

Ripples

from the Community Circle Players at Riverwalk Theatre

Season 28 • Number 11
May/June, 2017

228 Museum Dr. • PO Box 12249 • Lansing, MI 48901 • 517-482-5700 • Office Hours: Tues.-Fri. 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. • e-mail: RWT@riverwalktheatre.com • web site: RiverwalkTheatre.com

Fool For Love Challenges Actors, Audience

Fool for Love is not for the faint of heart. But the brilliant drama by Sam Shepard is dramatic, timely and timeless and well worth a watch.

That's the word from Ronald Auther, who directs the show running May 12-21 in Riverwalk Theatre's Black Box.

"Some people consider it a dark comedy, but it's actually a very dark drama akin to *August: Osage County*," Auther said.

The play, originally produced in 1983, was nominated for a Pulitzer prize and won an Obie award in 1984 for Best New American Play. It was made into a 1985 film starring Shepard and Kim Basinger.

Riverwalk's cast includes Iris Raine Paul as May, Dale D. Hills as her former lover Eddie, who has come to a Mojave Desert motel to try to woo her back to Wyoming, Tim Perry as the Old Man who appears to be connected to both of them and Steve Lee as May's date, Martin.

The Old Man, who talks to both May and Eddie,

appears in their own minds.

"He's actually more of an apparition," Auther said. "He comes out of nowhere and this dialogue ensues about what really happened between them in their lives."

The result: "It's a moment in life, and it's a heated moment, where the truth is revealed about this family," he said.

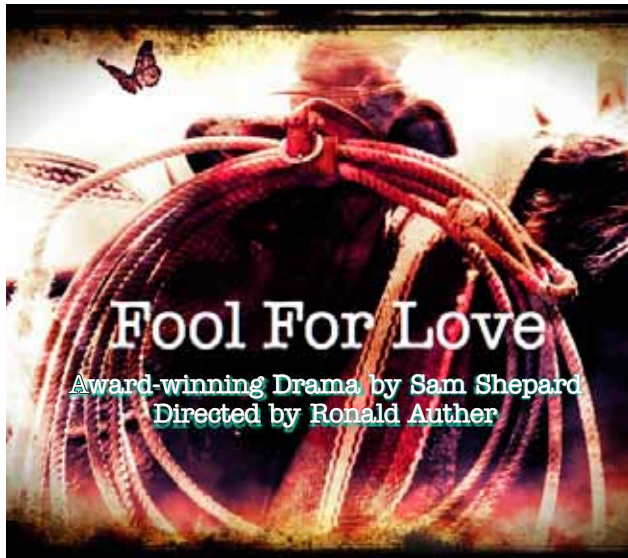
The Riverwalk committee chose the play, then sought a director for it. Auther seemed like a good fit because he's originally from California himself.

"I said 'yes,' because I'm actually from the West," he said.

He admits the play is not everyone's cup of tea; Shepard's works can be tough. But the material in the hands of his talented cast should make for a strong theater experience.

"It addresses relationships and how they unfold. It's high, intense drama. It's beautifully written," he said. "It's poetic. Like living in an echo chamber."

Kathleen Lavey



Award-winning Drama by Sam Shepard
Directed by Ronald Auther

REVIEW

Pinocchio Showcases All-of-us Express Kids

I took my grandchildren to see Riverwalk's *Pinocchio*, produced by All-of-us Express Children's Theatre. Right from the beginning when the beautiful Fiona Breen stepped onstage as the enchanting Blue Fairy Glissandra, to the "thrilling" dance by puppets Mario and Maria played by Donald and Christine Keough, we were brought along Pinocchio's adventure.

Avery Kirschensteiner as Pinocchio was a string-free delight trying so hard to be good and honest

but constantly slipping into lies and having his nose cleverly adjusted by the elves, Spruce, Maple and Walnut (Grace Townley, Kendal Repins, and Emily Miller-Purrenhege.)

When I asked the kids about their favorite parts my granddaughter said the dancing red puppet and my grandson cheered loudest when justice was served in the end.

