

2014-2015 Board of Directors



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ASOLO REPERTORY THEATRE

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ENGAGE

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PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR- MICHAEL DONALD EDWARDS

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The Guilder Newsletter

Issue 11 - November 2014

President's Message



This season got off to a great start with a delightful luncheon at the Bird Key Yacht Club. The venue and the menu were both perfect, as the Chicken Wellington drew raves from our 65 guests. But the real treat was the program, which was outstanding: Lauryn Sasso interviewed two Asolo Rep performers, Carolyn Michel and Kelly Felthous. Lauryn elicited personal

details and professional lore with her insightful questions. The first was to ask each of them how each arrived at Asolo Rep.

Carolyn came to Sarasota with her parents and was interested in becoming a water ski professional. Sometime after seeing her first play, priorities changed. She majored in drama at Boston University and, back in Sarasota, worked at most of the theater venues. She is now entering her 24th season at Asolo Rep.

Kelly, who has been touring for the past year, playing both witches in **Wicked**, arrived in Sarasota a week ago to begin rehearsals for the part of *Nellie Forbush* in the upcoming production of **South Pacific**. Tired of touring in a "corporate" production, she had asked her agent to find an opportunity to work in a more creative environment. It worked! She arrived in New York, fresh from the tour, and with her 2 suitcases in tow, auditioned for the part of *Nellie* an hour later.

Lauryn then asked how being a woman affects the development of a career in the theater. Carolyn's immediate response was that male roles were always more plentiful and varied than those for women, which is a significant impediment to accumulation of credits in a portfolio. Another major reality is that of family. Carolyn put off marriage until, as she said, she found the "ideal husband". However while nurturing her career she "forgot" to have children.

Kelly, whose mother owned a performing arts studio, was

told at an early age that as a performer, all she would have to do was stand on a stage and “look pretty”. Since Kelly exudes more energy than a steroid-stoked beehive, she has transcended such a limited image. Kelly seems to be attracted to roles that she can play with brio and is very excited to be appearing as *Nellie*. She has even persuaded the director to hold a rehearsal at Siesta Beach (sand between the toes, waves in the background). One thing that she has learned: there is a tremendous surface difference between “twenty-somethings” in the 1940s and today’s young women. Facial expressions, hand gestures, voice intonation: all have to be modulated to reflect those of an earlier time. But the inner emotions, the doubt and elation of love remain constant from one era to another.

Carolyn Michel ended by thanking the Guild for its work - especially for providing those “tech dinners”. “We all love food,” she said.

In return, we all thank Carolyn, Kelly and Lauryn for so generously sharing their time and insights. We now know a little of the reality behind the glamour of life in the theater. Thanks also to June Aloia, Glo Reber, Lynn Kopman and Dick Anderson for their work and to Linda DiGabriele for arranging the panel.

Looking forward to seeing you at our next meeting,

Pat

The Guild’s November meeting will be held on **NOVEMBER 5th,
to coincide with the Kick-off of asolo rep’s
Inside Asolo Rep series!**

**This is your chance to get acquainted with Rob Ruggiero, Director
and William Waldrup, Musical Director of
*South Pacific!***

Please join us at 10:00 AM in Asolo Rep’s lobby of for refreshments and socializing.
The program will be held on the Theatre’s Mezzanine level.

The 2014-2015 season of the ***Inside Asolo Rep*** series is co-sponsored by **Hotel Indigo** and ***The Observer***.
Reservations are required for everyone attending ***Inside Asolo Rep*** programs.

Please call the box office at 941-351-8000 to confirm your complimentary Guild reservation.

**Welcome Back Potluck &
Dine with the Cast and Crew of *South Pacific*
Dinner**



**November 6 @ 4:45 PM -
Theatre Mezzanine**

You know the drill: bring your favorite dish to share, and enjoy a fascinating evening mingling with some very talented people! Sip a tropical rum "Navy Grog" or a glass of wine, *ONLY \$5 per person!*

**R.S.V.P. to Glo Reber at 941-400-5384 or
GLO.REBER@SOTHEBYSREALTY.COM**

NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 3RD

Play Readers' Corner

**Second Monday,
October Through May...**



by Dianne Brin

October's stage reading, ***Bell, Book and Candle***, put us into the appropriate spirit for Halloween. Congratulations to leader/director **Ray Cruet** for his fine editing and direction of the talented cast.

