



COUNTY
PLAYERS
INC.

the Spotlight

"a non-profit organization dedicated to the presentation of good theatre"



Number 4 – 48th Season

April 2006

County Players Presents *Gypsy!*

County Players continues its forty-eighth season with the hit Broadway musical, *Gypsy*, with music by Jule Styne, lyrics by Stephen Sondheim and book by Arthur Laurents. Opening night will be Friday, May 5 at 8:00 p.m. at the County Players Falls Theatre in Wappingers Falls. Subsequent performances will be May 6, 12, 13, 14, 19 and 20. Friday and Saturday performances begin promptly at 8:00 p.m., and the Sunday matinee on May 14 starts at 2:00 p.m. Director Rian Keating claims that this opportunity has been fabulous – working with a wonderful cast, each of whom brings a special talent to the production. “This is a very special show and we will be bringing back to life the magical days of vaudeville, complete with a fabulous proscenium set with a runway around the orchestra!” Rounding out the production staff is Tom Lawrence as Musical Director and Jennifer Tuross as Choreographer.

Billed as “a musical fable,” and based on the memoirs of famed stripper Gypsy Rose Lee (Baby Louise-Victoria Lawrence; Louise-Jackie Schroeder), *Gypsy* tells the saga of Mama Rose (MaryEllen Petty), the archetypal stage mother who dreams of stardom for her daughter, Baby June (Baby June-Cassidy Drop; Dainty June-Sara Pettarossi), during the last days of a dying vaudeville. Picking up children along the way to appear in the “act,” Rose also picks up the marriage-minded Herbie (Jeffrey Sculley), who dreams of settling down after June attains stardom. In the shadows is June’s older sister, the quiet unassuming Louise. When June elopes with a dancer from the act, Rose turns her dreams toward Louise, promising to make her “the biggest star vaudeville has ever seen!” When Herbie mistakenly books the “act” into a burlesque house, the plot takes an unexpected turn. Rounding out the cast are Megg Armstrong, Dan Ashley, Kai Beck, Mary Beth Boylan, Jessica Chung, Gary Dodge, Bernice Edman, Peter Edman, Vincent Esposito, Rianna Fiorito, Jacob Gardner, Crystal Glenn, Deirdre Hering, Allison Hightower, Bryan Lynch, Brianna Masterson, Patricia Merrill, Heather McNeil, Lauren Pruitt, Trish Rokitowski, Tyler Shamro, Sara Schaad, Nancy Scrivner, Jacqueline Sedlor, Madison Sedlor, Kristen Schaeffer, Jessica Steenbergen, Zak Steenbergen, Kayla Wagner, and Richard Weismann.

Gypsy is one of the last great traditional musicals, chock-full of such show-stoppers as “Everything’s Coming Up Roses,” “Let Me Entertain You,” “Together, Wherever We Go,” “Small World,” and of course, “You Gotta Have A Gimmick.”

Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$15 for seniors and children under 12 years of age. Call the box office at 845-298-1491 for reservations. Visa and MasterCard are accepted.

Auditions

◆ “Sometimes you’re happy and sometimes you’re sad – but the world goes ‘round.” Life – with its glories, indignities, hopes and quiet dreams – is the subject of this stunning revue of the beloved songs of John Kander and Fred Ebb. **AUDITIONS** for the musical revue, *The World Goes ‘Round*, will be held on **Sunday and Monday, May 21 and 22 at 7:00 p.m.** at the County Players Falls Theatre. This show will be directed and staged by Anna Marie Martino, with Musical Direction by Joel Flowers. This directing team is looking for 4-5 men and 4-5 women, ages 21 and up. For the vocal audition, please prepare a Broadway song (bring your sheet music). In addition, wear comfortable clothing/shoes for a movement audition. Production dates are Fridays and Saturdays – July 14, 15, 21, and 22 at 8:00 p.m. For further information, contact Director Anna Marie Martino at 845-298-1332 or e-mail anna0118@gmail.com

