



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Spectacular Theatre Slated for the FAC's 2017-2018 Season

COLORADO SPRINGS (**March 3, 2017**) — The largest professional theatre company in Southern Colorado, The Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center (FAC) has announced the blockbuster line-up for the 2017-2018 theatre season. The FAC is overjoyed to bring award-winning theatre productions such as *Fun Home*, *Annie* and *Intimate Apparel* to the Pikes Peak region in the upcoming season – which kicks off in September, 2017.

THEATRE PROGRAMMING

2017-2018 Mainstage Theatre Season

- *Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery* Oct. 5-29, 2017
- *Annie* Dec. 7, 2017-Jan. 7, 2018
- *Intimate Apparel* Feb. 8-25, 2018
- *Fun Home* March 29-April 22, 2018
- *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* May 24-June 17, 2018

2017-2018 Family & Studio Series Theatre Season

- *Parallel Lives* Sept. 8-Oct. 1, 2017
- *Bunnacula* Oct. 13-Nov. 12, 2017
- *Androcles and the Lion* March 2-April 1, 2018
- *Fully Committed* April 27-May 20, 2018
- *Too Much Light Makes The Baby Go Blind* June 29-July 21, 2018

MAINSTAGE SAGAJI THEATRE

All mainstage productions are performed in the FAC's beautifully-restored 400-seat SaGaJi Theatre. With season subscriptions starting at only \$86 and single tickets for each performance starting at \$20. NEW this season! Added Wednesday performances for *Baskerville*, *Intimate Apparel*, *Fun Home*, and *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*. These performances will start at 7p and all tickets will be \$20. For more information on subscription options, call the FAC Box Office at 719.634.5583 or visit csfineartscenter.org.

Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery

Oct. 5-29, 2017

By Ken Ludwig

Regional Premiere! Get your deerstalker cap on – the play's afoot! Comedic genius and Tony Award-winner Ken Ludwig (*Lend Me a Tenor*, *Moon Over Buffalo*), transforms Arthur Conan Doyle's classic *The Hound of the Baskervilles* into a murderously funny adventure. Sherlock Holmes is on the case. The male heirs of the Baskerville line are being dispatched one by one. To find their ingenious killer, Holmes and

Watson must brave the desolate moors before a family curse dooms its newest heir. Watch as our intrepid investigators try to escape a dizzying web of clues, silly accents, disguises and deceit as five actors deftly portray more than 40 characters. Does a wild hellhound prowl the moors of Devonshire? Can our heroes discover the truth in time? Join the fun and see how far from elementary the truth can be.

"The joy in watching [the] witty new play Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery is not in solving the crime but in the plethora of wildly imaginative characters you meet along the way. By dispensing with British formality, Ken Ludwig has given us a play that is ingeniously funny and will keep you guessing until the curtain call."
—Broadway World

Annie

Dec. 7, 2017-Jan. 7, 2018

By Martin Charnin, Charles Strouse & Thomas Meehan

Leapin' Lizards! The irrepressible comic strip heroine takes center stage this holiday season in one of the world's best-loved musicals. Based on the popular comic strip by Harold Gray, *Annie* has become a worldwide phenomenon and is the winner of seven Tony Awards, including Best Musical. This beloved show features some of the greatest musical theatre hits ever written, including *It's a Hard Knock Life* and *Tomorrow*.

"One of the best family musicals ever penned"
—Chicago Tribune

Intimate Apparel

Feb. 8-25, 2018

By Lynn Nottage

Regional Premiere! Winner of a Pulitzer Prize, the 2004 New York Drama Critics Circle Award and the Outer Critics Circle Awards, Lynn Nottage's beautifully written and intensely personal story weaves a delicate tapestry of the joys and sorrows of an African American seamstress in 1905 New York City. Esther sews elegant intimates for socialites and prostitutes alike as a vibrant cast of characters plays part in her determined search for love and respect in a world that seems to overlook her.