Play Readers' meetings are held in the FSU Center for the Performing Arts. We gather in the Asolo Repertory Theatre Main Lobby from 9:30 AM to 10:00 AM for socializing and coffee. The meeting this month will be held in the Cook Theatre and will begin promptly at 10:00 AM, and conclude by noon. All Guild members and their guests are welcome!

MONDAY NOVEMBER 10, 2014

David Lionel is this month's leader for ***Ladies of the Corridor***, an intense 1953 drama written by Dorothy Parker and famed Hollywood playwright Arnaud d'Usseau. It deals with older women living on their own in a New York residence hotel. The seven female and six male cast members of this abridged script are as follows:

LULU AMES – 63, attractive, well-off widow

BETSY AMES – 30, Lulu's earnest daughter-in-law (appears in Act I only)

CONSTANCE MERCER – 63, working interior decorator

GRACE NICHOLS – 75, wealthy widow, confined to a wheelchair due to arthritis

MRS. GORDON – 70, twice-widowed, small-scale kleptomaniac

MRS. LAUTERBACH – 65, stout widow

MARY LINSCOTT – 58, plump wife visiting from Akron (appears in Act II only)

TOM LINSCOTT – 63, prosperous businessman visiting from Akron (appears in Act II only)

PAUL OSGOOD – 55, painfully divorced bookshop owner

CHARLES NICHOLS – 50, courtly, probably gay, would-be English teacher

ROBERT AMES – 35, Lulu's successful New York lawyer son

HARRY – 53, handsome concierge

MR. HUMPHRIES – 60, dapper hotel manager (appears in Act I only)

AUDITIONS COMING UP

Two auditions are scheduled directly after Monday's stage reading, to be held in the rehearsal room.

1. Open audition for ***Miracle on 34th Street*** will be held immediately following the Play Readers meeting. The Play Readers will be presenting an encore performance in the Cook Theatre on Wednesday, December 10th at 12:30 p.m.

Rehearsals will be held in the 5th floor meeting room of director **Bill Bordy's** condo, at 100 Central Avenue, on Sunday, Dec. 7th and Tuesday, Dec. 9th from noon to 4 p.m. Tech and Dress will be the morning of the show, Dec. 10th at 10:30 a.m. Because the regular meeting of the Play Readers will be on Mon., Dec. 8th, there will not be a scheduled rehearsal for that morning, BUT possibly a read through afterwards. Please e-mail **Bill Bordy** at billbordy@verizon.net for details. Those who appeared in last year's production need not audition, BUT please let him know, by e-mail preferably, if you will be available for all rehearsals, and what character/s you would prefer to play.

2. Open audition for ***Mother, Sons and Others*** will be held on Mon, Nov. 10th at noon after the Play Readers meeting, in the rehearsal room. This is a Play Readers' outreach program, and current bookings for this play are at Braden River Library on January Saturday, January 17th at 10:15 AM and at Perico Bay Club on Wednesday, February 18 at 2 PM. There will only be one or two rehearsals.

The play centers around an overly protective, first generation, Italian mother struggling as her two very different grown sons find equally different girlfriends who capture their heart. Director **Dianne Brin** will be casting the following characters:

Mary Sullivan: a 54 year old, Catholic, Italian-American mother of two boys. She's overly attached to her sons and expects them to be attentive and available to her.

Tommy Sullivan: 56 years old, Mary's husband. A recently-retired NYC police detective. He is a stoic, pragmatic, streetwise fellow and intermediary between Mary and their sons.

Little Tommy: 35 years old, former-jock-turned-chef, was always a challenge as a child. Mary is overly protective of her first son, and dismisses any outside criticism of Little Tommy. However, she is extremely critical of him privately. Little Tommy always does what he wants to do.

