

FORT SMITH LITTLE THEATRE, INC.

presents

BROADWAY BOUND

by

NEIL SIMON

directed by

Bill Lindsey

June 11-20, 1992

Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French,
Inc.

45 West 25th Street, New York, N.Y. 10010

THE CAST

Eugene.....Brandon Keener
Stanley.....Shane Dodd
Kate.....p.j. Douglas
Blanche.....Deena Lee
Ben.....Mike Southern
JackJim Moody

Radio Voices

Announcer.....Mike St. James
Chubby Waters.....Len Williams
Mrs. Pitkin.....Doris Henley

Time

Act I - a rough winter - 1949
Act II - one month later

Place

The Jerome family home in Brighton, Beach, N.Y.

There will be a 15 minute intermission between acts

THE CREW

Director.....Bill Lindsey
Producer.....Katy Boulden
Stage Manager.....Wendy Quick
Assistant Stage Manager.....Marty Morris

Set Construction.....
David Whitt
Bill Steelman
Travis McDaniel
James McCartney

Set Decoration.....Ed Drimmel
Technical.....John Cross
Costumes.....Lee Batchelor
Cassey Browning

Properties.....Martha Gooden
Mary Rollins
Jane Ann Short

Hair Design.....Stephanie Womack
Graphic Art.....Cynthia Hubbard
Prompter.....Margaret Moseley

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Eva Gotlib Antiques Wilma McCauley
Air Systems Martha Gooden
Milt & Mary Earnhart Rose Bethell

BROADWAY BOUND is the conclusion of the story of the Jerome family of Brighton Beach, N. Y. With this play, Neil Simon completes the story begun by fifteen year old Eugene Jerome.

In BRIGHTON BEACH MEMOIRS the Jerome family was struggling to survive the grinding heel of poverty as Eugene struggled to survive the onslaught of adolescence. The middle play of the trilogy, BOLOXI BLUES, tells the story of Eugene as he enters the military toward the end of World War II and experiences the shock of army life. Those shocks included anti-Semitic bunk mates, a crazed sergeant and his first sexual experience as well as his first love.

In BROADWAY BOUND, Eugene has returned to Brighton Beach and the home in which he grew up. The familiar characters of his mother, Kate, his father, Jack, his brother, Stanley, and his Aunt Blanche are back with the addition of his grandfather, Ben who now lives with the family. The winds of change have blown through the Jerome family and the tensions of change are about to surface. Eugene finds himself at the center of the maelstrom.

At the end of the play, the lives of all of the characters have undergone changes that were not foreseeable to the adolescent Eugene. While moving the story to a bitter-sweet conclusion, Simon allows Kate and Eugene a look back into a pivotal moment in Kate's youth that is both touching and revealing. With this play, patrons of FSLT will have traveled with Simon through the events which seem to have formed on of America's most popular playwrights.

ABOUT THE CAST

BRANDON KEENER

New to FSLT on stage, but not backstage, Brandon has worked backstage on two recent FSLT productions. "Driving Miss Daisy " and "Nunsense". His interest in theatre is not new. He participated in the Kaliedoscope Program for two years and last summer attended a summer session at the University of the Ozarks, Steps to the Stage. He is a native of Fort Smith and a 1992 graduate of Northside High School. He will attend the University of Arkansas this fall.

SHANE DODD

This is Shane's first appearance on stage at FSLT. A 1991 graduate of Mountainburg High School, he now attends Westark Community College. Cast as Stanley, this is the second time Shane has played an older brother. He played Beau, an older brother in Mountainburg High School production of "Asleep on the Wind". He asks for "pity, please" as he tackles the challenging role of Stanley.

DEENA LEE

Deena allowed herself to be talked into reading for "Broadway Bound" by her daughter, Heather, a longstanding FSLT fan and backstage worker. Twenty years married to Jim, mother to three teenage daughters and an R.N. at a local freestanding ambulatory surgery does not leave her with many free moments....we hope this, her entry in dramatics, is not her exit also.

p.j. Douglas

In and around theatre most of her adult life, p.j. knows the craft from all angles. She has a degree in Speech/Drama from UTEP and has worked toward a graduate degree in theatre at the U. of Washington, Seattle. She has worked with Children's Theatre for twenty years instructing and directing. Her list of on-stage credits at FSLT include "Stepping Out", "Picnic", "Elephant Man" and "Musical Comedy Murders of 1940", "Dames at Sea" and "Guys and Dolls". She directed "Finishing Touches" at FSLT in 1990. p.j. has a "real" job as an enthusiastic teacher of sixth graders at Woods Elementary School.

MIKE SOUTHERN

This is Mike's second appearance on the boards at FSLT. He first appeared in "To Gillian on her 37th Birthday" a few years ago. In the meantime he has directed, "Picnic", "Pajama Game" and "Gazebo". He has his degree in theatre from Ouachita University and acted at Murray's Dinner Theatre in the late '70's in "Tobacco Road" and "Fiddler on the Roof". His out of town theatre work is varied and lengthy. Locally he created and performed a one-man show "Our Time" for Leadership Fort Smith this year. Away from the theatre Mike is an insurance agent, husband to Becky and father to Joel and Jonathan.

JIM MOODY

A list of Jim's FSLT credits would be a litany. He has acted and directed and worked backstage whenever needed for over twenty years. His Fort Smith Directing debut was in "The Women" in '76 and his last play to direct was "True Crimes" last month. His first acting appearance on our stage was in "A Man for All Seasons" in '75 and his last was in "Finishing Touches" two years ago. Jim also teaches English to inquiring minds at Northside High School.