

mistakes for his Jacinta, with a fine light comic reading of Lucrecia's insecurity, which barely hides the strong woman behind it.

The comically dramatic and proud Don Juan de Sosa is played by Mikael Salazar with such fervor and Latin bravado he gets a laugh even on his entrances, accompanied of course by the appropriate dramatic Spanish chords by guitarist Carl Smith. The entire supporting cast rises to the occasion, with notable contributions by a very funny Ralph Drischell as both Don Garcia's legal tutor and as Jacinta's uncle, and Marcelo Tubert very strong as Don Garcia's father, except for those few moments when he lets the psychological realism interfere too much with the style.

*The Liar, or The Truth Can't Be Trusted, Secret Rose Theatre, 11246 Magnolia Blvd., North Hollywood. Fridays-Saturdays, 8 p.m.; Sundays, 2:30 p.m.; also Thursday, Feb. 10, 8 p.m.; Sunday, Feb. 27, 7 p.m. Ends Feb. 28. \$16-\$20. (818) 506-5436. Running time: 2 hours, 25 minutes.* -----