Billy: 33 years old, and smaller in stature than his brother. Very intelligent, never in trouble. Loves his older brother but they have little in common. Lets Little Tommy be the center of attention. He is an up-and-coming Wall Street attorney.

Sara: Little Tommy's 28 year old, Italian-American, steady girlfriend. She is a waitress at Little Tommy's restaurant. A little edgy, she fancies herself hip, wants to become an actress.

Judy: Billy's 32 year old Jewish girlfriend age thirty-two. She is an attorney at a competing law firm.

We have a busy and exciting day November 10th for Play Readers. See you then!!!

PLAY READERS' SCHEDULE:

Dec. 8. A Selection of Short Plays

Dick Pell

Annual Holiday Show

Dec. 10 ***Miracle on 34th Street***

Bill Bordy

Jan. 12 ***Where Did We Go Wrong?***

Barb Alexander

Feb.9. ***The Imaginary Invalid***

Dianne Brin

Mar. 9. ***Death By Chocolate***

Miriam Ring

Apr. 13 ***The Dining Room***

Barbara Knode

May11 ***Potpourri***

BOOKINGS NEEDED

We are always looking for new audiences for the Play Readers outreach program. Did you join a new group or is your religious, men's or women's organization interested in fantastic entertainment? Are you a member of a country club? Sorority or Fraternity? Are you an active residential group looking for a staged reading program for your meeting? Libraries love us! How about your group? A minimum tax free contribution is all that's needed to book us. The contribution goes towards ***Access to the Arts.***

The performance time is flexible but generally the staged readings run from :40 to an hour. For more information, please contact **Barbara Knode** at barbaraknode@gmail.com or 941-778-1895.

About Our Holiday Special: ***Miracle on 34th Street***

Bill Bordy

The Play Readers will be presenting an encore performance of *The Lux Radio Theatre's Edition of "Miracle on 34th Street"* in the Cook Theatre, on Wednesday, December 10th at 12:30 PM.

Welcome New Members!

Joseph Aloia
Sharon Erickson
Maribeth Jergens
Audrey Laue
Ken Pierce
Carol Rickard
Anne Roberts

Membership

June Aloia

Dues are due for the 2014-2015 season. We are instituting this change because Asolo Rep is giving us a hand and providing new and exciting prospects for the Guild, and they have asked us to follow their fiscal schedule. Please submit your dues by January 1, 2015. When we receive your check, you will be sent an information packet by the Theatre. I encourage everyone who is able, to consider becoming a Sustaining or Patron member. We all want to support the theatre as fully as we can.

As a reminder: anyone attending the Play Readers' meetings must become a member of the Guild after their initial visit. Play Readers need to keep their membership current in order to perform. So let's get those pesky dues in by January 1st!

As the new membership chair, I could use some help! if you are interested (or willing) to help with registration at meetings, Play Readers and events, please let me know. I would also like to get a group together to brain-storm some ideas for increasing our membership.

What would *YOU* like to see happening?

*** The Honor Roll ***

Patron Members

Peggy & Kenneth Abt
Cece Dwyer
Joseph Grande
Nancy Hanks
Marcella & Arthur Levin
David Lionel & Marian Weisberg
David Meyersburg
Ronald Pantello
Glo Reber
Ann Whitford
Jan & Paul Zipper

Sustaining Members

Arthur Boyce
Andrew Dixon
Joan Kindred
Carole Scutt

Starting this year, Asolo Rep will bestow "**Angel**" status* on all Patron and Sustaining members!

*Please visit www.asolorep.org/angels for a complete listing of Angels levels and benefits.

The *Asolo Repertory Theatre Guild* **Calendar of Events for the 2014-15 Season**

Wednesday, November 5th

General Meeting

10:00 AM in the lobby of Asolo Rep for refreshments and socializing.

The 2014-2015 season of the ***Inside Asolo Rep*** series is co-sponsored by **Hotel Indigo** and ***The Observer***. Reservations are required for everyone attending ***Inside Asolo Rep*** programs. Please call the box office at 941-351-8000 to confirm your complimentary Guild reservation.

Get acquainted with Rob Ruggiero, Director and William Waldrup, Musical Director of ***South Pacific***.

