

Fort Smith Little Theatre

Spotlight

February 3, 2012

Web of Murder, Modern Touch of Mystery

*"Oh, what a tangled web we weave,
when first we practice to deceive."*

—Sir Walter Scott

The first of this year's productions, *Web of Murder* by Jonathan Troy, and directed by Rikkee Workman, opens February 16 and runs through February 25.

It is a modern day touch of evil mystery wrapped in a snarled-up web of deceit that no mystery-lover would want to miss.

Web of Murder takes place in today's time and in this present world. Its setting is a very old

See *Web* on page 3

Dates: Opening Night Gala of FSLT's production of *Web of Murder* will be Feb. 16. Regular performances will be Feb. 17, 18 and 22-25. The Sunday Matinee performance will be Feb. 19.

Times: All evening performances begin at 8 p.m. Patrons may be seated after 7:15 p.m. The matinee begins at 2:30 p.m. Patrons may be seated after 1:45 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 \$25. All other shows \$10.

Season Ticket Holders:

Regular season tickets patrons are encouraged to call Feb. 4-8 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 Feb. 9.

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



Director's Notes

February a Month of Intrigue and Mystery at the Little Theatre

No one can resist a good 'who-done-it,' least of all me. So when I found myself being drawn into the *Web of Murder*, I knew the audience at FSLT would feel the same intrigue that I did. Each member of the cast does an amazing job of bringing the characters to life. They'll keep you on the edge of your seat wondering what will happen when a family comes together for the reading of a will of someone who has not yet passed. It's a director's dream cast! FSLT performers Kiane French, Micki Voelkel, Melissa Vitale, Nicole Bostick, Summer Ferguson, Stephen Martin, and Wesley Rester all in one production. I'm also thrilled to introduce newcomers to the stage, Terrance Dilley and Richard Suits, who blend wonderfully with our FSLT family. We all hope that you enjoy our production of *Web of Murder*, as much as we have.

Rikkee Workman, Director

Savings and Special Thanks

On the back of all seat tickets during 2012, you'll find coupons for **Calico County** and **Golden Corral**. We don't tear our seat tickets, so you can enjoy year-long savings. Also, we hope you'll join us in a round of applause for **Consolidated Printing** of Van Buren, who generously donated all our seat tickets for 2012.

Season Ticket Patrons – Take Note

Please keep your Season Ticket Pass in your wallet, and bring it with you to each and every performance. We appreciate your cooperation.

Last Chance to Buy Season Tickets

2012 Season Tickets will be sold in the lobby before all regular performances of *Web of Murder*. If you plan to buy your season ticket the same night as you attend the show, please go to the Season Ticket booth ***before*** going to the Box Office window to pick up your seat assignments.

Request A Reservation 24/Hrs A Day

Our reservation process is easy. After you receive your Spotlight newsletter, decide which performance date you want to attend. Then call 783-2966, press 2, and leave all information as requested on the recording message. You can call 24 hours a day. Your call will be returned and reservation request handled, in the order it was received.

IMPORTANT: 1—*This year, Regular Season Ticket patrons*

*may begin calling to request seats on **Saturday** (12 days before each show opens). General admission reservation requests will not be handled until Thursday. 2—Gala Opening Night season ticket patrons have their same seats automatically reserved for all Gala performances. They do not ever need to call box office except to cancel their seat and/or request a seat at a regular performance.*

No-Shows Are A No-No

All reservations are held until 15 minutes before showtime, when they may be made available for walk-ins; but, advance notice of a cancellation makes it far more likely that a seat can be filled. **If you have a reservation - Gala or Regular Season Ticket holders and those reserving general admission seats – please call and leave a message if you will be unable to attend.** "No shows" are costly; please do your part to keep our seats full.

Newsletter Delivery

You are urged to receive our Spotlight newsletter by email (instead of "snail mail") to ensure easy, dependable, on-time delivery, while reducing our printing and mailing costs. To switch to email delivery, email paulafsltar@aol.com or call 783-2966, press 4.

Special Opportunities Available

Special Dark Night performances are available for a very reasonable fee for your club or organization.

As entertainment for your clients, or as a fundraiser for your group, these shows are offered on a Tuesday evening when a regular performance is unscheduled. For information on the cost and available for a Dark Night show, call 783-2966, press 4, or email cltwoods@yahoo.com.

Also, Show Sponsorships for 2012 are still available. This is a very cost-effective way to market your business and a great way to support our theatre. For more information, call 783-2966, press 4, or email nblochberger@sbcglobal.net.



J. Troy's *Web of Murder* opens at FSLT February 16

Continued from page 1

Victorian mansion perched on cliffs that overlook the Pacific Ocean. The owner and resident in this architectural relic is Minerva Osterman (Kiane French), an older woman who is confined to a wheelchair and rules her domain with a controlling iron hand and scolding words. She is cared for by her maiden daughter, Stephanie (Melissa Vitale), and her housekeeper, Nora (Micki Voelkel), who treats others with gentle kindness. Minerva's personal physician, Dr. Adler (Richard Suits), also resides in the mansion. Minerva has issued an invitation to a conference to all

those who might have a personal and real interest in what her will includes. The dark and dreary old mansion awaits two of Minerva's nieces, Belle Hamilton (Nichole Bostick) and her younger sister, Mary (Summer Ferguson). Mary is the first to arrive, accompanied by her uninvited fiancé, Keith Latimer (Steven Martin). Belle quickly follows, along with her also uninvited significant other, Pete Martinelli (Terrance Dilley), who is not too bright and has some rough edges. Minerva is not amused by the uninvited guests. Let the games begin. But wait, there is yet another uninvited guest—The Man (Wesley Rester), almost invisible. Blow the whistle...*now* let the games begin.

