



SPOTLIGHT

401 North 6th Street

October 28, 2021

www.fslt.org

Dates: Opening Night of FSLT's production of *Parfumerie* will be November 11. Regular evening performances will be November 12-13 and 17-20. A Sunday Matinee will be offered on November 14.

Show Times: Evening performances begin at 7:30 p.m. Patrons may be seated after 6:45 p.m. Matinees begin at 2:00 p.m. Patrons may be seated after 1:15 p.m.

Tickets: Tickets will be available beginning **7:00 a.m. Saturday, October 30**. Purchase online at fslt.org or call the Box Office at 479-783-2966 (extn. 2) to purchase on the phone. All performances (including Opening Night) are \$12/person.

Box Office Phone Calls: Be prepared to leave a message with details about your seat/ticket request including a phone number where you can easily be reached. During variable hours, volunteers will return calls in the order they are received.

PARFUMERIE

Romantic Comedy with a Familiar Story Opens at FSLT

*"She had a love after all she told me. A secret love.
And she threw him right in my face!" "Who?" "Me!"*

Veteran FSLT actress, Jamie Lambdin-Bolin, makes her full-season directorial debut with *Parfumerie*, a heartwarming romantic comedy. Being performed on the FSLT stage November 11-20, the play was adapted by E.P. Dowdall from the original Hungarian play *Illatszertár*.

While *Parfumerie* may have an unfamiliar name, the play has been the inspiration for three popular films. *Illatszertár* by Miklos Laszlo was written in 1937, and was the basis for the Jimmy Stewart and Margaret Sullivan 1940 classic film *Shop Around the Corner*. Later the script was adapted as the 1949 movie musical *In the Good Old Summertime* starring Judy Garland and Van Johnson. Most recently the script inspired the 1998 rom-com *You've Got Mail* starring Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan, as well as the stage musical *She Loves Me*.

The story involves Mr. Miklos Hammerschmidt (Jon Gustafson) who owns a shop selling perfume, soaps, and lotions in 1937 Hungary. Loyal employee George Horvath (John Hall) works hard in the shop and takes solace in his romantic pen pal relationship with a young woman. But will the romance survive when George learns that his beloved mystery woman is actually Amalia Balash (Emilee Dale), the prickly co-worker he bickers with day in and day out?

Complicating the action are a colorful cast of characters including slippery sales clerk Steven Kadar (Eric Wells), glamour girl Ilona Ritter (Ashleigh Mathews), aging clerk Mr. Sipos (Gary

See *Parfumerie* on page 3

Sip Sip Hooray!



We always like to toast on Opening Nights – and especially this year! Courtesy of our friends at **Sodie's Wine and**

Spirits, quality wine and champagne will be served pre-show. At intermission, a special dessert will be served along with a special brew from **Fort Smith Coffee**. (Hors d'oeuvres will not be served.) Plus, as part of our Reopening Celebration, Opening Night tickets for 2021 productions are just \$12 – the same price as all other performances. You can Sip Sip...and Save!



Applause For Our Show Sponsor



AT&T is a global leader in telecommunications, media, entertainment, and technology. Their commitment to product and service innovations is matched by their dedication to improving communities where they live and work. AT&T's generosity is greatly appreciated, as their show sponsorship helps us maintain affordable ticket prices. FSLT is grateful to AT&T for their continued support, and we applaud them as a shining example of caring corporate citizenship.



Coming Soon: The Holiday Channel Christmas *Movie Wonderthon*

It's a Christmas tradition to watch as many original TV holiday movies as a human can endure. Now you can enjoy the rush of six Christmas movies all at once! It's a mash-up of singles falling in love, celebrities finding down-to-earth connections, charming inns, tree farms, holiday sweaters, and hot chocolate. Tina Dale will direct this merry off-season holiday production December 9, 10 and 11 at 7:30 p.m. Don't miss this wildly entertaining parody of holiday rom-coms.

Note: This is an off-season production. There are no reservations and no reserved seats. Doors will open at 6:45 p.m. Admission will be \$7 at the door.

Director's Notes

It is so good to be back in action at FSLT. I'm grateful to work with this awesome cast and crew to bring *Parfumerie* to life on our stage. Thank you particularly to Rikkee and Scott, my Assistant Director and Set Designer, respectively, and to Dr. Micki Voelkel (who cast me in my first FSLT production) for your mentorship! Along with some cast members, I've worked with these individuals many times in the past nine years.

