



STAGE LINES

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The Official Newsletter of Stage Coach Theatre

Callboard

Auditions for “Loot,” are set for 2 p.m. May 7 and 8, in the lobby of Stage Coach Theatre. Needed for the cast are 1 female—late 20s to mid-30s; 2 males—early to mid-20s; 2 males—late 40s to mid-50s; and 1 adult male any age. Show dates are July 8-23. For more information please call the director, Karl Johnson, at 284-5462.

Auditions for “A Chorus Line” are set for 2 p.m. May 14 and 15 at *Dance Is Everything* on the corner of Vista and Overland. There are roles for 14 men and 12 women. You will need to either (1) bring a CD to sing to, (2) Bring an accompanist or sing à capella. The dance part of the audition will require following a predefined dance routine. There will also be pre-selected readings from the script. For further information please contact Rick Hoover at 713-5300 or e-mail rickhoover1950@cableone.net.

A big ‘Thumbs’ up at SCT

By Becky Jaynes

You may be wondering... *Thumbs*. Why Thumbs? What does one think of when someone says “Thumbs”? Do you think of the color green? Do you think of Siskel and Ebert? Or do you think of that fumbling fool who drops everything he or she touches? Have you ever wondered: Are they really necessary, thumbs? Are they vital to our survival? Many scientists think so. Hey, I think so. I wouldn’t want to go through life without them! Quite handy for opening jars, writing clever sticky-notes to a friend or delicately cutting into a tender steak with a fork and knife. Yes, I like my thumbs.

But I must admit, I never would have thought that a play could be written about them.

Now, don’t worry. This is **not** the *Cirque du Soleil* with people spinning and dancing around dressed up in Thumb-Thumb costumes. Without giving too much away, I can tell you that it is a comedy thriller about a serial killer in a rural Vermont town. I can also tell you that this serial killer has a certain gruesome...trademark. Yes, there may be a little gore, and yes, it’s funny! It has to be, since the author of the play is the clever and talented Rupert Holmes.

With box-office hits like “Accomplice,” “The Mystery of Edwin Drood,” “Solitary Confinement” and “Say Goodnight, Gracie” in Holmes’s bragging pool, one needn’t worry about the merits of this script. Director **Don Walker** says: “As well as his outstanding plays, Rupert is the author/producer of the television series *Remember WENN* (it ran 4 years, 56 episodes on AMC), author of two novels, *Where the Truth Lies* (2004) and *Swing* (just released), and of course, *Escape (The Piña Colada Song)*. His first novel is in post-production as a major motion picture starring Colin Firth,



Left to right: RaDawn Smythe, Kevin Labrum, and Anne Hamilton in “Thumbs.”

Kevin Bacon and Alison Lohman and is due for release this summer.

“I can’t even tell you how fortunate I feel to have the opportunity to work on plays with someone of the caliber of Rupert Holmes. Rupert has not only supported Stage Coach Theatre artistically, but financially as well. He has rewritten scripts for us to make them a custom fit for our productions and has always allowed us the freedom to make adaptations to his work as well to make it better fit our stage. Rupert has provided original music and his own talented voice to this production of “Thumbs” in multiple characters.”

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“Thumbs” opens Friday, April 15, and runs three weekends, through April 30, with performances at 7:30 p.m. Thursdays, 8:15 Fridays and Saturdays and 2:00 on the single Sunday matinee, on April 24. Tickets are \$12 Fridays/Saturdays, \$10 Thursdays/Sundays. Call the box office at 342-2000 for reservations and information.

A different kind of magic exists backstage

Name: Kim Sherman-Labrum

Where are you from? Born and raised in Kimberly, ID. I moved to Twin Falls about 30 seconds after high school graduation. I moved in with my husband (then boyfriend) about a year later and we lived in Twin Falls until 1998 when we moved to Utah. We lasted 5 months and moved to Boise that November.

What is your first memory of live theatre? I think it was a melodrama put on by our church, titled "Lily the Felon's Daughter." As I recall, I was a suffragette during several of the dance numbers that took place during scene changes. I was about 13. As to real theatre, I saw a production of "The Merry Wives of Windsor" as a junior in high school and I was hooked.

What made you get involved in theatre? Sadly, I never wanted to be involved in theatre except for that nebulous teenage dream of being an actor. I loved being an audience member who didn't know how the magic happened, just that it did. I knew that being involved backstage would ruin that magic. So when my husband asked me to work backstage on "Don Juan in Chicago," I initially declined. But, they needed tech people and I can't say no to someone in need, so here we are. I will say that even though I was right about the magic being ruined, I have discovered a different kind of magic that happens in theatre, and I don't regret losing that bit of theatre innocence.

