



SPOTLIGHT

401 North 6th Street

October 31, 2015

www.fslt.org

Dates: Opening Night Gala of FSLT's production of *Rumors* will be November 12. Regular evening performances will be November 13-14 and 18-21. The Sunday Matinees will be November 15 and 22.

Times: All evening performances begin at **7:30 p.m.** Patrons may be seated after 6:45 p.m. The matinees begin at **2:00 p.m.** Patrons may be seated after 1:15 p.m.

Box Office Hours: The box office is open from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5 to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday, and on Saturdays from 5 to 7 p.m. during the run of the show.

Reservations: Reservations can be made by calling 479-783-2966. Calls will be returned in the order they are received. Reservations will be held until 15 minutes before the show. Gala Tickets are \$25. Tickets for all other performances are \$10.

Season Ticket Holders: Regular season ticket patrons are encouraged to call **October 31 - November 4** for preferred seating. They can also reserve a General Admission seat for every Season Ticket they have. General Admission reservations will not be filled until November 5.

Reminder: When you call to make a reservation, Press 2.

RUMORS

Let's give them something to talk about. A little mystery to figure out.
"Something to Talk About" by Bonnie Raitt

Director Valerie Baldwin Valentine is planning to give Fort Smith Little Theatre patrons plenty to talk about when she brings Neil Simon's *Rumors* to the stage next month. "For those who are not familiar with Neil Simon, you can expect to laugh ... a lot," Valentine said of the upcoming production which will be staged November 12-22.

In the play, four couples gather to celebrate the 10th wedding anniversary of their dear friends, Charley and Myra Brock. Charley happens to be the deputy mayor of New York. Unfortunately, the party never gets hopping due to the little problem of the host shooting himself and his wife disappearing. Confusion and hilarity ensue as the friends try to cover things up, deal with rumors, and keep things under control. "I love this show because it is such a wonderfully written script," Valentine said. "The humor is clever; it is a mix of physical and verbal comedy. I also love it because it is just as fun for the actors to play the characters as it is for the audience to watch."

Arriving first at the scene is Ken (Ben Baldwin) and Chris Gorman (Tina Dale), both lawyers. As Charley Brock's attorney, Ken tries to keep the shooting under wraps with the help of Lenny Ganz (Ian Miller), Charley's accountant, and his wife, Claire (Summer Ferguson). Rounding out the octet is Ernie (Matt Ortega) and Cookie Cusack (Jill Ledbetter), a psychiatrist and a cooking show

See *Rumors* on page 3





Show Sponsors Applauded

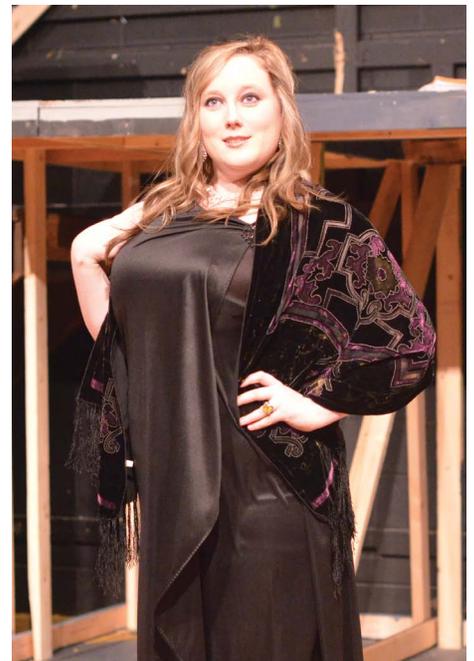
We greatly appreciate Cooper Clinic and Beall Barclay & Assoc. who are co-sponsoring *Rumors*. By underwriting the cost of this production, their generosity helps us maintain affordable ticket prices. Residents in this area have trusted Beall Barclay with their accounting and financial needs for more than 50 years, and trusted Cooper Clinic with their healthcare for over 90. And we trust that you will join us in applauding these locally owned companies for being long and strong supporters of FSLT. They are both caring corporate citizens. That's no "Rumor"; that's a fact.



Director's Letter

I am so thankful to have the opportunity to direct *Rumors*. I have loved this play for years. It was last performed on our stage in 1993, and I am thrilled to bring it back to FSLT! It is such an honor to have the privilege of directing at the Little Theatre. I am so excited for the opportunity. The cast and crew are incredible on stage and off stage, and I am honored that I get to work with each of them. I am so impressed by the talent and hard work of everyone in the cast. Audiences will love this show! Come ready to laugh and have a great time!

- Valerie Valentine



Christmas Off-Season Show Scheduled

Make plans now to attend our off-season production, *A Wackier, Tackier Christmas*. On the evenings of December 10, 11, and 12, FSLT performers will showcase their talents in the wackiest, tackiest variety show yet. Forget the shopping and the crowds, and come celebrate the holidays at FSLT. Because this is an off-season production, there are no reservations and no reserved seats. Admission, \$5 at the door, is not included with the purchase of a Season Ticket.

