Fall 10-12-2000

Gypsy

Department of Theatre, Florida International University

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FIU THEATRE PRESENTS

GYPSY

Wertheim Performing Art Center
October 12-15  October 19-22
Gypsy

Director
Wayne E. Robinson, Jr

Musical Director
Elena Pierini

Original Choreography
Jerome Robbins

Adapted by
Lee Brooke and Karin Rendelman

Costume Design
Marina Pareja and Marilyn Skow

Set Design
Douglas Molash

Technical Director
Matt Saxton

Lighting Design
Douglas Molash

Assistant Director
Rossana Morales

Voice and Speech
Lesley-Ann Timlick

Costumer
Marina Pareja

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Gypsy: The Musical suggested by the memoirs of Gypsy Rose Lee

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Cast

Uncle Jacko:
Danny Moraguez

George:
Kris Cardenas

Clarence:
Nicholas Roses

Balloon Girl:
Monica Suarez

Baby Louise:
Dayme Sanchez

Baby June:
Jessica Quintana

Rose:
Madelin Marchant

Boy Auditioner:
Konstantin Vrotsos

Girl Auditioner:
Ashley Malcer

Mothers:
Pinelopi Georgiadis, Lolliette Romero

Papa:
Carlos Izquierdo

Newsboys:

Yonkers:
Nicholas Roses

L.A.:
Johannes Wagner

Angie:
Konstantin Vrotsos

Webber:
Danny Moraguez

Herbie:
Ricky Waugh

Louise:
Lesley Sorzano

June:
Megan Teske

Tulsa:
Jimmy Allen

Yonkers:
Kris Cardenas

LA:
E. Berry

Angie:
Adriel Garcia

Kringelein:
Carlos Izquierdo

Mr. Goldstone:
Danny Moraguez

Neighbors:
Susie Pinedo-Castellar

Waitress:
Ahymara Gonzalez

Miss. Cratchitt:
Lolliette Romero

Cow:
Pinelopi Georgiadis

Toreadorables/Hollywood Blondes:

Agnes:
Susie Pinedo-Castellar

Dolores:
Elizabeth Berry

Marjorie May:
Lolliette Romero

Thelma:
Julia LaVault

Gail:
Ahymara Gonzalez
From the Director

When legendary producer Leland Hayward first approached playwright Arthur Laurents about adapting Gypsy Rose Lee's imaginative autobiography into a Broadway musical, he declined. The story of a woman who became America's striptease queen didn't interest him. When Director/Choreographer Jerome Robbins insisted, he re-read the book. What he discovered was a universal story worthy of examination. 'Parents who live their children's lives, children who grow up to be their parents . . . these are the themes in Gypsy. But the theme that drives all the characters is the need for recognition, a need everyone has in one way or another.' The musical play you'll see tonight is filtered through the hearts and minds of its original creators, and the creative and interpretive impulses of our FIU cast and staff. However, I thought you might be well served by some quotes from the woman whose life and family inspired us all:

"I wanted to go out like a light too... I hated saying good-bye many times before in my life, but never as much...Everything I knew and understood and loved seemed bound up in that dressing room. This place I was leaving was a theatre, a place where I belonged. My mother was there. June was there.....all I could hear was Mother telling me to be careful when I crossed the street and to pin money to my underwear.... I closed my eyes and along with the familiar noise of a tram, Mother seemed to be telling me again how lucky I was. 'What a wonderful life you've had--the music, lights, applause--everything in the world a girl could ask for.'"

-From the memoirs of Gypsy Rose Lee

About the Creators

Arthur Laurents has written the books for the musicals West Side Story (1957), Gypsy (1959), Anyone Can Whistle (1964, also directed), Do I Hear a Waltz? (1965, based on his play The Time of the Cuckoos) and Hallelujah, Baby! (1967, Tony Award for Best Musical). He also directed the 1974 revival of Gypsy. His dialogue brought dramatic range into the entertaining world of musical theatre, thus becoming one of America's greatest book writers.