Thursday, November 6th

The **Guild** hosts **potluck dinner** for the cast and crew of ***South Pacific***.

Monday, November 10th

Play Readers' Meeting

9:30 A.M. in the lobby of Asolo Rep for coffee and conversation

Ladies of the Corridor

Monday, December 8th

Play Readers' Meeting

9:30 A.M. in the lobby of Asolo Rep for coffee and conversation

A Selection of Short Plays

Wednesday, December 10th

Holiday Party

12:30 PM in the Cook Theatre

Play Readers will amaze and delight with their performance of

Miracle on 34th Street.

Tuesday, January 20th

The **Guild** hosts **potluck dinner** for the cast and crew of ***Both Your Houses***

Monday, January 12

Play Readers' Meeting

9:30 A.M. in the lobby of Asolo Rep for coffee and conversation

Where Did We Go Wrong?

The Asolo Repertory Theatre Guild
Calendar of Events for the 2014-15 Season
Continued

Wednesday, January 28th

General Meeting

10:00 AM in the lobby of Asolo Rep for refreshments and socializing. The 2014-2015 season of the **Inside Asolo Rep** series is co-sponsored by **Hotel Indigo** and **The Observer**. Reservations are required for everyone attending **Inside Asolo Rep** programs. Please call the box office at 941-351-8000 to confirm your complimentary Guild reservation.

Discussion of **Good People** with Director Greg Leaming and actor, Peggy Roeder, giving a behind-the-scenes-look at the Tony Award-nominated play from the 2011 Broadway season.

Monday, February 9th

Play Readers' Meeting

9:30 A.M. in Asolo Rep rehearsal hall for coffee and conversation, to be followed by:

The Imaginary Invalid

Monday, February 16th

Celebrate "Halo Day"

at the Robert and Beverly Koski Production Center, where sets, scenery and costumes are created for all of Asolo Rep productions. A fascinating place! This event is by RSVP. More information to follow.

Wednesday, February 25th

General Meeting

10:00 AM in the lobby of Asolo Rep for refreshments and socializing. The 2014-2015 season of the **Inside Asolo Rep** series is co-sponsored by **Hotel Indigo** and **The Observer**. Reservations are required for everyone attending **Inside Asolo Rep** programs. Please call the box office at 941-351-8000 to confirm your complimentary Guild reservation.

Discussion of **Both Your Houses** and **Our Bidders**, will be the topics for our presentation of **Inside Asolo Rep**. The 1933 Pulitzer Prize Winner by playwright Maxwell Anderson, **Both Your Houses** will be represented by Tony Winning Director Frank Galati and actor Katie Cunningham, and **Our Bidders**, will be represented by the director, Producing Artistic Director Michael Donald Edwards, will be our guest speakers!

The Asolo Repertory Theatre Guild
Calendar of Events for the 2014-15 Season
Continued

Monday, March 9th

Play Readers' Meeting

9:30 A.M. in Asolo Rep rehearsal hall for coffee and conversation, to be followed by:

Death By Chocolate

Monday, March 16th

3:00 PM - The 2015-2016 Season Announcement in the Mertz Theatre.

Please RSVP the box office at 941-351-80000

Wednesday, March 25th

General Meeting

10:00 AM in the lobby of Asolo Rep for refreshments and socializing.

The 2014-2015 season of the **Inside Asolo Rep** series is co-sponsored by **Hotel Indigo** and **The Observer**. Reservations are required for everyone attending **Inside Asolo Rep** programs. Please call the box office at 941-351-8000 to confirm your complimentary Guild reservation.

The artists and creative team behind **Sotto Voce**, the latest play by Pulitzer Prize winner Nilo Cruz.

Monday, April 13th

Play Readers' Meeting

9:30 A.M. in the lobby of Asolo Rep for coffee and conversation

The Dining Room

Thursday, April 23rd

The **Guild** hosts **potluck dinner** for the cast and crew of **Luck Be A Lady**.