Great Things To Come Next Season

Another great line-up is planned for 2016 including comedy, classics, mystery, and music. Buy your Season Ticket for great entertainment value, plus advanced reservations. Season Tickets will be for sale before all performances of *Rumors* or may be purchased online. To purchase by mail, complete the order form you received in the mail or print an order form from www.fslt.org. And remember, Season Tickets make great Christmas gifts – one size fits all!

- February 11-20: *Farce Of Nature*
- March 31-April 9: *Crimes Of The Heart*
- June 2-11: *The Lights Are Warm And Coloured*
- July 28-August 13: *Singin' In The Rain*
- September 22-October 1: *Money Matters*
- November 10-19: *The Game's Afoot: Holmes For The Holidays*

Rumors opens November 12

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host, respectively, and Glenn Cooper (Anthony Yates) who is running for state senate, and his young wife, Cassie Cooper (Cassie Mikel). Landon Satterfield as Officer Welch and Will Paget as Officer Pudney bring their own dose of humor to the stage when inevitably the cops arrive. Because a great play can never take the stage without a strong, competent crew, Valentine is relying on Melissa Vitale, producer; Eric Wells, stage

manager; Will Paget, set designer and builder; Hannah Curlin, costume designer; and Neil Goodwin and Lindsay Vickery, props; Joseph Reed, lights, to make sure everything runs smoothly behind the stage.

If you're looking for a chance to have some side-splitting fun, make your reservations to see *Rumors* before the tittle-tattle passes you by. Call 479-783-2966, (press 2).



Many Thanks

We appreciate the following businesses that have recently donated services to FSLT.

- Williams-Crawford & Assoc. - graphic design
- Clear Channel Outdoor - billboard advertising
- Southwest Times Record - season ticket promotion
- First National Bank - season ticket promotion
- Office Depot - copy service
- Randy Craig/Craig Cabinets - door repair

Saturday & Sunday Matinees in 2016

For many years, FSLT performed one Sunday Matinee for each production. For the last two years, we offered two Sunday shows. In response to requests from our patrons and volunteers, we will offer one Sunday as well as one Saturday 2 pm matinee in 2016.

Annual Meeting Notice

FSLT Annual Meeting will be held Nov. 30 at 7 pm. Season Ticket holders are eligible to attend and vote at this meeting. Officers and Committee Chairs will give reports on the past year. Five members will be elected to three-year terms on the Board, and three members from the membership-at-large will be elected to one-year terms on the Nominating Committee.

Buying Season Tickets Online

You can purchase your 2016 season tickets online, safely and securely, from our website, www.fslt.org. (Please note that Paypal may require you to create an "account," but you can still use your debit or credit card for payment. Simply click: "Create a PayPal account.")

Big Bang For Your Buck

2016 Program Ads are now on sale. Your ad can appear in all 8,600 programs for as little as \$110. It's a great value for your advertising dollars. For information on sizes and prices go to www.fslt.org, email to fsltprogramads@gmail.com, or call 479-783-2966 (press 4) and leave a message. Better hurry – space is limited.

Special Performances Available

Special performances in 2016 are available for your club or non-profit organization. As a fundraiser for your group or just entertainment, these shows are offered on a Tuesday (Dark Night) when a regular performance is not scheduled. For more information, call 479-783-2966 (press 4).

Fort Smith Little Theatre
SPOTLIGHT

P.O. Box 3752, Fort Smith, AR 72913

www.fslt.org

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From the Top...

FSLT actors often hear “I don’t know how you remember all those lines” or “Why do you spend so much time and effort doing that?” Well the answer to number one is that you work at it; you say those lines over and over and rehearse night after night. The second answer is because we love it. It is fun and exciting to bring a character to life and very freeing to be someone else for a while. When you sign on to perform at FSLT, you commit to at least 6 weeks of your life including rehearsal and production. But when the audience appreciates your efforts, it is worth it. Recently, a woman stopped me in the grocery store. She had had a rough year and her friends had urged her to join them at FSLT for a night out. She said, “That show was just what the doctor ordered. You have no idea how much pleasure you bring to other people.” There in the produce aisle, I had an ‘ah-ha moment.’ I know the joy my involvement at FSLT brings to me; but I had not realized that those volunteer hours gave someone else a night out with friends, good-value entertainment, and a reason to smile. Hopefully, FSLT gives you some of that enjoyment as well.

October was National Arts and Humanities Month. I hope you will carry your support of the arts into November by purchasing season tickets for 2016. Our production committee has assembled another great season with shows to fit every taste. If you would like to go one step further, a donation to our Annual Fund would be greatly appreciated. So, thoughtfully consider purchasing a season ticket and join with the talented people at FSLT to enjoy another year of live theatre.

- Carole Rogers, *President*

Next Up - *Farce of Nature*

Auditions for the FSLT production, *Farce of Nature* by Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope and Jamie Wooten, directed by Angela Covey, will be held at the theatre January 4 and 5. The cast calls for 5 females and 4 males age 25 and older. Production dates will be February 11-20. Learn more about this upcoming comedy at fslt.org.

Season Ticket holders are urged to call before November 5 for reservations.