

**Kentwood Players Presents...**

# **GYPSY**

**Music by  
Jules Styne**

**Lyrics by  
Stephen Sondheim**

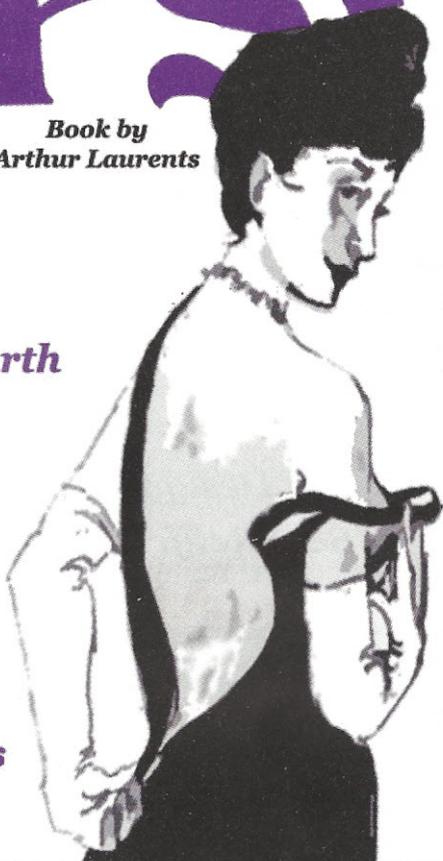
**Book by  
Arthur Laurents**

**Directed by:  
Susan Goldman Weisbarth**

**Choreography by:  
Victoria Miller**

**Musical Direction by:  
Bill Wolfe**

**Produced by:  
Ed Cotter & Larry Jones**



**March 14 through April 19, 2008**

**Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00pm—Sundays at 2:00pm**

**Westchester Playhouse**

**8301 Hindry Avenue**

**Westchester, California 90045-3205**

**Reservations—310 645-5156**

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**[www.kentwoodplayers.org](http://www.kentwoodplayers.org)**

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# ***GYPSY***

## ***Director***

***Susan Goldman Weisbarth***

## ***Producers***

***Ed Cotter & Larry Jones***

## ***Choreographer***

***Victoria Miller***

## ***Musical Director***

***Bill Wolfe***

## ***Set Design***

***Scot Renfro***

## ***Lighting Design***

***Richard Potthoff***

## ***Costume Design***

***Maria Cohen***

## ***Creative Art and Special Design***

***Michael Cohen***

## ***Production Stage Manager***

***Karintha Touton***

## ***Sound Design***

***Susan Stangl***

***You are invited to meet and greet cast  
members after the performance in the  
Theatre Lobby.***

# GYPSY

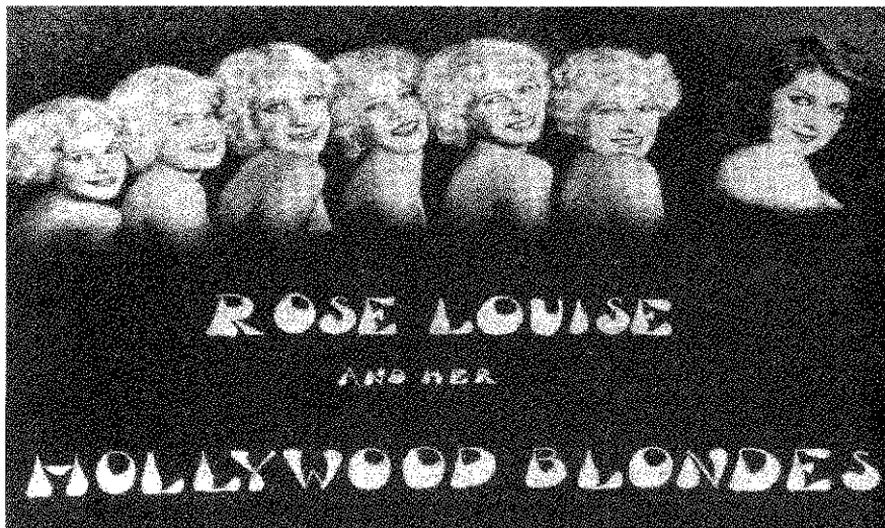
## The Setting

*The action takes place in various locations and theatres throughout the country, from the mid 1920's to the mid 1930's.*