◆ Don’t touch that dial! Stay tuned for Tuna! *Greater Tuna* is the hilarious comedy about Texas’ third smallest town, where the Lion’s Club is too liberal and Patsy Cline never dies. Only two performers play all the eclectic men, women, children and animals that make up the town that is home to this charming satire on life in rural America. You won’t find the town of Tuna on any authorized map of Texas. But, for a brief moment, you will be able to find it on our stage, where the Tuna townsfolk will pursue their pleasures and air their prejudices. This play is too funny to capture in words so join us as we perform this unforgettable two-man quick-change extravaganza. It’s guaranteed to be a rompin’ stompin’ good time. And remember, they don’t call it *Greater Tuna* for nothing! **AUDITIONS** for *Greater Tuna* will be held on **Sunday and Monday, July 16 and 17 at 7:00 PM** at the theatre. Director Christine Crawfis is looking for two men to play MANY roles. Production dates are September 15, 16, 22, 23, 24, 29 and 30, 2006. For information contact Production Manager Peter Edman at 845-297-7521 or e-mail at peteshows@msn.com.

Box Office Info

We anticipate that *Gypsy* will sell out. If you need to exchange your season tickets, please mail them to the Box Office ASAP with your request and include a SASE. The Box Office will be open April 25, 27, 30, May 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 11, 12, 13, 16, 18, 19, 20 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., and Sunday May 14 from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. Be sure to leave an evening phone number when leaving a voice message at the Box Office.



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President's Message

Our third show *Proof*, which opened in February, brought in rave reviews from our audience members. Sincere congratulations to Director *Bill Peckham* and the cast and crew for all of your hard work that turned out another excellent piece of theatre! Rehearsals for our May musical *Gypsy* are well underway. Director *Rian Keating* has put together an excellent cast, crew and orchestra that will bring you a top-notch production.

Installation of our new system for the hearing impaired is almost complete. We look forward to having it available to our patrons during *Gypsy*. If you would like to take advantage of this system, stop by our refreshments area when you arrive at the theatre and check out one of the eighteen units that we now have available.

I'm thrilled to announce that this summer County Players will present a musical revue entitled *The World Goes 'Round*, a collection of music by Kander & Ebb. The production is scheduled for July 14, 15, 21, and 22 at 8:00 p.m. Informational flyers will be sent to those on our mailing list and will also be available during performances of *Gypsy*. Please plan to join us at one of the four performances scheduled – it's going to be a fantastic summer evening of musical entertainment! You can reserve your tickets now by calling the Box Office at 845-298-1491.

A great deal of time and effort was put forth by our *Play reading Committee* and I want to again thank each member of this team for their hard work. At its February 2006 meeting, the Board of Governors discussed and reviewed the recommendations of the Committee and came up with what we consider a great theatre season for 2006-2007. In September, 2006, we welcome a new director, *Christine Crawfis* to the ranks. Christine will be directing *Greater Tuna*. Our December show will be the musical *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, directed by *Tom Lawrence*. In February 2007, *Jeff Wilson* is slated to direct *The Cocktail Hour*, and rounding out the season in May 2007, I will be directing the Broadway hit musical, *Jekyll & Hyde*. Season membership flyers will be available during *Gypsy* and will be sent to those on our mailing list.

Upcoming Calendar of Events

Gypsy

Music by *Jule Styne*, Lyrics by *Stephen Sondheim*
Book by *Arthur Laurents*
Directed by *Rian Keating*
Musical Direction by *Tom Lawrence*
Choreography by *Jennifer Turoff*

May 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20, 2006 at 8:00 p.m.
May 14 at 2:00 p.m.

Annual Membership Meeting

Friday, June 9, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.
No Admission Charge ~ Refreshments

As entertainment we present
Scuba Lessons

Written by *Joseph Zeccola* ~ Directed by *Kevin Barnes*

The World Goes 'Round

A SUMMER MUSICAL

Music by *John Kander* ~ Lyrics by *Fred Ebb*
Directed by *Anna Marie Martino*
Musical Direction by *Joel Flowers*

July 14, 15, 21, 22, 2006 at 8:00 p.m.

We look forward to seeing you at *Gypsy!* If you don't already have tickets for this show, call the Box Office at 845-298-1491 to reserve and purchase your tickets – this musical will draw large audiences!

On behalf of the Board of Governors, thank you for your continued support to County Players!

Best regards,