Give a brief synopsis of your past theatre history. I've done lots of backstage tech work since "Don Juan." My first stage-managing gig was "Laughter on the 23rd Floor," and I've stage-managed a bunch of shows since then. I just finished stage-managing "Rocket Man" and will be stage-managing "Loot" this summer. I have designed a few pieces of artwork for various show's covers, two of which won Masque awards. I have been on the Board for almost 3 years and have been managing the Gift Shop for about 2 years.

Why do you call SCT home? I call it home because of the people who are involved. They are a passionate, driven lot who sometimes frustrate me to no end and then make me laugh until I cry—in a good way. They em-

braced my loud, brassy personality and made me feel like an immediate member of the family. I love that they devote so much time and energy to this theatre and work so hard to make quality performances. It awes me whenever I stop to think about it. SCT consistently gives quality theatre to Boise and I am proud to be a part of that, in whatever capacity.

What are your goals for the Stage Coach board during your term? First, that Stage Coach continues to give the quality performances that people have come to expect from our theatre. Second, to make sure that we run this place as businesslike as possible while still retaining our creative vision. And third, I would love to see our theatre get a face-lift in time for our 25th anniversary, which is next season. Painting the lobby, auditorium and green room for starters and replacing the carpet in the auditorium are the main goals that I am working on right now.

What is your most embarrassing theatre moment? Ahhh, working tech certainly has its advantages. Most of my blunders happen backstage with few witnesses. Two funny stories both happened during the last production of "Accomplice." The trapdoor wasn't working, and Don Walker was behind the swinging kitchen door, his head to the floor, trying to see what was wrong. It was intermission, and I was resetting the stage for the next act. I didn't realize he was there and went through the swinging door. Well, not through exactly as Don's head makes an amazing door-stop, but you get the idea.

Next, during a scene change, I went through the aforementioned door and forgot that there was a step down. It was pitch black and I missed said step and hit the flat. Which wouldn't have been too bad except for two things. It was completely silent onstage so the audience heard this lovely crashing noise, and my husband was behind the flat. So he was crushed up against the actual wall that was there. It's a good thing he really loves me.

What is your dream role to play onstage? The idea of acting gives me cold sweats and makes me not be able to breath, so I can't even fathom what role would be my dream role. Probably the one that requires me to never go onstage or remember lines, which I believe is called "Audience Member."

Meet the Board

Have you ever wondered about the people who give their time to keep Stage Coach Theatre running? Since we're an entirely volunteer-run theatre, the many people who work at Stage Coach do it for love, not money.

In this continuing Q&A feature, you will meet the various members of the Stage Coach Theatre Board of Directors.

This month, we talk with board member Kim Labrum.



STAGE LINES

is edited by

Michele Cronen.

Send submissions to
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Backstage Chatter

News and notes from the Stage Coach Theatre "family"

Congratulations to Melody Whigam (*Dearly Departed*) and her husband **Tracy**, who are expecting their first baby at the end of May.

Congratulations also to **Joe Caron** and **Aileen Hartley**, who were married Feb. 26th. The couple met when they costarred in SCT's production of "A Perfect Wedding" in 2003. They spent their honeymoon in New York.

Debbie and Rick Hoover will be working the registration booth at the Multiple Sclerosis walk on May 14th. This is an organization that's near and dear to Debbie's heart, so if you'd like to form an SCT group to participate, contact Debbie at debbiehoover@cablone.net, or call the MS office at 336-0555

Congratulations to **Mike and Cookie Ditto**, who will celebrate their 28th anniversary on April 23. They drive all the way from Pocatello to see shows at SCT. Talk about dedication!

Thumbs

(Continued from page 1)

"With all that in our favor, then add to it such an extremely talented cast (**RaDawn Smythe, Anne Hamilton, Steve Martin, Kevin Labrum** and **Kevin Kimsey**) and how can we go wrong? It has been a while since I have had the opportunity to work with this much talent on a stage at one time. It has been one of my most enjoyable directing experiences."

All in all, "Thumbs" is definitely a must-see! It's full of twists and turns and while watching, you may catch yourself with your mouth open at some point or holding your stomach in others. But one thing is certain—when it's all over, you will most likely walk out of the auditorium... exceedingly fond of your thumbs.