*The play is performed in two acts with one twenty minute intermission.*

*GYPSY was first presented by David Merrick and Leland Hayward at the Broadway Theatre in New York City on May 21, 1959. It starred the incomparable Ethel Merman along with Jack Klugman and Sandra Church. Walter Kerr, writing for the New York Herald Tribune said in his review, "it's the best damn musical I've seen in years." We hope you'll enjoy this American classic.*

—Susan Goldman Weisbarth



*During the performance, please turn your pagers to silent, turn off your cell phone and alarms on your digital watches. There is no louder sound in a theatre than the rattle of cellophane. Please unwrap your candy or cough drops before the play begins.*

*Thank you.*





## About the Cast & Crew

**Susan Goldman Weisbarth (Director)** I am honored to be directing *GYPSY* with this gifted cast. This is my fourth production at Kentwood, having most recently appeared as Sally in "Follies." It is a pleasure to work with so many talented and dedicated professionals including Victoria Miller, Bill Wolfe, Scot Renfro, Richard Potthoff, Maria Cohen, Ed Cotter and Larry Jones. My very heartfelt thanks to Ed for his unwavering support and encouragement and to Karintha Touton for simply everything. This show is dedicated to Jake Weisbarth and De Cotter whose passion for theatre knew no bounds. They are and will always be my inspiration. Love to Evi, Jessica and Andrew.

**Victoria Miller (Choreographer)** Vicki has choreographed, produced, directed and performed throughout LA and is a 25 year Kentwood Players member. She has danced in Disneyland's Golden Horseshoe, Las Vegas' Folies Bergere, South Bay Civic, and at the Hollywood Bowl with Gene Kelly and Debbie Reynolds. Her work here is an homage to the great Jerome Robbins and is dedicated to De Cotter.

**Bill Wolfe (Musical Director)** Bill is a multi-talented music director, voice and piano teacher, composer, accompanist, workshop leader and soloist. He has musical directed over 200 shows in 38 years. Some of his favorites have been here at the Westchester Playhouse including "Follies," "West Side Story," "Company" and "Nunsense." He has done Regional Theatre on the East Coast, opening the Backstage Theatre in Hawaii, and traveled with Circus Europorama on the West Coast. He is so happy to be working with Susan, Vicki, Ed and Larry again on this glorious celebration of theatre—*GYPSY!* Enjoy the show.

**Ed Cotter (Producer)** My wife De and I have always been a team. And in 1974, here at the Westchester Playhouse, De and I and Susan Weisbarth all worked together on Kentwood's first stellar production of "Cabaret." We have continued to work together through the years and I am thrilled to be working with Susan again on *GYPSY*. To my beautiful De—I love you today more than yesterday and less than tomorrow.

**Larry Jones (Producer)** Larry is a long time Kentwood member and has produced and directed numerous productions including "Odd Couple—Female Version," and "Company." Larry is excited to be working with the talented Director, Cast & Crew of *GYPSY*.

**Karintha Touton (Stage Manager)** Karintha would like to thank Kentwood and Susan for the chance to participate in such a wonderful challenge. Thanks to the cast for being fantastic and, always to Todd for his love, support and patience.

**Maria Cohen (Wardrobe Mistress/Costumer)** Maria is Kentwood Players wardrobe mistress and costumer. She also assists the City of Torrance in the summer. She has done shows for Theatre Palisades and Morgan-Wixson.

## About the Cast & Crew

**Shirley Hatton (Mama Rose):** Shirley is thrilled to be debuting with the Kentwood Players in *GYPSY*. Past roles include Mother Superior in "Nonsense," Hannah in "Spitfire Grill," Eleanor in "The Lion in Winter," and the Leader in "Zorba." Love to Cameron, Claire and Emma.

**Karl Schott (Herbie):** This is the first time Karl has graced the Kentwood stage. Regional roles include Oscar in "The Odd Couple," Elwood in "Harvey", Cassio in "Othello", Barnard in "Sexual Perversity," and Max in "Lend Me A Tenor" to which he won a W.C.T. best acting award. He met his lovely wife Minerva while playing Paul in "Barefoot in the Park." Karl has acted in and directed many other shows and if you buy him a drink after the show, he'll tell you all about them.