The simple set was both effective and adorable

Continued on page 2

WHAT'S ON AT RIVERWALK

- May 12-14 & 19-21 - **FOOL FOR LOVE**, award-winning drama by Sam Shepard, directed by Ronald Auther
- ▲ May 21-22 6:30 pm - **AUDITIONS** for **CORALINE**, youth 10-18 produced by Young Artisan Workshop (see p. 3)
- ▲ **AUDITIONS** in May for children in **BUD, NOT BUDDY**, Date TBA (see page 2)
- ♪ June 8-11 & 15-18 - **CATCH ME IF YOU CAN**, musical by Terrence McNally, Music by Marc Shaiman, Lyrics by Scott Wittman & Marc Shaiman, directed by Jane Falion
- ★ June 24, 1pm, Saturday - **RIVERWALK ANNUAL MEETING** - Come for an update on Riverwalk news and an opportunity to ask questions and get involved.
- ★ CHANGED DATE: **TUESDAY** June 27 - **BARNEY AWARDS** - free show, awards, reception, 7 pm (Annual Meeting (previously pre-Barneys) is now June 24; see above.)

👉 **PLAYS:** 7 pm Thurs.; 8 pm Fri. & Sat.; 2 pm Sun. Fri./Sat./Sun. \$15 (\$12 student/sr./military) Bargain Thursdays: \$10 (\$8)

♪ **MUSICALS:** 7 pm Thursdays; 8 pm Fri./Sat.; 2 pm Sundays \$22 (\$20 student/sr./military)

📺 **CHILDREN'S SHOWS:** 7 pm Fridays; 2 pm and 4:30 pm Saturdays; 2 pm Sundays \$5 children; \$7 adults age 13+

■ **BLACK BOX SHOWS** at RWT's Black Box Stage 8 pm Fridays/Saturdays; 2 pm Sundays • \$12 (\$10 student/senior/military)

▲ **AUDITIONS** - More info at RiverwalkTheatre.com

★ **SPECIAL EVENT:** see website

(Set Crew Head, Gary Woodrough with assistance from Amelia Rogocka.) And the costumes were grand (Costume Crew Head, Hayley Vanfulpen.)

Our famous videographer and creator of the wonderful local theatre database at lansing-theater.wikispaces.com, Matt Ottinger, commented, "All-of-us-Express kids did a great job with a funny, inventive Pinocchio."

Congratulations to director Dale Williams, and to all the cast and the various crews for a wonderful production. It was truly a great way to expose youngsters to live theatre.



Kris Maier
Gepetto (Rowan Blessing) gives a hug to Pinocchio (Avery Kirschensteiner)

Tim Smith, Custodian



We are pleased to introduce our new Custodian/Maintenance Man, Tim Smith. Tim was born and raised in Lansing, along with his two sisters. He has four boys whom he loves dearly, and is very close to his mother. Tim is a "jack-of-all trades" working as a machine operator, a house framer and a church janitor among other things.

Tim has a very kind heart and is always willing to go above and beyond what is requested of him. He is the kind of man that mothers hope their sons will grow up to be. When asked about his work, Tim said he feels "...blessed to be working for The Community Circle Players, Riverwalk Theatre."

Manager Mike Siracuse and Building/Shop Chairman Leroy Cupp are very pleased with Tim's work. Thanks to Clark Crow for coming in to train/orient Tim to our facility. Tim earned extra appreciation "above and beyond the call of duty" to come in after hours to wet-vac the ladies restroom when the toilet was leaking — (and thanks to Leroy for fixing the toilet!)

A U D I T I O N S



BUD, Not Buddy

Family Show
Adapted by
Reginald André
Jackson
Directed by
Tom Ferris

Due to the Director's travel

schedule, EARLY AUDITIONS are being planned for this show which will not perform until April 19-22 & 26-29, 2018.

(All characters are AFRICAN-AMERICAN unless designated otherwise. Ages are approximate.)

Fleeing abusive foster homes on a quest to find his father, 10-year-old Bud gets into trouble in a world of confusing expectations. Set in Michigan during the depression, this is a story of uncanny wisdom, adventure and humor – a coming-of-age tale for young and old alike.

MAY AUDITIONS FOR CHILDREN aged 8 to 14 (See website for date/time TBA.)