FSLT is a beloved second home to many families, including mine! I have the pleasure of working alongside my husband, Brandon, who I met in this building. George and Amalia's story isn't altogether different from our own. I also enjoy working with my parents-in-law. They even came to set construction just one short week after getting married! Congratulations, Kim and Rusty!

While we have celebrated joining together in the past weeks, Miklós László wrote this bright story at a very dark point in history. Of Jewish-Hungarian descent, he fled to America ahead of World War II — just one year after writing this play. We are thankful to him for his classic tale and the films it inspired: *The Shop Around the Corner* (1940), *In the Good Old Summertime* (1949) and *You've Got Mail* (1998). We are also thankful to his nephew, E.P. Dowdall, for this wonderful adaptation.

Our cast and crew are ready to bring these humorous, heavy, and heartwarming moments to life for our patrons. I hope audiences will fall in love with *Parfumerie*, whether for the first time or all over again, just like I have.

- Jamie Lambdin-Bolin, *Director*



HEALTH & SAFETY POLICIES

Please familiarize yourself with the following policies that will be in effect for *Parfumerie*. Your cooperation and compliance will help ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for all our patrons and volunteers.

of vaccination status, are required to wear face coverings inside FSLT except when consuming food or drink.

- To offer the best possible live theatre experience for our audience, performers will not wear masks while on stage. All cast members are fully vaccinated against COVID-19.
- Attendance may be at full capacity. Physically distanced seating will not be imposed.

Parfumerie opens November 11

Cameron), and Miss Molnar (Joanne Peterson) the all-seeing cashier. Additional cast members include Malcolm Matlock as Arpad Novack, Joseph McAdoo as Fritz, Wayne Mathews as the policeman, Steve Dwiggin as the detective, Jackie Reaves as the young woman, Joe Graham as the gentleman, and various customers played by Denay Burris, Sharla Cameron, Margaret Clymer, Rachael Hall, Maebell Muns, and Neta Orr.

Director Lambdin-Bolin is supported by an expert crew. Rikkee Black serves as assistant director, while Melissa Vitale and Erik Krigbaum share producing duties. Brandon Bolin is stage manager, Scott Black is set designer, and Rusty Peoples and Gary Cameron will be part of the set crew. Jorgi Anderson and Audra Sargent are in charge of props, while Tina Dale is in charge of costumes. Jorgi Anderson also serves as light technician, while Aaron Ray is the graphic designer in charge of show art.

Like many FSLT productions, *Parfumerie* is a family affair. Director Lambdin-Bolin has selected her husband Brandon Bolin to serve as stage manager. Assistant Director Rikkee Black and set designer Scott Black met and married at FSLT. Other family units participating include married couple Gary and Sharla Cameron, father and daughter Wayne and Ashleigh Mathews, mother and daughter Tina and Emilee Dale, and mother and son Denay Burris and Joseph McAdoo.

Emilee Dale says her love for *You've Got Mail* drew her to audition. "I loved the role of Amalia when I looked into the *Parfumerie* script." Her mother, costume mistress Tina

Dale, is attracted to the time period. "Hats!" she exclaimed. "I really wanted to see what we could do to incorporate hats into the wardrobe. And this era of fashion is my absolute favorite."

While the cast includes FSLT veterans, there are new faces as well. Malcolm Matlock is making his FSLT debut as Arpad. "The small stage space really ignites the chemistry between performers. I love these people, and I'm really thankful to be a part of this show."

Director Lambdin-Bolin says that the romantic story reminds her of her own courtship. "The love/hate relationship George and Amalia share reminds me of how my husband and I behaved toward each other when we first met. Working on this production with him has brought back many fond memories and made many more."

The show opens Thursday, November 11 at 7:30 pm with additional evening performances November 12-13 and 17-20. A Sunday matinee will take place at 2 pm Sunday, November 14. Health and Safety Policies, as outlined in this newsletter and at fslt.org, will be same as they were for *Clue*.

Tickets will go on sale at 7 am Saturday October 30. All seats including the Opening Night performance will be \$12 per person. Patrons may purchase tickets and select their seats online at fslt.org or call 479-783-2966 (extn. 2) to leave a message and purchase through a box office volunteer.

Join us for *Parfumerie* and witness the twists, turns, and surprises of love.



Seat Tickets Checked By Ushers

Tickets will be emailed so you can bypass the Box Office when you arrive and simply show an usher your print-at-home ticket or your ticket confirmation on your smart phone. Alternately, go to the Box Office upon your arrival, pick up a ticket slip, then proceed to an usher at either aisle.