Stephen Sondheim, American composer and lyricist was born in New York in 1930. When he was a young man, he studied lyric writing with Oscar Hammerstein, and early in his career wrote the lyrics for Leonard Bernstein's West Side Story (1957). He then collaborated with Jule Styne in the writing of Gypsy (1959). Later he composed his own music and lyrics in such musicals as A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum (1962), Sweeney Todd (1979), and Sunday in the Park with George (1984). Sondheim is one of America's most regarded figures in musical theatre of the late twentieth century.

Jule Styne (1905-1995), born Julius Kerwin Styne in 1905 in London's East End, migrated with his parents in 1912 to the United States. With the score of such long-running Broadway classics as Gentlemen Prefer Blondes Peter Pan, Gypsy, Bells Are Ringing, Funny Girl and the Tony-winning Hallelujah Baby! to his credit, composer Jule Styne ranks as one of a handful of undisputed architects of the American musical theater.

About the Play

Gypsy premiered on May 21, 1959 at the Broadway Theatre in NY. Suggested by the memoirs of the well-known Gypsy Rose Lee, this musical paints her life from childhood in vaudeville, to her rise as one of America's greatest burlesque stars. Most importantly it provides a complex portrait of her stage mother.

The original production was directed and choreographed by the legendary Jerome Robbins. It also featured the talent of Ethel Merman who gave the performance of a lifetime as the star struck stage mother, Rose. Later productions showcased Rosalind Russell, Angela Lansbury, Tyne Daly and Bette Midler.

Winner of five Tony awards, seven Drama Desks awards, an Academy Award and the Pulitzer Prize, Gypsy remains popular and deliciously entertaining. It will continue to be one of musical theatre's most distinguished achievements.
Production Staff

Production Stage Manager: Yvonne Marie Perez
ASM: Giselle Melendez
ASM: Brian Tyler
Prop Coordinator: Sarah Bruning
Prop Prep.: Rose Ginart, Ivan Lopez, Robert Maxwell, Charles Quinteros, Adriana Ruiz, Matt Szymanski
Lighting Board Op.: Heather Burkett
Follow Spot: Diora Baird, Kenneth Chrinos
Head Fly Rail: Brian Tyler
Fly Rail: Charmille Walters
Master Electrician: Michael Santos
Sound Board Operators: Samantha Chaitt, Robert Cora, Claudia Gomez, Javier Olivencia
Light Prep: Elina Fernandez, Madelin Marchant, David Ortiz, Irene Storey, Daniel Suarez, Johnny Trabanco
Paint Prep: Larea Brown, Christina Burchard, Lolliette Romero, Sasha Socie, Madelin Marchant
Scenic Artists: Nicole Santaella, Rachel Carbonell
Scene Shop: Ivanessa Henriquez, Joe Llorens, Danny Moraguez, Emilio Rivas, Eva Ruiz, Lesley Sorzano, Charmille Walters

Deck Carpenters: Crystal Edn, Jade Freid, Roberto Freidman, Candita Rodriguez
Prop Run Crew: Jaqueline Joyce, Alissa Rodriguez
Costume Construction: Jimmy Allen, Rhonda Atkins, Brad Murphy, Melissa Almaguer, Ahymara Gonzalez, Jeanine Michel, Rossana Sofia Morales, Giselle Melendez, Michael Santos, Megan Teske, Piedra, Sarah Bruning, Pinelopi Georgiadis
Student Costumer Assistants: Talia Tejeda, Arnold Roberto Bueso, Molly Mitchell
Hair and Make-up: Gabriela Macias
House Manager: David Perez
Head Usher: Michelle Catin
Marketing and Outreach: Christina Maria Perdomo, Michelle Catin, Rossana Morales, Rosie Sermeno, Susan Murray, Armando Rubi III
Assistant Voice/Speech Coach: Megan Teske
Graphic Design: Marina Pareja
Special Thanks: John Camacho, Francisco Muller, Teresa Ancaya-Scott, Marion Toscano, Karen Fuller and FIU School of Music

Orchestra

Conductor: Elena Pierini
Flute: Yolanda Vasquez
Clarinet: George Linakis
Saxophone: Carlos Vega, J. Javier Valerio
Trumpet: Ryan Braun, Buzz Graham
Trombone: Jose Leon, Miguel Estevez
Percussion: Louis Gonzales
Piano: Teresa Ancaya-Scott
FIU Theatre News

At FIU Theatre we continuously urge students to go out and acquire other worthwhile experiences in Theatre. FIU offers an outstanding Theatre Training program for actors and technicians; however, there is a whole world of experiences outside the university that we would like our students to explore, and which will, in turn, enhance the overall learning adventure here. We are proud to highlight some of the students in our program who worked on various productions over the summer.