**Marla McClure (Louise):** Marla is delighted to make *GYPSY* her first production with the Kentwood Players. Favorite shows include "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum," (Philia), "Thoroughly Modern Millie," (Miss Dorothy), and Patrick Marber's "Closer" (Anna).

**Sarah Mahoney (June):** Sarah, a native Nebraskan, is thrilled to be fulfilling a childhood dream of playing "June." This is her third show choreographed by the fabulous Vicki Miller. She thanks God, her amazing parents, her 90049 girls, Seth, and the Westchester Playhouse for this wonderful opportunity. Go Big Red!

**Andy Abbott (Pastey/Farm Boy)** Past roles for KP include Deputy in "The Mystery of Edwin Drood," and Simon in "A Partridge in a Pear Tree." At the Westminster Playhouse he appeared as Mac in "Annie Get Your Gun."

**Marcy Agreen (Hollywood Blonde)** Marcy is thrilled to make her West Coast debut on the Kentwood stage. She is grateful to have been given the chance to perform with this talented group and family.

**Jeannine Barba (Electra)** Jeannine is debuting in her hometown of Westchester. Performing all over Southern California, she is proud of her record of 14 shows with CLO of SBC including "Evita" & "Ragtime." Favorite roles include Adelaide in "Guys & Dolls", Gladys in "Pajama Game", and Evie in "Stop the World". She is also a counselor and instructor at El Camino College.

**Sabrina Callender-Clewett (Balloon Girl/Hollywood Blonde)** Sabrina is a fifth grader here in the South Bay. She enjoys swim team, art, writing, math and reading. After a couple of church plays, she decided to try out for *GYPSY* and voila! Who knew that hard work could be so much fun!

## About the Cast & Crew

**Sarah Cowan ( Waitress/Hollywood Blonde)** This is Sarah's first show with the Kentwood Players. She has been performing in musical theatre for the past seven years and is a sophomore at Hamilton High School Musical Academy. She is excited to be part of our community's local theatre.

**Jim Crawford (Mr. Weber/Mr. Goldstone/Photographer)** Jim is delighted to be appearing in *GYPSY* with some of his old friends and many of his new ones. What a wondrous combo of young and old talent!

**Sheridan Cole Crawford (Miss Cratchitt)** Kentwood Players life member, Sheridan was seen this past season in "Romantic Comedy" and as a singing/dancing ex-Follies girls in the *Sondheim* musical. She's excited to be a part of her all-time favorite musical.

**Caity Engler (Agnes, Hollywood Blonde, Fan Dancer)** Caity is thrilled to return to the world of musical theatre. A recent graduate of UCLA, previous credits include *Cinderella* in "Into the Woods," *TiMoune* in "Once On This Island," Kim in "Bye, Bye, Birdie" and Zaneeta in "The Music Man."

**Drew Fitzsimmons (Tulsa/Georgie)** Drew recently appeared at the Black Box Theatre as Medeleine in "Vampire Lesbian of Sodom." He is honored to work with the incomparable Susan Weisbarth. He is also starring as Harold Hill in "The Music Man" at the Colony Theatre with the BB Players.

**Michael Grinde (Pop/Willy/Bougeron-Couchon)** Michael has appeared on stage as Bob Stein in "...and Miss Reardon Drinks a Little," Lodovico in "Othello," Frank Hardy in "Faith Healer" and as six characters in "The Dining Room."

**Brandon Gomez (Farm Boy-Swing)** Brandon just 17 years old, has been doing musicals since he was 5 years old and he loves it. This is his first show with the Kentwood Players and thinks it's amazing. He currently is a part of Starlight Productions which he loves and is doing "High School Musical."

**Emma Hatton (Ballerina)** Emma is currently a second grader in Manhattan Beach. She has appeared as the Orphan Girl in "A Little Princess," the Brick Pig in "Three Piggy Opera," and in several productions of the "Nutcracker."

**Elliot Kang (Clarence/Newsboy)** Since the age of five, Elliot has appeared in numerous stage productions including last seasons' run of "The Wake" as David. He has appeared in print ads, billboards, web advertisements and commercials. He's glad to be back at the Westchester Playhouse with this talented cast.

**Julian Kang (Baby June)** Since she was 8 years old, Julian's performed in "Tom Sawyer," "Charlotte's Web," "Aladdin," "Godspell," "Gypsy" (overjoyed to be participating again) and "The American Girl Revue." She's also been seen in movies, commercials and ads. See you on Broadway!