- Bud Caldwell** - 9-14, orphan, intense and searching for his father
- Billy** - 9-14, orphanage bully
- Bugs** - 8-13, orphan, Bud's best friend, talkative, adventurous
- Jerry** - 6-10, orphan frightened and growing up fast
- Todd Amos** - 9-14, spoiled bully
- Young Momma** - 8-12
- Deza** - 10-12, female, nice, confident, takes an immediate liking to Bud

SEPTEMBER AUDITIONS FOR ADULTS (See website for date/time TBA.)

- Momma*** - 26 - Bud's mother, intensely loves Bud, embarrassed by her bad choices
- Young Mr. Calloway*** - 30s, Bud's grandfather at a young age
- Mr. Amos*** - 30s, sheepish, doesn't want conflict with his wife
- Mrs. Amos*** - 30s, overly protective of her son

- Deza's Mom*** - 30s, kind
 - Deza's Dad*** - 30s, kind, joking
 - Lefty** - 40s/50s, talkative, friendly, helpful
 - Doo-Doo-Bug** - 30s, plays trombone
 - Herman E. Calloway** - 40s/50s, Bud's Grandfather
 - Dirty Deed** - 30s, white piano player
 - Doug the Thug** - 30s, drummer
 - Jimmy** - 40s, trumpet player, talkative, jokes a lot
 - Steady Eddie** - 30s, plays saxophone
 - Miss Thomas** - 30s/40s, singer, strong and motherly
 - Female Ensemble:** Tyla* (20s/30s, waitress), Caseworker* (30s/40s, white female state employee), Librarian* (30s/40s, white female, kind, helpful),
 - Male Ensemble:** Barker* (any age, male), Announcer* (any age, male), Vampire* (any age), Lifeguard* (20s white male, stern), Jake* (30s white male), Police Captain* (angry, violent), Police Officer* (30s white male, angry violent), Cop* (30s white male, angry, suspicious)
- *Many of the smaller adult roles may be combined so they can be portrayed by four or five actors.

Perusal Scripts at RWT office 482-5700 - Check website for audition dates/times TBA: www.riverwalktheatre.com

Coraline

Free workshop
for youth
actors
and
backstage
crew
aged
10-18



youngartisanworkshop

Family Mystery Musical
Adapted From Neil Gaiman's Novel
by Stephin Merritt
& David Greenspan
Directed by Sadonna Croff

Auditions and Crew Sign-up Monday
OR
Tuesday, May 21 & 22, 6:30-8:30 pm

All children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian at auditions. A parent or guardian must attend the parent orientation (held during auditions) for the child to be allowed to participate in the workshop.

The necessary Young Artisan Workshop audition form and permission form will be provided at the audition and must be completed by a parent, not the child.

Rehearsals: Mon-Tue-Wed-Thurs, 6:30-8:30

Show Dates: July 20-23, 2017

Please contact Riverwalk Theatre or email young.artisan.workshop@gmail.com for a perusal script.

Adapted from the beloved fantasy novel *Coraline* by Neil Gaiman, this original musical by Stephin Merritt and David Greenspan tells the story of Coraline Jones, a young girl who has just moved with her parents into a new flat in an old house.

Bored by her colorless surroundings and her busy parents, Coraline goes exploring and discovers a door unlike any other in the house — a magic door that, when unlocked, reveals a passage to a strange world like her own, but with one key difference: all the grownups have black buttons for eyes.

This new world seems to offer all she wants: parents who are keenly interested in her, toys that sing and dance, neighbors who get her name right. But as this parallel world becomes increasingly unsettling, Coraline must learn the true meaning of bravery to save her parents and herself.

- Coraline:** a girl
- Mother:** Coraline's mother
- Father:** Coraline's father
- Cat:** a cat who can talk (in the other world)
- Miss Spink & Miss Forcible:** Coraline's downstairs neighbors, former actresses, elderly, round
- Mr. Bobo:** Coraline's upstairs neighbor, circus background, East European
- Other Mother:** a gruesome entity
- Other Father:** a thing made by Other Mother
- Other Miss Spink & Other Miss Forcible:** parodies made by Other Mother, thin
- Other Mr. Bobo:** parody made by Other Mother, fetus
- Policeman:** a genial if understandably skeptical public servant
- Tall Girl, Winged Girl & Little Boy:** children behind the mirror: souls discarded by Other Mother
- Dogs:** belonging to Miss Spink and Miss Forcible- Angus, Hamish, Andrew, Jock and Bruce
- Other Toys:** inventions of Other Mother
- Other Dogs:** parodies made by Other Mother, they can talk
- Rats:** creatures of Other Mother
- Bats**
- Mice:** musicians in Mr. Bobo's mouse circus