Jimmy Allen, a senior in FIU Theatre, graduated from the American Conservatory Theatre's Summer Program in San Francisco last summer. He worked with Brent St. Claire, Melissa Smith, Rafe Chase, and Jeff Crocket in the areas of Acting, Language & Style, Improvisation, and Voice. Jimmy expresses his enthusiasm, "We all left there on fire! I strongly recommend any theatre student to attend ACT...the rewards are tremendous." Mr. Allen plans to launch a theatre company with some of his fellow ACT graduates in the future.

Two students worked at the Indian River Community College in Ft. Pierce. Megan Teske worked with David Moberg in directing "The Loveliest Afternoon of the Year" by John Guare. Sara Bruning directed "The Variations of Leon Trotsky" by David Ives, Stage-Managed "Dearly Departed," worked on Lighting Design for a variety concerts, and wrote a review on "A Grand Night for Singing."

Some students integrated Theatre with Education. Madelin Marchant owns Marchant Academy, a Theatre school for children in Miami. She teaches Acting and Musical Theatre. Madeline is also Artistic Director and Co-owner of "Show Time for Kids Performing Arts Summer Camp" in Weston, FL. She will be directing a Second Stage production, "Dinner with Durang" later this season. Elizabeth Berry taught musical theatre this summer to children ages 6-13. Under her direction, the children put up a production of their original script, "SunCho." Elizabeth is also involved with the Improv Troupe "Just the Funny" who perform every Friday and Saturday at the Holiday Inn across from UM. Rosie Sermeno attended the Kentucky Shakespeare Festival as a Production Management Intern during the summer. Productions included "Romeo and Juliet," "Twelfth Night," and "Shakespeare Unplugged." Rosie will also be directing "Pterodactyls" at FIU this season.

We are pleased to congratulate Claire Tyler for her nomination for the Best Supporting Actress Carbonell Award for her performance in "Popcorn" at the Gable Stage Theatre. Claire will be graduating from FIU Theatre this coming April.

Spotlight Profile

We wish to welcome and introduce Dr. Leroy Clark, professor of Theatre and Chairperson of FIU Theatre and Dance. Dr. Clark earned his BA degree from the University of Maine, the MFA from the University of Oklahoma, and the PhD from Kent State University. He has directed over eighty plays and written more than twenty-five plays. Seventeen have been produced in professional, community, and university theatres. This season at FIU, Dr. Clark will be directing his original play, Shakespeare's Journey.

When asked what inspired the writing of the play, he responds, "Here is a man considered to be the greatest playwright in the English language, a man about whom thousands of books and articles have been written, yet there is no play that portrays the great writer at the height of his career. There is no play about Shakespeare the actor, Shakespeare the writer, Shakespeare the man."

Before joining FIU, Leroy Clark was a theatre professor and chairperson at Wichita State University in Kansas.

Dr. Clark joined FIU in January of 2000. "I was attracted to FIU Theatre because it has a really outstanding actor-training program in which there are opportunities to do new things. It is a growing university." He has already enhanced the program in various ways, such as teaching playwriting, initiating a volunteer fundraising group, "Friends of FIU Theatre," developing a communication program with South Florida high schools, and including Second Stage productions in the Season Program. Clark explains, "I wanted to provide the opportunity for students to direct and design sets, costumes, lighting, and sound. Instead of giving them a paper project or simple classroom experience, they can actually create a real production."

Secondly, I wanted students to have supervision and guidance, so that they can work with the faculty. It gives them a mentor to look to for advice or information about the directing and design process. It also provides more acting opportunities." Many projects are underway.