Tickets Available To Everyone Oct. 30

Due to the pandemic, we were unable to offer Season Passes for 2021. Therefore, for 2021 productions, there will not be a period of early seat selection normally available only to Season Pass patrons.

Tickets are available to everyone beginning October 30. (Patron Perks associated with buying a Flex Pass or Subscription will be implemented again for 2022.)

Gift Certificates

You can purchase a Gift Certificate in any denomination online at fslt.org or by calling the Box Office. The recipient can apply the gift toward the purchase of a Season Pass or individual show tickets. It's the perfect present!

Purchasing a Gift Pass

If you specifically want to purchase a Season Pass (not a Gift Certificate) as a gift, please call 479-783-2966 (extn: 5) or email to fsltseasontickets@gmail.com. By handling the gift purchase for you, we can collect all the pertinent recipient information.

Walk Down Memory Lane

In preparation for our 75th Anniversary celebration, we are collecting memories from patrons, volunteers, and their families. Pieces of this information may be used in various formats including a virtual scrapbook. We want your input! You'll find a submission form at fslt.org and on FSLT social media. Send us your favorite memories, how you became involved, or simply a quote about what FSLT has meant to you.



Season 2022 Shows & Packages

Live theatre is back! We are looking forward to a great line up of shows and our 75th Anniversary in 2022. For complete information, go to www.fslt.org.

We will offer Opening Night Same Seat Subscriptions \$100/person; a new option - Wednesday Same Seat Subscriptions \$80/person; and Flex Passes \$70/person. All three provide great value and plenty of perks. Purchase your season package in the lobby before all performances of *Parfumerie*, buy online at www.fslt.org, call the Box Office to order on the phone, or send in the order form you may have received in the mail.

February 10-20: *Smoke On The Mountain*
March 31-April 9: *A Southern Exposure*
June 9-18: *Moon Over Buffalo*

July 28-August 13: *Annie*
Sept. 22-October 1: *The Philadelphia Story*
November 10-19: *Coffee Shop*

Fort Smith Little Theatre
SPOTLIGHT

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

www.fslt.org

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From the Top...

What a roller coaster ride. In March 2020, pandemic restrictions unexpectedly forced our stage to go dark. After 18 long months, FSLT reopened with *Clue* – and BAM! The house was suddenly filled to capacity at each and every performance. It was a solid affirmation of how much we have missed being together. Congratulations to the cast and crew, and thank you for bringing laughter back to our stage.

With our reopening show behind us, our performance schedule is back on track. The romantic comedy, *Parfumerie*, will open November 11 followed by a hilarious off-season Christmas comedy December 9-11. In November, Season Passes will go on sale for 2022, and this year three types of packages will be offered. Check fslt.org for all the details. And as if that's not enough to keep our volunteers scurrying, we are finalizing plans to celebrate our 75th Anniversary next year. As you can see, no moss grows under our feet at FSLT!

Thank you for your patience and support during “the world’s longest intermission,” and thank you to all the *Clue* attendees for complying with our current mask requirement. The same policies will be in effect for *Parfumerie* as they were for *Clue*, but because COVID-related conditions are fluid, our Health and Safety Policies are subject to change. Going forward, it's important that you check fslt.org for current information prior to each production.

I also want to recognize the FSLT Board of Directors who steered us through these difficult months. While remaining respectful of varying opinions, they developed a dynamic set of protocols to help us reopen and provide a safe and enjoyable live-theatre experience. Rest assured that a great deal of thought, discussion, and research went into every decision.

The lights are up. Actors are rehearsing. Set construction is underway. The next season is set. Live theatre is back! We hope to see you soon.

- Sherry Hester, *President*

Next Up

Auditions for the musical comedy *Smoke On The Mountain* will be held at 7 p.m. on **Monday, December 13** at Goddard United Methodist Church, 1922 Dodson Avenue. Callbacks will be held on Tuesday, December 14. Brandon Bolin will serve as Director and George Mann as Music Director. Cast member read through and blocking will be scheduled later in December. Rehearsals begin January 3. Production dates will be February 10-20. The cast calls for 4 males approximately 20-55 years of age, 3 females approximately 20-75, and 6-10 non-speaking roles. For more audition information and Health & Safety requirements, go to www.fslt.org.



Tickets for *Parfumerie* will be available beginning October 30