Monday, May 11th

Play Readers' Meeting

9:30 A.M. in Asolo Rep rehearsal hall for coffee and conversation, to be followed by:

— Potpourri —

Asolo Repertory Theatre Guild

JOIN THE GUILD!

new membership membership renewal

last name _____ first name _____ m.i. _____

title: Mr. Mrs. Ms. Dr.

spouse's name _____

local street address _____ city _____ zip _____

• alternate street address _____

• city _____ state _____ zip _____

• at alternate address from ____/____/____ through ____/____/____

e-mail address _____ home phone _____

mobile phone _____ • alternate home phone _____

send my newsletter by regular mail

Please order a **Guild Member** name badge for me, printed as above, or as follows:

_____ I understand the badge will cost \$10

Volunteering is an essential part of being a Guild member. How would you like to be involved?

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> community outreach events | <input type="checkbox"/> hospitality | <input type="checkbox"/> potluck dinner setup & cleanup |
| <input type="checkbox"/> data entry | <input type="checkbox"/> membership development | <input type="checkbox"/> Put A Kid In A Seat program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> envelope stuffing parties | <input type="checkbox"/> newsletter/photography | <input type="checkbox"/> shepherding school groups |
| <input type="checkbox"/> event planning | <input type="checkbox"/> play readers outreach programs | <input type="checkbox"/> telephone committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fundraising activities | <input type="checkbox"/> providing food for potluck dinners | <input type="checkbox"/> theatre tour guide |

We would like to know about your special interests and talents: _____

*NEED MORE SPACE?
PLEASE WRITE ON THE BACK!*

ANNUAL DUES:

(January 1st renewal)

\$35 Regular (Individual) Membership/\$50 per couple

\$110 *Sustaining Level Membership/\$125 per couple

\$135 *Patron Level Membership/\$150 per couple

* at this level of membership, Asolo Rep bestows "Angel" status, with all of the associated privileges and recognition.

Please complete this form and send it with your check, payable to Asolo Repertory Theatre Guild, to:

Asolo Repertory Theatre Guild
Attn: Membership Chair
5555 North Tamiami Trail
Sarasota, Florida 34243

check # _____
amount \$ _____
date ____/____/____

asolo rep

fsu/asolo conservatory

for actor training

new stages

South Pacific
November 11–December 28
Music by Richard Rodgers
Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II
Book by Oscar Hammerstein II and Joshua Logan

The Matchmaker
January 6–April 11
By Thornton Wilder

Good People
January 14–March 1
By David Lindsay-Abaire

Both Your Houses
January 21–April 12
By Maxwell Anderson

Our Betters
March 11–April 19
By W. Somerset Maugham

Sotto Voce
In the Historic Asolo Theater
March 31–April 26
By Nilo Cruz

**Luck Be A Lady:
The Iconic Music of Frank Loesser**
April 28–May 24
Conceived by Gordon Greenberg

**Woody Sez:
The Life and Music of Woody Guthrie**
May 30–June 21
Devised by David M. Lutken with Nick Corley and
Darcie Deaville, Helen J. Russell, and Andy Teirstein

The Water Engine
November 4–November 23
By David Mamet

As You Like It
December 31–January 18
By William Shakespeare

[title of show]
February 17–March 8
Music and lyrics by Jeff Bowen
Book by Hunter Bell

The Cherry Orchard
April 7–April 26
By Anton Chekhov

A Midsummer Night's Dream
October 2 in the Cook Theatre
Touring September 30–November 25
By William Shakespeare