Some of Dr. Clark’s goals for FIU Theatre's progression are creating a Summer Theatre Program, acquiring donors to support a National Playwriting Contest, to continue reaching out to high schools, and making our program and faculty more visible to the nation. Dr. Clark is very pleased with the work the students have been producing in his classes. "The students are intelligent, sharing, and eager to participate. Their enthusiasm is wonderful," he says.
FRIENDS OF FIU THEATRE

WHY JOIN?

FIU Theatre's strong award-winning program provides quality productions for the cultural enrichment of the University and the Miami community. It provides professional training for a talented group of student artists. It provides a season of theatre at reasonable ticket prices. Thirty-five percent of the budget for these theatre events comes from the generous gifts of supporters like you. Please consider becoming a member of the Friends of FIU Theatre. Members receive our newsletters, invitations to special events and many benefits. Individual membership support categories begin at $25.00.

OTHER FRIENDSHIPS

- Family $50
- Patrons $250
- Sponsors $1,000
- Saints $10,000
- Donor $100
- Angels $500
- Benefactors $5,000

We are hoping for your help to continue our growth in theatre. We need a Council that will assist us in developing patron support. We are calling this group the Friends of FIU Theatre.

GOALS

1. To acquire additional endowed scholarships
2. To enhance funding for Guest Artists.
3. To find corporate sponsors for our productions.
4. To find sponsors in order to fund a new playwriting contest dealing with any aspect of Latin-American life.

We hope you will be interested in participating in a support group that might take on one of these or other goals as a project and develop a plan to accomplish it. We are hoping for a group of 12 to 15 people that would meet probably twice each semester and an executive group that would meet once a month for the first year to get us going.

For further information Call Abel Cornejo at (305)348-2237

Florida International University
Department of Theatre and Dance

The Theatre program offers two degrees: a Bachelor of Arts (BA) and a Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA). The program is ideal in size, large enough to be able to offer a wide range of courses taught by varied, well-qualified faculty and to support an active production program, yet small enough that every student receives personal attention.

The Theatre and Dance Department has an active production program. We currently present four Main Stage and two Second Stage productions a year plus one Main Dance Presentation consisting of choreography by FIU Dance Faculty and several guests. In addition to the Department productions there are student produced shows presented by the Showcase Players.

The Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center is home to both the Department of Music and the Department of Theatre and Dance it includes a beautiful 250-seat proscenium theatre, a large black box Studio Theatre, a costume shop, a scene shop, 2 dressing rooms and a green room.

We are now forming and seeking interested individuals to help organize Friends of FIU Theatre. This is an excellent opportunity to help us enhance the programs and facilities at FIU. Some of the goals include acquiring new furniture for the Green Room, framing posters from previous productions, putting on fund-raising events and generating community involvement.

If you are interested in learning more about the program or becoming a friend of FIU Theatre, please call or write for more information.

Florida International University
Department of Theatre and Dance Wertheim Performing Arts Center
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Department of Theatre and Dance
Takes great pleasure in announcing our 2000-2001 Season

**Gypsy**
Book by Arthur Laurents, Music by Julie Styne, Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim
Directed by Wayne E. Robinson, Jr.
October 12-15 & 19-22. Main Stage Theatre

**Pterodactyls**
By Nicky Silver. Directed by Rosie Sermeno
October 26-29. DM150 (Second Stage Production)

**The Cripple of Inishmaan**
By Martin MacDonagh. Directed by Therald Todd
November 9-12 & 16-19

**Dinner With Durang**
By Christopher Durang. Directed by Madelin Marchant
January 25-28. DM150 (Second Stage Production)

**The Tempest**
By William Shakespeare. Directed by Phillip Church
February 8-11 & 15-18
Main Stage Theatre

**Dance 2001**
March 1-4 & 8-11
Main Stage Theatre

**Shakespeare's Journey**
Written and Directed by Leroy Clark
April 5-8 & 12-15
Studio Theatre

MARK BRANNOCK
STORE MANAGER
(305) 552-8733