Director, Rikkee Workman
and Assistant Director/Producer,

Theresa Starr, have recruited a talented and skillful crew. The Stage Manager is Sherry Hester and Mary Beth Koprovic is her assistant. Property mistress is Suzanne Thomas. Costumer is Ron Stice. Lighting designers are Rebekah and Lucas Stoltz. Set Designer is Scott Black. Set construction is by Chuck Howard, Nick Martin, Wesley Rester and Scott Black. Wesley Rester is in charge of sound effects. A few words of caution to the audience—if someone on stage attempts to put you under, fight back. And whatever you do, when house lights go up at the end of the mayhem, do not go out and tell someone the ending unless you really don't like them. Make your reservation early. The number to call is (479) 783-2966 (press 2).



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P.O. Box 3752 • Fort Smith, AR 72913

www.fslt.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

2012 FSLT Board of Directors

Angela Covey, President

Melissa Vitale, Vice President

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From the Top...

Fresh FSLT Look Coming Soon

Thanks to the support of our patrons, FSLT enters 2012 still growing stronger after 60-plus years. From quite humble beginnings, we are now an organization still moving forward. This year we will see the renovation of our lobby which will benefit us all. It will give us a fresh new look, make the box office more accessible, show off our history in a more modern way, and also create

more storage and safer access to our light booth.

We are blessed by this community and surrounding areas. The talent that passes through the stage door is exceptional, and we are privileged to have an ever larger pool to draw from. On behalf of the 2012 Board, we thank you for your patronage and sincerely hope you will enjoy the coming season.

Angela Covey, President

Next Up

Auditions for the next regular FSLT production, *Other People's Money*, a comedy/drama by Jerry Sterner, will be held at the theatre at 7 p.m. on March the 5th and 6th. The cast calls for three (3) men and two (2) women, all between the ages of 25 to 65 years. Director is Rham Cunningham. Production dates are April 12-21.

Annual Meeting Report

The FSLT Annual Meeting was held on November 29, 2011. Committees gave oral and written reports. Five members—Paula Sharum, Cecelia Woods-McDonald, Clara Jane Rubarth, Sherri Tickler, and Scott Black—were elected to serve three-year terms on the Board. Three members-at-large—Rham Cunningham, Carole Rogers and Michael Richardson—were elected to one-year terms on the nominating committee. After adjournment, the 2012 Board convened to elect officers for the coming year. Elected were President-Angela Covey, Vice President-Melissa Vitale, Secretary-Rikkee Workman, and Treasurer-Paula Sharum.

Season Ticket holders are urged to call before Feb. 9 for reservations

BACK TO THE FUTURE



FSLT Renovation Project Announced

As we enter 2012, the Fort Smith Little Theatre marks two significant events. We have now been continuously operating for 65 years and have been performing in our current facility for 25. As we celebrate these major milestones, it is time for a very important project.

In the coming months, we will begin an extensive renovation of our lobby, bathrooms, and lightbooth. Steadily developed over the past several years, the project is driven by our need to repair our public areas, preserve our history, and improve our use of space.

It will involve organizing and preserving the documentation of our history, taking us back through our colorful past. At the same time, the repairs and renovations will provide an updated appearance to move us forward and prepare our facility for the next 25 years of performances. In other words, we're going Back To The Future.

Repairing

From reconfiguring our lobby heat and air, to replacing the water fountain, the repairs will be both large and small. As the symbol of FSLT, our stained glass Harlequin Man will be restored and specially lighted in a new place of prominence.

Preserving

Our cast photos are fading rapidly; soon, many will not be legible. The photos will be digitally preserved, posted on our website, and displayed on large monitors in our lobby. Show programs, newsletters, and newspaper articles accumulated since 1947 will also be organized.

Improving

Without expanding the building, we will improve our use of space. The plan includes expanding overhead storage, reconfiguring the box office, and installing stairs in place of the vertical ladder to provide safe access to the light booth.

Thanks to prudent fiscal management and some significant gifts designated for this project, work will begin very soon. Construction will be scheduled in stages to accommodate production dates and the availability of funding. With your financial support, the work can be accelerated and the project completed this summer.

This is an important project for our theatre. Please consider giving whatever you can. Donations may be made online at fslt.org or by sending your gift with the form provided **on the reverse side**. We sincerely appreciate your patronage and hope you will join us on our journey Back To The Future.

Nancy Blochberger
FSLT Funding Chairman
nblochberger@sbcglobal.net, 479.651.3339

Support for The Fort Smith Little Theatre BACK TO THE FUTURE PROJECT

Donations may be made online at www.fslt.org

or mail your gift with this form to:

Fort Smith Little Theatre | PO Box 3752 | Fort Smith, AR 72913

Note: Pledges of \$1,000 or more may be paid over 3 years.

Name of Donor _____
(please list name as you wish to be recognized)

Contact Person (if different from above) _____

Mailing Address _____

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Total Donation Amount _____

For pledges of \$1,000 or more, please indicate if payment will be made over 2 or 3 years. _____

Check enclosed \$ _____

Credit Card _____ Expiration Date _____

☐ Visa ☐ MC ☐ Discover [Amer Express and PayPal also available online at www.fslt.org]

Gifts are tax deductible. FSLT Tax ID #71-0479233.