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

For the audition children will read from the script and be taught a song. Please do NOT prepare a song for the audition.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Revenue from membership funds at least a quarter of our show budgets as well as general operations. Keep Riverwalk thriving for years to come! Please join at whatever level you can afford:

Actor — \$15-24, Ripples, voting

Technician—\$25-49, Ripples, voting, program listing

Stage Manager — \$50-99, Ripples, voting, program listing, and one comp ticket

Director — \$100-249, Ripples, voting, program listing, two comp tickets

Producer — \$250-499, Ripples, voting, program listing, four comp tickets

Star — \$500-999, Ripples, voting, program listing, six comps, name on theatre seat

Angel — \$1000+, Ripples, voting, program listing, 12 comp tickets, name on a theatre seat and on the donor board in the lobby

Go to riverwalk-theatre.com. Click "more" then "get involved" to join online. Or just mail/give a check to Mike at the office. We're 501c3 tax deductible. If you're already a member, recruit a NEW member today!

Come prepared to read from the script. PERUSAL SCRIPTS are available at the Riverwalk office, Tues. - Fri., 10 am - 5:30 pm. Call 517-482-5700 to check availability: rwt@RiverwalkTheatre.com

RIVERWALK THEATRE

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Ripples is published by Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Dr., P.O. Box 12249, Lansing, MI 48901. Submit info to Editor Jane Zussman (jszussman@gmail.com) or Riverwalk Manager Mike Syracuse (rwt@riverwalktheatre.com) office hours: Tuesdays thru Fridays, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Reservations and info at: 517-482-5700 or RiverwalkTheatre.com



Riverwalk Theatre

P.O. Box 12249 • Lansing MI 48901

Next to Impression 5,
 228 Museum Drive, south off
 Michigan Avenue, across from
 the Lansing Center



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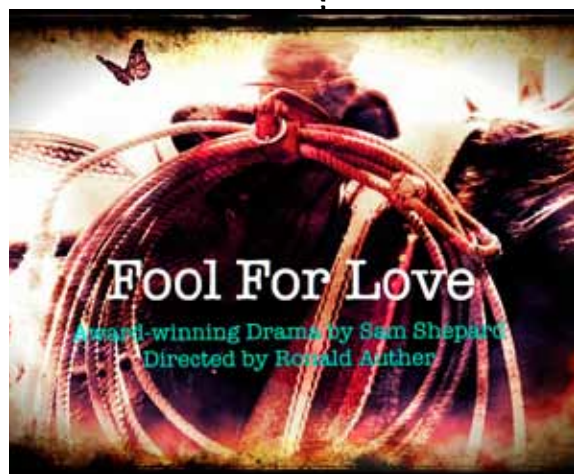
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 and Saturdays 10 am - 2 pm

**1131 May Street, Lansing, 48912,
 just east of Pennsylvania Ave.
 www.rwtcostumeshop.com Phone:
 (517) 484-9199**



**Award-winning Drama
 by Sam Shepard
 Directed by Ronald Auther**

In this 1984 multi-Obie award winning drama, May and Eddie find themselves intertwined in an incestuous relationship with no clear beginning or end. Their lives are plagued by continued deadly cycles incited by heavy drinking, forbidden love, and inevitably abandonment.

May 12-14 & 19-21, 2017

**8 pm Fridays/Saturdays; 2 pm Sundays
 \$12 (\$10 student/senior/military)**

**RESERVATIONS 482-5700 or RiverwalkTheatre.com
 228 Museum Dr., south off Mich. Ave., next to Impression 5**



Supported in part by MICHIGAN COUNCIL FOR ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS - NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS - INGHAM COUNTY HOTEL/MOTEL TAX GRANT through the ARTS COUNCIL OF GREATER LANSING

