



Stage Lines

The Official Newsletter of Stage Coach Theatre

Celebrating our 25th season

Happy 30th birthday, 'Chorus Line'

By Michele Cronen

It's hard to believe it's been 30 years since "A Chorus Line" opened on Broadway. The show ran for 15 years and for a time held the record for longest-running Broadway musical.

"A Chorus Line" got its start as a series of meetings where Broadway dancers got together and talked about their lives and experiences. These discussions were tape-recorded and later became the framework of "A Chorus Line."

The show mostly takes place in "real time," at a Broadway audition. A group of dancers are auditioning for a slot in the chorus of an upcoming Broadway show. As part of the audition, the director lines them up and asks them to talk about their lives. The order of the stories roughly parallels a dancer's life cycle, from childhood and adolescence, to adulthood, to the end of a dancer's career.

The beauty of "A Chorus Line" is how the audience gets drawn in by the stories each dancer tells. I vividly remember the first



Cast members work on the big dance finale of "A Chorus Line."

time I saw the show. It was 1981, and I saw the Broadway touring company at a theater in San Francisco. My date had somehow gotten us front-row-center seats,

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"A Chorus Line" opens Friday, Nov. 18, and runs through Dec. 10 with performances at 7:30 p.m. Thursdays, 8:15 Fridays and Saturdays and 2:00 on the three Sunday matinees, Nov. 20 and 27 and Dec. 4. Tickets are \$15 Fridays/Saturdays, \$10 Thursdays/Sundays. Call the box office at 342-2000 for reservations and information. PLEASE NOTE: This show runs without an intermission.

You can rate this season 'PG'

By Karl Johnson
SCT president

Following "Abducting Diana," we received several complaints about the language of the play. No, not English! Rather, the repeated use of the "New York City comma"—the much maligned "F-word." The gist of the complaints was not that we used such language, but that we didn't warn our ticket-holders in advance. I believe our patrons, particularly our season ticket holders, have a valid point. While we may warn people on a show-by-show basis, season ticket holders are buying the proverbial pig in the proverbial poke when it comes to adult themes and language. We will remedy that situation in our season 26 brochures. For the rest of this season, here's a brief overview of the shows:

- ? **"A Chorus Line"**—PG for some language and adult situations. This play, after all, is about dancers struggling to make it in New York City in the mid-'70s.
- ? **"Laundry and Bourbon/Lone Star"**—PG for language. Red-necks drinking beer behind the local bar do not always use their church-going language.
- ? **"An Empty Plate in the Café du**

Grand Boeuf"—I'm giving this one a mild PG rating. This is mostly because it deals with the issue of suicide more than because of its language.

- ? **"The Trading Post"**—G. There is some sexual innuendo, and the youthful characters may try to shock the older characters, and someone cross dresses. But as a victim of first-run "Threes Company" episodes, I can't say this is worse.
- ? **"Marriage is Murder"**—G, but a reluctant G. Murder and mayhem don't seem to have the same visceral affect on us that coarse language does.
- ? **"Sin"**— PG-13. Not just language here, but the play itself deals with the seven cardinal sins on an intimate one-on-one basis.

To our directors—I'm sorry none of the plays earned an R-rating. I know how much that increases box office. Maybe for season 26 we can do some graphic violence or sex. We can sure use the money that would generate!

To everyone—we have a great season set. Come enjoy the shows!

Artistic director seeks scripts, directors for 2007-2008 season

Larry Dennis, SCT's new Artistic Director, is currently accepting submissions for scripts to consider for the 2007-2008 season.

Everyone is welcome to give suggestions for script possibilities. You can either call Larry at home (322-3408) or at work (338-9746), or you can e-mail him at larry@clamcity.com.

Better yet, if you have a hard copy of the script for Larry to read, drop it by the theater some evening and leave it in Larry's box.

SCT is also looking for directors for that season. If you are interested in directing during the 2007-2008 season, contact Larry as soon as possible, whether or not you have a play to submit at this time.

