



Taylor Museum  
Bemis School of Art  
Performing Arts  
30 West Dale Street  
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80903  
tel: 719.634.5581 fax: 719.634.0570  
www.csfineartscenter.org

## Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Madeleine Faber Mellini, FAC Director of Public Relations  
Phone: 719.477.4316, Fax: 719.634.0570  
E-mail: [mmellini@csfineartscenter.org](mailto:mmellini@csfineartscenter.org)

### **Tony-Award Winning Play at the Fine Arts Center January 12 – 28, 2007**

Colorado Springs, CO (December 18, 2006)...The Tony Award winning play, *The Last Night at Ballyhoo*, lights up the stage at the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center from January 12 through January 28, 2007. This sophisticated comedy was written by Pulitzer Prize winning playwright, Alfred Uhry, who is best known for his Academy Award winning film *Driving Miss Daisy*.

The play is set against the backdrop of Atlanta, Georgia in December 1939. *Gone with the Wind* is celebrating its world premiere and Hitler has just invaded Poland, but Atlanta's socialites are far more concerned with finding dates for the annual gala, *Ballyhoo*. *The Last Night of Ballyhoo* is one of two plays and four musicals presented during the 2006/2007 season in the SaGāJi Theatre at the Fine Arts Center.

Director Alan Osburn calls *Ballyhoo* one of the best American plays ever written. "I had the opportunity to work with Alfred Uhry years ago. He masterfully uses his own family as the palette to paint his views on one of America's most controversial issues. He captures the essence of the American family, their core values, their status in the community, and at the same time writes a powerful love story that brings tears of joy to all who have the pleasure of witnessing the journey of these two young lovers."

Some of Colorado Springs' finest actors come together in this play to portray the entertaining Freitag family. The play features Ashley Crockett as Beulah, the epitome of Atlanta society; Leah Chandler-Mills as the out-of-sync sister-in-law Reba; Amber Gene Stupnik as the passionate yet misguided Lala; Julie Sweum as Sunny, a sociology major with roots on Habersham Road; and Timothy King as Adolph, a pillar in the Atlanta business community and provider for all of the women. Andrew Schmidt and Chris Varano round out the cast as the two young suitors of the Freitag daughters.

For an evening of romance and revelations, grab a date for *The Last Night of Ballyhoo*. Make it an evening with pre-theatre dining in the historic Theatre Lounge and after-theatre cocktails in trendsetting Deco Lounge featuring Dale Chihuly's *Gilded Blue Sapphire Chandelier*.

Tickets are \$18 for FAC members in advance and \$20 for non-members in advance, or \$21 at the door. Performances are on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00 p.m. and Sundays at 2:00 p.m. from January 12 – 28, 2007. All performances are in the SaGāJi Theatre at the Fine Arts Center Main, 30 West Dale Street. For tickets, dinner reservations or information call 719.634.5583, or buy tickets online at [www.csfineartscenter.org](http://www.csfineartscenter.org).

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