



Fine Arts Center
COLORADO SPRINGS

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

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

Little Shop Opens at the Fine Arts Center

Colorado Springs, CO (January 19, 2007)... *Little Shop of Horrors*, the highest grossing and third longest running musical in Off-Broadway history, opens at the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center on February 16 and runs through March 11, 2007.

This deliciously grisly spoof of 1950s sci-fi movies is irresistible entertainment recommended for PG-13 audiences. It tells the story of a down-and-out skid row floral assistant who becomes an overnight sensation when he discovers an exotic plant with a mysterious craving for fresh blood. The fun unravels as the plant grows into an ill-tempered, foul-mouthed, R&B singing carnivore.

The production brings together an all-star cast and crew. Scenic designer Chris Sheley returns to create an inspired set that brings the hilarious script to life. Sheley is the recipient of the 2006 Denver Post Ovation Award for Best Set Design for his work on *Pirates of Penzance*. The Fine Arts Center also received the Ovation Award for Best Musical for its production of *Pirates of Penzance* (see attached press release). Cory Moosman, who directed this season's hit musical *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* and also played Johnny Cantone in the FAC's production of *The 1940's Radio Hour*, plays the role of Seymour, the floral shop clerk. His heartthrob, Audrey, is played by Peggy Munding. Munding appeared as Ilona in last season's holiday musical *She Loves Me*. Longtime FAC favorite Michael Augenstein plays Mr. Mushnik, the frustrated shop owner, and the FAC is thrilled to have Kennedy Pugh as the voice of the plant, Audrey II. In addition to his involvement with Pueblo's Steel City Theatre Company, Mr. Pugh has been seen over the last two seasons in the Arvada Center's productions of *The Full Monty*, *Aida*, and most notably in *Intimate Apparel*.

The score for *Little Shop of Horrors* was composed by Alan Menken, who also wrote the music for Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, and *The Little Mermaid*. Menken received the New York Drama Critics Award, the Drama Desk Award, the Outer Critics Circle Award, and the London Evening Standard Award for Best Musical for *Little Shop of Horrors*, and an Oscar® nomination for Best Song (*Mean Green Mother from Outer Space*) from the film version of the show.

While *Little Shop of Horrors* played over 2,000 performances at the Orpheum Theatre in New York, FAC audiences have only thirteen opportunities to see it performed in the SaGāJi Theatre at 30 West Dale Street. Performance times are Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00 p.m. and Sundays at 2:00 p.m. from February 16 through March 11, 2007. Theatre-goers can make it an evening with pre-theatre dining in the historic Theatre Lounge and after-theatre cocktails in the trendsetting Deco Lounge, featuring Dale Chihuly's *Gilded Blue Sapphire Chandelier*. In addition, a selection of delectable desserts will now be available in Deco Lounge before, during intermission, and after the show. Tickets are \$26 for FAC members in advance, \$28 for non-members in advance, or \$30 at the door. For tickets, dinner reservations or information call 719.634.5583, or buy tickets online at www.csfineartscenter.org.

A special Family Day at the Fine Arts Center will be held on Saturday, March 3 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. including face-painting, crafts and backstage tours. Box lunches will be available for purchase and a family matinee performance of *Little Shop of Horrors* will follow at 2:00 p.m. Check with the FAC Box Office at 719.634.5583 for ticket pricing for these special family events.

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