## About the Cast & Crew

**Taylor Kang (Farm Boy)** Since he was 10 years old, Taylor's acted in movies, commercials and on stage. He received honorable mention for "Pre-Teen Actor of the Year" at IMTAs in New York in 2007 and writes/produces his own music. Thanks for the fun!

**Jack Mattiza (Newsboy)** Jack is very excited to be doing his second show with the Kentwood Players. He was last seen here in "The Mystery of Edwin Drood." Jack is 7 years old and enjoys golf, karate and loves to watch "America's Funniest Home Videos" when he's not on stage.

**Megan Moylan (Baby Louise)** Megan been performing weekly at the American Girl Place since 2006. Other favorites include "Annie" (Westminster Playhouse and Cypress College), Tiny Tim, Jesse Oakley and "Oliver" (Starlight Productions), "Commander in Chief" opposite Geena Davis, and the upcoming Ninja Cheerleaders. Thanks to the fabulous cast and crew for welcoming her.

**Kelly Pappas (Show Girl/Hollywood Blonde/Fan Dancer)** Kelly is making her LA debut in GYPSY. In Texas, she was seen as Sonia in "Godspell," Mona in "Dames at Sea," and Karen in "Speed the Plow." She thanks her husband Michael for his constant support.

**Francesca Palermo (Hollywood Blonde/Renee)** This is Frankie the mermaid's third show with Kentwood and she's so happy to be back with such amazing people. Enjoy the show and this truly marvelous cast!

**Allan Penales (Yonkers/Farm Boy)** Allan hails from the Philippines and last season was seen in "My Fair Lady" and "Hello Dolly" at Glendale Centre Theatre, "The Boyfriend" at Theatre Palisades, "Miss Saigon" and "Retrospect" at Rose Center Theater. Taught theater and dance throughout Asia and Europe with IMPULSETANZ and has danced with professional companies like Kaleidoscope and Ballet Pensacola, Revive and Triple Impact.

**Lynn Reed (Tessie Tura)** Lynn is ecstatic to be in her first Kentwood Players production. Favorite roles include Gymnasium in "Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum," Fraulein Kost in "Cabaret," and singing anything with her talented accompanist and husband, Marc.

**Robyn Rothstein (Mazepa)** Robyn is thrilled to be in her third musical at Kentwood. She also appeared in "The Most Happy Fella" and as Carlotta Campion in "Follies." Robyn is also a founding member of the renowned "Angel City Chorale." This performance is in memory of De.

**Bruce Schroffel (Uncle Jocko, Mr. Kringelein, Phil)** Recent work includes key roles on the stage of Kentwood Players, Theatre Palisades and Theatre 40. In addition, he has been entertaining local audiences for years as a barbershop singer and The Great El Moldo

**Max Heldring Stormes (Cigar)** Now finishing his 30th season in his 31st production with Kentwood Players, Max is delighted to be working with Susan Weisbarth and Ed Cotter again.

