



Fine Arts Center
COLORADO SPRINGS
Theatre Company

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Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FAC Theatre Company 2007-08 season unveiled **A new holiday tradition, a Disney classic, and a Sunday spent in a park**

COLORADO SPRINGS (April 26, 2007) – The Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center today announced three musicals and two plays as the line-up for the 2007-2008 Fine Arts Center Theatre Company season, including a holiday classic (*A Christmas Carol*), a Disney musical (*Beauty and the Beast*) and a production that will complement an Impressionist exhibition in the newly expanded art museum (*Sunday in the Park with George*).

Two comedies, *Brighton Beach Memoirs* and *Fuddy Meers*, round out the schedule. Neil Simon, author of *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, was awarded the 2006 Kennedy Center Mark Twain Prize for American Humor. David Lindsay-Abaire, who wrote *Fuddy Meers*, earlier this month, won the 2007 Pulitzer Prize in drama for his play, *Rabbit Hole*.

“With the Extremely Grand Opening in August for the new expansion at the Fine Arts Center, I think that there will be an even greater interest in the performing arts and the shows that we are producing,” said Alan Osburn, the newly named Producing Artistic Director of the newly renamed Theatre Company.

“We look forward to riding that wave of momentum and adding to it,” he added.

SEASON TICKETS

The FAC Theatre Company doubled the number of season ticket-holders in four years from the 2002-2003 to the 2005-2006 season. Last season, despite building closures and renovation interruptions, subscriber numbers were the second-highest total ever, thanks to the loyal patronage of the Theatre Company’s subscriber base.

“Over the years we have received many inquires from our long-time subscribers about the absence of our plays being offered in the season subscription packages,” said Osburn. “Last season our plays were recognized by the *Colorado Springs Gazette* for the first time as being of the same high quality standards as our award winning musicals.

“Therefore, this year, for the first time, we have included our play series as a part of our season subscription offerings.”

Renewing subscribers can guarantee their current seats by renewing by July 1, 2007

Season tickets are available now by calling the FAC Box Office at 719.634.5583.

FAC members, who subscribe to all five shows, can save up to 28 percent off of the regular single-ticket price. Subscribers can claim the best seats months before single tickets go on sale. They are also covered by 'Lost Ticket Insurance' and can use the 'Easy Exchange Policy,' while enjoying a 10 percent discount on all beverages and desserts. More information can be found online at csfineartscenter.org.

Show times are 7:30 p.m. for Thursdays, 8 p.m. for Friday and Saturdays and 2 p.m. for Sunday matinees.

SEASON SUBSCRIPTION PRICING:

Thursday Series Ticket Prices:

FAC Members \$90

Non-Members \$110

Friday, Saturday, Sunday Series Ticket Prices:

FAC Members \$100

Non-Members \$120

The 2007-2008 FAC Theatre Company Season

Brighton Beach Memoirs

October 12 – 28

Brighton Beach Memoirs is part one of Neil Simon's autobiographical trilogy: a portrait of the writer as a Brooklyn teenager in 1937 living with his family in crowded, lower middle class circumstances. Eugene, the young Neil Simon, is the narrator and central character that takes us through a series of trenchant observations and insights that show his family meeting life's challenges with pride, spirit, and a marvelous sense of humor. But as World War II looms ever closer, Eugene sees his own innocence slipping away as the first important era of his life ends - and a new one begins.

"In many respects Neil Simon's funniest, richest and consequently the most affecting of his plays."

– *New York Daily News*

"Simultaneously poignant and funny ... an outstanding show ...
the best seen on Broadway in too long a time."

– *Variety*.

A Christmas Carol

November 30 – December 23

The world-renowned Academy Award-winning composer Michel Legrand (*Summer of '42*, *Brian's Song*) has teamed with Sheldon Harnick, one of the theatre's most celebrated Tony Award and Pulitzer Prize winning librettists (*Fiddler on the Roof*), and the tale of Ebenezer Scrooge's prophetic Christmas Eve is reborn. From the pages of Dickens comes this scintillating musical adaptation of the Yuletide classic that continues to touch hearts and minds the world over. Give the gift of theatre this holiday season by bringing the whole family to this exquisite retelling of this classic tale with its warmth and wisdom as never before, carried on the wings of a soaring theatrical score.

Sunday in the Park with George

January 25 - February 17

One of the most acclaimed musicals of our time by Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine, this moving study of the enigmatic painter Georges Seurat won a Pulitzer Prize for its deeply insightful and highly personal examination of life through art and the artist. Act one follows the inarticulate Seurat as he fights a losing battle to maintain a relationship with his mistress, Dot, as he creates his painting "A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte" amid the scorn of the artistic community. The second act takes place 100 years later, introducing us to his American descendant, also an artist, burned out and uncertain of the path he must take.

This production was specifically chosen to correspond with the FAC traveling exhibition, *Impressionist and Modern Masters* from the New Orleans Museum of Art.

Fuddy Meers

March 21 – April 6

This poignant and brutal comedy by David Lindsay-Abaire – who won the 2007 Pulitzer Prize in drama for *Rabbit Hole* – traces one woman's attempt to regain her memory while surrounded by a curio-cabinet of alarmingly bizarre characters. Every twist and turn in this funhouse plot brings Claire (a suburban housewife and mother who has a rare form of psychogenic amnesia that erases her memory whenever she goes to sleep) closer to revealing her past life and everything she thought she'd forgotten. It's one harrowing and hilarious turn after another on this roller coaster ride through the day of an amnesiac trying to decipher her fractured life. The production includes adult language and subject matter.

"(Fuddy Meers is) wicked fun...the evening explodes with laughter."

– New York Magazine

Beauty and the Beast

May 9 – June 1

Based on the Academy Award winning animated feature, this stage version includes all of the wonderful characters and songs from the film, written by Alan Menken and Howard Ashman, the team responsible for *Little Shop of Horrors* which was seen last season at the SaGaJi Theatre. There are also additional songs which were written especially for the Broadway version by Mr. Menken and Tim Rice (*Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Chess, Aida*). You won't want to miss this classic tale that is sure to entertain both adults and children alike.

ABOUT THE FINE ARTS CENTER

Founded in 1936, the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center is a privately funded, non-profit art museum, performing arts theatre, and arts education center. The FAC is currently embarking on a multi-million dollar building initiative. The renovated and expanded Fine Arts Center will open to the public on Aug. 4, 2007, with an Extremely Grand Opening celebration featuring a blockbuster traveling exhibition, special guests and events. Visit www.csfineartscenter.org.