14/15

November

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
NEW! THE SCOOP Join us one hour prior to curtain for performances of <i>South Pacific</i> , <i>Good People</i> , <i>Our Betters</i> , <i>Sotto Voce</i> and <i>Luck Be A Lady</i> for an inside look at these productions. (Opening nights are excluded.)				OCT. 2, at 7PM In the Cook Theatre	A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM	
2 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS	3 STARRY NIGHT DINNER	4 7:30PM PREVIEW WATER	5 11AM INSIDE ASOLO REP 12 8PM OPENING WATER	6 WATER	7 8PM WATER	8 8PM WATER
9 2PM WATER	10	11 7:30PM PREVIEW TALKBACK SOUTH 7:30PM WATER	12 8PM PREVIEW SOUTH 8PM WATER	13 8PM PREVIEW SOUTH 8PM WATER	14 8PM OPENING SOUTH 8PM WATER	15 2PM SOUTH 8PM SOUTH 8PM WATER
16 2PM SOUTH 2PM WATER	17	18 7:30PM TALKBACK SOUTH 7:30PM WATER	19 2PM SOUTH 8PM SOUTH 8PM WATER	20 8PM SOUTH 8PM WATER	21 8PM SOUTH 8PM WATER	22 2PM ACTORS' FAMILY DAY SOUTH 8PM SOUTH 8PM WATER
23 2PM SOUTH 2PM CLOSE WATER	24	25 7:30PM TALKBACK SOUTH	26 8PM SOUTH	27 THANKSGIVING	28 2PM SOUTH 8PM SOUTH	29 2PM SOUTH 8PM SOUTH

Tuesday Early Curtain
Please note that Tuesday evening performances begin at 7:30PM

POST-SHOW EVENTS
TALKBACK TUESDAY TALKBACKS
ACTORS MEET THE ACTORS

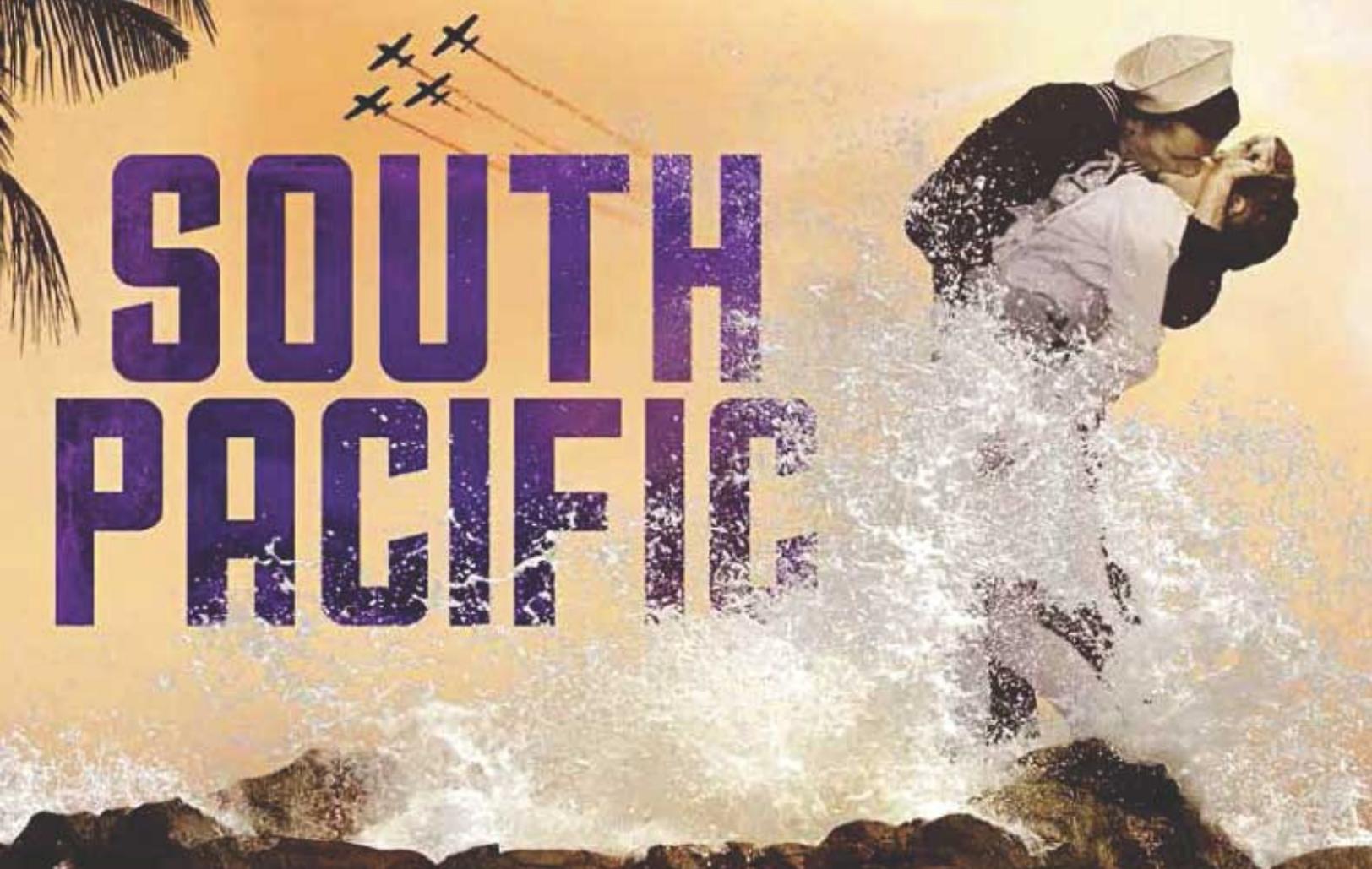
ASOLO REP
SOUTH SOUTH PACIFIC
MATCH THE MATCHMAKER
GOOD GOOD PEOPLE
HOUSES BOTH YOUR HOUSES
BETTERS OUR BETTERS
LUCK LUCK BE A LADY
SOTTO VOCE SOTTO VOCE
WOODY WOODY SEZ

