Candide is the bastard son of the Baron's sister. Also living in the castle is a pretty young girl named Cunegonde, who is the Baron's daughter. Both Candide and Cunegonde are tutored by Dr. Pangloss, a thinker of great thoughts, who believes everything that happens is for the best, even if it is bad.

One day while strolling in the woods, Cunegonde observes Dr. Pangloss conducting a scientific experiment on a pretty chambermaid. She thinks it would be fun if Candide conducted an experiment on her. Next thing you know, she drops a handkerchief behind a screen on the stage, Candide picks it up and kisses her hand, then her lips, and the two tremble with lust for each other.

That gets Candide thrown out of the castle. While roaming the countryside, he is captured by the Bulgars and swept up into a raging war. Candide witnesses great evils, escapes death, and makes his way to Holland. There, he is reunited with Dr. Pangloss, who is now a diseased beggar living on the street. Pangloss tells Candide that the Castle was taken by soldiers, and both the Baron and Cunegonde are dead.

Candide finds help for Dr. Pangloss, who recovers after losing an eye and an ear. Then they travel to Lisbon, and lose each other in the midst of more trouble. However, Cunegonde surfaces in Lisbon and reunites with Candide. Turns out she had survived the attack at the Castle, only to become a servant and mistress for two men. Candide kills both of them, and he and Cunegonde set sail for South America, along with a cast of characters.

The group lands in Argentina. Soon after, Candide and Cunegonde are separated. She is courted by the Governor in Buenos Aires, and without a penny to her name decides to marry him. Candide travels to the utopian land of El Dorado, and leaves there with jewels and gold in pursuit of Cunegonde. He instructs a companion to buy Cunegonde (you could do that in those days) and meet back up with him in Venice.

Candide makes his way to France, and then on to Venice, where he learns Cunegonde is in Turkey. After traveling to Turkey, Candide is reunited with both Cunegonde and Dr. Pangloss. Cunegonde is now unattractive, and Candide realizes the only reason he really liked her in the first place was for lust. After discussing the philosophy of life with Dr. Pangloss, he marries her, anyway. Candide and Cunegonde eventually settle on a local farm, work the land, live simply, and end up happy.

Our Theatre Menu



*In the Beginning
We are First Introduced to Candide as a Pure, Innocent, and Sincere Boy
Who Lives in the Castle of a Baron in Westphalia*

APPETIZER

Kohlrouladen
with house red sauce

*While Roaming the Countryside, Candide is Captured by the Bulgars
and Swept Up Into a Raging War*

SOUP

Borscht
with pork belly

The Group Lands in Argentina

ENTRÉE

Skirt Steak Chimichurra
with polenta and roasted vegetables

*In the End
Candide and Cunegonde Eventually Settle on a Local Farm,
Work the Land, Live Simply, and End Up Happy*

DESSERT

Organic Pumpkin Cupcake

Prix Fixe
\$22.95

(\$19.95 Ticket Holders/Email List Members)