And a belated congratulations to **Perry and Wendy Decker** who celebrated their first wedding anniversary on Feb. 28th or March 1. (We're not sure, since they got married on Feb. 29 last year, a date that did NOT pop up on our computer calendar reminder this year!)

Ask anyone who has ever been in a show with **Mike Cronen**—the best night of the run is one the audience never sees, the pick-up rehearsal on the Wednesday of the second week of the run. Mike's performances here are legendary because he does his role with spot-on impersonations of dozens of celebrities.

For example, at the "Rocket Man" pick-up rehearsal, here are some of the voices and characters Mike used: Christopher Walken; Rev. Jim Ignatowski (from "Taxi"); Austin Powers, Fat Bastard, and Dr. Evil (from the "Austin Powers" movies); Gregory Peck; Alan Rickman; Corky St. Clair (from "Waiting for Guffman");

Barney, Grandpa Simpson, Krusty the Clown, and Apu (from "The Simpsons"); Al Pacino; and Marlon Brando. (He also does a mean Pee Wee Herman, Rocky Balboa, Dudley Moore as Arthur, and Hannibal Lecter, to name just a few.)

Now there's an idea! Maybe SCT should turn Mike's pick-up rehearsals into benefit performances. It would be a fun way to pick up some extra cash for the theatre...

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS:

April 11: **Anthony LaFond, Susan LaFond**

April 17: **Helene Myers**

April 20: **Shelley Ward**

April 28: **Larry Dennis**

May 5: **Summer Day**

May 6: **James Ulmen**

May 13: **Anthony Polidori**

May 15: **Jennifer Bertino**

May 24: **Debbie LaFond, Debbie Hoover**

Webmaster needed

Are you an experienced Web designer? We're looking for a volunteer to give our Web site a makeover to commemorate our 25th season and to serve as our Webmaster, uploading occasional updates to the site.

Take a look at our current Web site at: www.stagecoachtheatre.com. If you'd like to take on this creative and very important task, call Michele Cronen at 323-7720 or email Michele at mcronen@healthwise.org.

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR E-MAIL LIST. Get updates, opening night reminders, and Stage Lines on line (with color pictures!). To subscribe, send an e-mail to: StageCoachTheatre-subscribe@yahoo.com

Meanwhile, out in the lobby...

Director John Myers has cast "Private Eyes," a mind-bending comedy by Steven Dietz that opens on May 27.

The cast includes: **Mike Mullens** as Matthew, **Mindy Jensen** as Lisa, **Chris Schwartz** as Adrian, **Helene Myers** as Cory, and **Elizabeth Greeley** as Frank.

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WWW.
STAGECOACHTHEATRE.COM

Buy your season tickets now for our 25th season!

Purchase your tickets for SCT's 25th season now and save! Now through August 31, 2005, season tickets for our eight-show season are available for \$90. And, if you purchase before April 30th (the final performance of "Thumbs") we will toss in the last two shows of the current season for only \$10 more. That's 10 shows for \$100!

Call our box office at 342-2000, or call Karl Johnson at 284-5462 to reserve your season tickets.

Hell to Pay

A hellish comedy by John Andreini
Aug. 26-27, Sept. 1-4, 8-10
Directed by Kevin Kimsey

Abducting Diana

A captive thriller by Dario Fo,
Adapted by Stephen Stenning from a

translation by Rupert Lowe
Oct. 7-8, 13-16, 20-22
Directed by Larry Dennis

A Chorus Line

The classic musical with Book by James Kirkwood and Nicholas Dante, Music by Marvin Hamlisch, and Lyrics by Edward Kleban
Nov. 18-20, 24-27, Dec. 1-4, 8-10
Directed by Rick Hoover

Laundry & Bourbon/Lonestar

Two Texas-sized one-act comedies by James McLure
Jan. 13-14, 19-22, 26-28
Directed by Jeremy Chase

An Empty Plate in the Café du Grand Boeuf

A comic tragedy in seven courses by Michael Hollinger

March 3-4, 9-12, 16-18
Directed by Janelle Walters

Trading Post

A romantic comedy by Larry Ketron
April 14-15, 20-23, 27-29
Directed by Wendy Koepl

Marriage is Murder

A comic mystery by Nick Hall
May 26-27, June 1-4, 8-10
Directed by Debbie Hoover

Sin

An indulgent comedy by Wendy MacLeod
July 7-8, 13-16, 20-22
Directed by Paul Budge

Watch your mailbox next month for our new season brochure.