"... a deeply moving portrait of Esther, a middle-aged African-American woman ... Nottage's play has a delicacy and eloquence that seem absolutely right for the time she is depicting ... New York has no richer play ..."
—NY Daily News

"... thoughtful, affecting ... The play offers poignant commentary on an era when the cut and color of one's dress – and of course, skin – determined whom one could and could not marry, sleep with, even talk to in public."
—Variety

Fun Home

March 29-April 22, 2018

By Lisa Kron & Jeanine Tesori

Based on the Graphic Novel by Alison Bechdel

Regional Premiere! Winner of multiple 2015 Tony Awards including Best Musical, Best Score, Best Book of a Musical, winner of a New York Drama Critics' Circle Award, Obie Award, Lucille Lortel Award, Outer Critics Circle Award, and Off-Broadway Alliance Award.

When her father dies unexpectedly, graphic novelist Alison dives deep into her past to tell the story of the volatile, brilliant, one-of-a-kind man whose temperament and secrets defined her family and her life. Moving between past and present, Alison relives her unique childhood playing at the family's Bechdel Funeral Home, her growing understanding of her own sexuality, and the looming, unanswerable questions about her father's hidden desires. *Fun Home* is a refreshingly honest, based on a true story, wholly original musical about seeing your parents through grown-up eyes.

"A rare beauty, extraordinary and heart-gripping."

–Ben Brantley, *The New York Times*

"The best musical of the season."

–New York Magazine

"Few shows are as moving, relatable, and funny."

–Associated Press

"The Best Broadway Musical in years, with the finest score in a decade."

–Huffington Post

Dirty Rotten Scoundrels

By David Yazbek & Jeffrey Lane

May 24-June 17, 2018

Regional Premiere! Two con men, a beautiful woman and the elite of the French Riviera collide in this clever and hilarious farce. *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, based on the popular MGM film, takes us to the French Riviera for high jinks and hilarity. Sophisticated and suave with a good dash of mischief, this hysterical comedy features a delightfully jazzy score and was nominated for a staggering 11 Tony Awards!

Lawrence Jameson makes his lavish living by talking rich ladies out of their money. Freddy Benson more humbly swindles women by wakening their compassion with fabricated stories about his grandmother's failing health. After meeting on a train, they attempt to work together only to find that this small French town isn't big enough for the two of them. They agree on a settlement: the first one to extract \$50,000 from a young female target, heiress Christine Colgate, wins and the other must leave town. A hilarious battle of cons ensues that will keep you laughing, humming and guessing to the end!

"... often funny, not infrequently clever, with a nice sprinkling of the outrageous – that's Dirty Rotten Scoundrels."

–New York Theatre

FAMILY & STUDIO SERIES in the FAC's MUSIC ROOM

All Family & Studio productions are performed in the FAC's gorgeously-intimate 108-seat Music Room. Tickets for each performance are \$20 for non-members \$18 for FAC members and \$10 for kids 12 and under (family-theatre shows only).

***Parallel Lives* *STUDIO SERIES**

Sept. 8-Oct. 1, 2017

By Kathy Najimy & Mo Gaffney

In the opening scene, two Supreme Beings plan the beginning of the world with the relish of two slightly sadistic suburban wives decorating a living room. Once they've decided on the color scheme of the races, a little concerned that white people will feel slighted being such a boring color, they create sex and the sexes. Afraid women will have too many advantages, the Beings decide to make childbirth painful and to give men enormous egos as compensation. From this moment, the audience is whisked through the outrageous universe of Kathy and Mo, where two actresses play men and women struggling through the common rituals of modern life: teenagers on a date, sisters at their grandmother's funeral, a man and a woman together in a country-western bar. With boundless humor, *Parallel Lives* reexamines the ongoing quest to find parity and love in a contest handicapped by capricious gods – or in this case, goddesses.

"... a romp with a feminist sensibility; it's a humor for a post-Lily Tomlin generation ... Above all, PARALLEL LIVES is a smart, provocative show."

–Variety

***Bunnacula* *FAMILY SERIES**

Oct. 13-Nov. 12, 2017

Based on the book by James and Deborah Howe

Playwright Jon Klein

Composer Chris Jeffries

Regional Premiere! A dancing cat, a howling dog, and a vampire bunny. The perfect pet combination for any family. It's a dark and stormy night and Chester (the family cat) and Harold (the family dog) sit waiting for their owners to return home from the movies. Chester and Harold are more than just pets, they're good friends too. When the Monroes finally get home, they come bearing a surprise: they've found a bunny in the movie theater. But this is no ordinary rabbit... this is the extraordinary Bunnacula. When the family's produce starts losing its juice, Chester thinks he knows what's causing the fantastic phenomenon. Bunnacula is a vampire! Or maybe Chester's imagination is getting the better of him. Singing and dancing their way through this hilarious mystery, the furry friends find room in their hearts, and in their home, for one very unique bunny.