Backstage Chatter

News and notes from the Stage Coach Theatre "family"

Although it wasn't technically a Halloween party, the housewarming party at **John and Helene Myers'** new home over Halloween weekend featured some creative costumes. Everyone was asked to dress as a character from a Quentin Tarantino movie. And of course, when you give "theatre people" a challenge like that, you have to expect some interesting results. But no one figured that **Kim Labrum** would show up as Jayne Mansfield!



Kim Labrum as Jayne Mansfield.

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 "Get well" wishes go out to **Debbie Hoover**, who celebrated her birthday on Oct. 25 by breaking her arm. Debbie reports, "Rick likes to take me to special places for my birthday, but the hospital isn't one." Hope you feel better soon, Debbie.

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Michele Cronen has had to resign from the SCT Board of Directors, and this will be her last time producing the newsletter. **Karl Johnson** will be taking over the newsletter duties for the rest of the season. That is, unless someone else volunteers to be the newsletter editor. If you're interested, contact Karl at johnson_karl@hotmail.com

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 By the time you read this, our good friend—and very talented actor and karaoke singer—**Jason Roeper** will

be back in Idaho after serving in Iraq with the 116th. Jason last appeared in "Funny Money" and "Out of Order," and we're eager to see him again on our stage. When you see him, be sure to thank him for his service to our country.

BIRTHDAYS:

Nov. 19: **Julie Miller**

Nov. 25: **Angela Simitzes**

Nov. 29: **Mike Ditto**

Dec. 2: **Claudia Scott**

Dec. 3: **Darrel Carver**

Dec. 4: **Rick Hoover, Kim Labrum**

Dec. 10: **Wanda Webb**

Dec. 16: **Cookie Ditto**

Dec. 18: **Kali Simitzes**

Dec. 23: **Gregg Irwin**

Jan. 1: **Rachel Adamson**

Jan. 10: **Kevin Kimsey**

You can submit your Backstage Chatter to Stage Lines editor Karl Johnson at:
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Chorus Line

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and I was mesmerized as I watched these dancers and singers give their all in a show that felt like it was being played just to me. I really cared about those characters, all of them strutting and sweating and giving their all just to be chosen for a chance to be in the chorus of a Broadway show. When the cast sing "What I Did for Love," the audience understands just why performers do what they do.

This is obvious in the cast of SCT's production of the show, too. Produced and directed by Rick Hoover and choreographed by Jo McCosh, "A Chorus Line" demands great sacrifice and hard work from its cast. And unlike Broadway danc-

ers, who live and breathe "the dance," and are paid to do it for a living, SCT's cast members are your friends and neighbors who work all day at "real jobs." Yet, they have been rehearsing and training for 6 months or more and are doing it strictly for the love of performing. And you may be surprised at what these community theatre actors in Boise, Idaho, are capable of. When they sing "What I Did for Love," it truly hits home. The show's heart and soul really come through.

Even if you're not a performer, you'll appreciate "A Chorus Line." The original Broadway Playbill dedicated the show "to anyone who has ever danced in a chorus or marched in step . . . anywhere."

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OF STAGE COACH THEATRE

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Meanwhile, out in the lobby

Director Jeremy Chase has chosen his cast for the pair of one-act plays that make up our next production, "Laundry and Bourbon" and "Lonestar."

"Laundry and Bourbon" features Erin Van Engelen as Elizabeth, Katie Preston as Amy Lee, and Buffie Main as Hattie.

"Lonestar" features Mike Mullens as Roy, Gene Chandler as Ray, and Brian Zuber as Cletis.

The shows open January 13 and run three weekends, through January 28th.

Sneak a peek at our '06-'07 season

The directors and timeslots haven't been finalized yet, but here are the shows that will comprise our next season:

"Pizza Man"

"The Gazebo"

"Inspecting Carol"

"There's a Burglar in My Bed"

"Wayside Motor Inn"

"Olympus on My Mind"

"Picasso at the Lapin Agile"

"Love Letters/Fool for Love"