CONSERVATORY
WATER THE WATER ENGINE
LIKE IT AS YOU LIKE IT
TITLE TITLE OF SHOW
CHERRY THE CHERRY ORCHARD

OPENING NIGHT AFTER PARTIES

After each opening night, mingle with the cast while enjoying free champagne and light bites.

sponsored by
MORTON'S GOURMET MARKET & CATERING



SOUTH PACIFIC

Rodgers & Hammerstein's SOUTH PACIFIC

Music by Richard Rodgers

Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II

Book by Oscar Hammerstein II & Joshua Logan

Directed by Rob Ruggiero

Nov. 14–Dec. 28 | Previews Nov. 11, 12, & 13

From the haunting "Bali Hai" to the exquisite "Some Enchanted Evening," this Rodgers & Hammerstein classic contains some of the most glorious music ever written. The winner of 10 Tony Awards® and the Pulitzer Prize for Drama, *South Pacific* tells the romantic story of two couples on a remote island in the Pacific—a U.S. Navy nurse and an expatriate French plantation owner, and a Marine Corps lieutenant and a young local girl—and how their happiness is threatened by the realities of war and their own prejudices. Helmed by the director of last season's smash hit *Show Boat*, *South Pacific* balances intimate, personal stories with the sweeping grandeur of wartime drama. This exciting production features all-new orchestrations arranged especially for Asolo Rep.

Sponsors

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1920
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fall musical

"This is
ravishing
theatre"

—Variety



A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

New Stages Tour

Asolo Repertory Theatre Presents an FSU/Asolo Conservatory for Actor Training Production

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

By William Shakespeare
Adapted & Directed by Jen Wineman

Asolo Rep's award-winning New Stages Tour brings traveling adaptations of classics to schools and community venues across Florida. A hilarious collision of young runaway lovers, adult authorities, amateur actors and mischievous tricksters, this timeless masterpiece gets a playful and contemporary staging while preserving the story that has delighted audiences' imaginations for centuries.

In the Cook Theatre October 2, 2014
Special Opening Night Performance October 2 at 7pm.
For tickets call the Asolo Rep Box Office: 941-351-8000

Touring September 30–November 25, 2014
To schedule a school or community performance, call 941-351-9010 ext. 3307 or email education@asolo.org

In the Community
Select venues open their performances to the public. Find dates at asolorep.org/education/new-stages-tour-2014



DAVID MAMET'S THE WATER ENGINE

By David Mamet
Directed by Greg Leaming
Nov. 5–23 | Preview Nov. 4

Set against the background of the Century of Progress Chicago World's Fair in 1934, an industrious inventor creates an engine that runs on water. But soon he finds himself the victim of nightmarish persecution by mysterious figures from the oil industry. A dark drama by one of this century's most important and thrilling playwrights.