"A fanciful, non-scary Halloween treat for the kid inside all of us."

–Talkin' Broadway

"Readers of all ages can rejoice. A clever, careful stage rendering of Deborah and James Howe's much-beloved classic."
—Seattle Times

***Androcles and the Lion* *FAMILY SERIES**

March 2-April 1, 2018

By Aurand Harris

One of the most popular children's plays ever written, Aesop's fable, *Androcles and the Lion*, has been produced in 20 countries. Refreshingly antic, this irreverent version is written in the style of Italian commedia dell'arte. In commedia tradition, a group of strolling players set up their stage and give a performance. Using authentic staging and stock characters of commedia—the miserly Pantalone, the bragging Captain, the romantic lovers, the trickster Arlequin, plus an endearing lion—this fable becomes a colorful theatrical experience. The play skyrockets with zany comedy. It also glows with the warmth of friendship. *Androcles and the Lion* is a prize-winning play, applauded around the world again and again!

***Fully Committed* *STUDIO SERIES**

April 27-May 20, 2018

By Becky Mode

Regional Premiere! This devastatingly funny one act follows a day in the life of Sam Peliczowski, an out-of-work actor who mans the red-hot reservation line at Manhattan's number one restaurant. Coercion, threats, bribes, and histrionics – a cast of desperate callers will stop at nothing in their zeal to land a prime reservation, or the right table. Amid the barrage, Sam's got his own needs to contend with – his recently widowed dad wants him home for Christmas, and he's up for a choice part at Lincoln Center. While juggling scheming socialites, name-dropping wannabes, fickle celebrities, and egomaniacal bosses, can he manage to look out for himself? A wonderful acting challenge, *Fully Committed* has forty wildly diverse characters played by a single versatile performer.

" ... immensely entertaining, a richly comic affirmation of everything I've ever heard, or suspected, about the bad behavior that good food can inspire."
—NY Times

" ... hilarious and touching, gallops along at a swift, almost frantic pace."
—Time Out NY

" ... [a] sparkling one-man tour de force ... very funny and very believable ... "
—NY Post

***Too Much Light Makes The Baby Go Blind (30 Plays In 60 Minutes)* *STUDIO SERIES** June 29-July 21, 2018

By Greg Allen

Too Much Light Makes The Baby Go Blind is back and the ensemble experiment will present a selection of brand new plays (30 in 60 minutes!) for a different show every night. Having opened in 1988 and still playing today as the longest-running show in Chicago history, *Too Much Light Makes The Baby Go*

Blind is an ensemble experiment in presenting "30 Plays in 60 Minutes." Each two-minute play is performed in random order with an interactive audience. An onstage 60-minute timer keeps everyone honest. This is a witty collection of comic, tragic, political, personal and abstract plays. Ready, set, GO!

"The most clever, most urgent show in town."

–Chicago Theatre

The FAC Theatre Company also presents nationally renowned comedians, string quartets and other musical acts, a local stand-up comedy series, a comprehensive theatre school with classes for all ages, Youth Rep benefit concerts, and so much more! Visit csfineartscenter.org for more details.

Fine Arts Center

In 1919 the Broadmoor Art Academy (BAA) was established in the former home of philanthropists Julie and Spencer Penrose. After the Great Depression hit in 1929, the BAA looked at diversifying further, expanding into an entire arts district under one roof. And that's how the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center (FAC) came to be. The FAC, built in 1936, is a privately funded, non-profit art museum, professional theatre company and arts education center. Built on the foundation of the prestigious BAA, the FAC carries the legacy of Colorado's arts and cultural heritage. One of 16 charter members of the American Alliance of Museums, the FAC offers the best in visual arts via its permanent collection and travelling exhibitions, as a TCG member theatre company, and through arts education with the FAC's Bemis School of Art. The FAC building is considered an architectural treasure in the Rocky Mountain region, designed by John Gaw Meem, and is listed on the National Register of Historical Places. For information, visit csfineartscenter.org

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