# The Cast



*Marcy Agreen*



*Andy Abbott*



*Jeannine Barba*



*Sabrina Callender-Clewett*



*Sarah Cowan*



*Jim Crawford*



*Sheridan Cole Crawford*



*Caity Engler*



*Drew Fitzsimmons*



*Brandon Gomez*



*Michael Grinde*



*Emma Hatton*



*Shirley Hatton*



*Elliot Kang*



*Julian Kang*

# *The Cast*



*Taylor Kang*



*Sarah Mahoney*



*Jack Matizza*



*Marla McClure*



*Megan Moylan*



*Kelly Pappas*



*Francesca Palermo*



*Allan Penales*



*Lynn Reed*



*Robyn Rothstein*



*Karl Schott*



*Bruce Schroffel*



*Max Heldring Stormes*



*Monty Potthoff*



*Caroline*

# **Production Team**

**Stage Manager**.....Karintha Touton  
**Set Design**.....Scot Renfro  
**Set Construction** ..... Sheldon Metz, Russell Ham, Kaye Porter, Michael O'Grady, Jim Crawford, Bill Moylan, Randy Michael Allen, Cowan, Rick Clewett  
**Set Decoration Design**.....Scot Renfro, Michael Cohen  
**Costume Design**.....Maria Cohen  
**Costume Construction**..... Marieta Merschbrock, Valerie Ruel, Barbara Brophey, Julia Maggs, Geanne Clarke, Adino Silo, Yvonne Kainoa, Gail Bernardi, Treva Merritt, Diana Mann, Judy Polak, Denise Callender  
**Millinery Design**.....Arlene Cohen  
**Light Design**.....Richard Potthoff  
**Booth Operator**.....Virginia Mekkelson  
**Spot Operators**.....Russell Ham, Kaye Porter  
**Sound Design**.....Susan Stangl  
**Props**.....Judy Polak  
**Hospitality Coordinator**.....Max Heldring Stormes  
**Publicity Photos**.....Liz Reinhardt, Julie Goetzen  
**Graphic Arts/Lobby Design**.....Michael Cohen  
**Wigs Stylist**.....Elizabeth Dahl  
**Dog Wranglers**..... Megan Moylan, Sarah Cowan

## **Musicians**

**Piano**.....Bill Wolfe  
**Drums**.....Perry Shields

## **Strike and Work Sunday Crews**

**Please accept our thanks!**

Michael Allen, Berman Audette, Gail Bernardi, Tom Brophey, Kelsey Bullock, Gordon Butler, Pattie Butler, Geanne Clarke, Randy Cowan, Yvonne Kainoa, Gretchen Luna, Ben Lupejkis, Julia Maggs, Alison Mattiza, Van Mattiza, Treva Merritt, Marieta Merschbrock, Sheldon Metz, Melvin Miller, Calia Mintzer, Bill Moylan, Barry Nackos, Frank Olivadoti, Lee Polak, Tara Potthoff, Virginia Renfro, Valerie Ruel, Charlotte Lee Schildkret, Adina Silo, Tiffany Towers, Fred Wolf and The Cast & Crew of

**GYPSY**

## Season Ticket Order Form

Season Subscriptions are good for SIX (6) CONSECUTIVE productions, and you may start your subscriptions with the show of your choice. Please allow 4 weeks for processing of your order. Circle below to indicate when you'd like to start your subscription:

Jan/Feb    Mar/Apr    May/June    Jul/Aug  
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Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ subscriptions at \$60.00 each.

Total \_\_\_\_\_ \*

*\*Please note, the Entertainment Coupon is not applicable toward the purchase of Season Tickets.*

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Attn: SEASON TICKETS

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Please call (310) 645-5156 between 4pm—7pm  
Tuesday—Saturday

Reservations must be paid for by cash, check, member coupon season subscriber coupon or VISA/ MASTERCARD/DISCOVER one week after they are made.

### Special Theatre Parties

A special Theatre Party planned for your organization or group can be a financial success as well as an entertaining evening (or matinee) at the theatre.

For further information, call  
Calia Mintzer (310) 837-3609.

# ***We Need Your Help***

*In 1949, a group of dedicated performers came together to provide quality theatre at an affordable price for the Westchester community. More than 50 years later, the Kentwood Players are still going strong.*

*From Shakespeare to Simon, from Sondheim to Hammerstein, we have worked diligently, putting in countless volunteer hours, keeping our prices low enough to allow all in our community access to a magical evening or matinee in the theatre.*

*Now, we need your help. We have some critical improvements that will be beyond what we as a small community theatre can manage. We need a new roof, a new heating and air conditioning system, and most of our facility needs to be updated. For the first time in our history, we are asking our wonderful patrons and dedicated community members to partner with us and become sponsors of our beloved theatre.*

*There are many ways you can help. Of course, we welcome your contributions no matter how large or small. Together we can keep quality theatre in Westchester at prices that are still affordable for our audiences. Please take a look at our sponsorship opportunities and if we can answer any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.*

***THANK YOU FROM THE KENTWOOD PLAYERS***

***Donation envelopes can be found in our lobby.***

***Kentwood Players is a  
Member of the LAX Coastal  
Area Chamber of Commerce.***

# ***We Need Your Help***

## ***Founders Circle:***

*\$2,500-\$5,000*

- *4 Season tickets*
  - \* *Listing in our program for an entire season*
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*\$1,000 - \$2,499*

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## ***Spotlight Supporters:***

*\$250 - \$499*

- \* *2 Season tickets*
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***Donations of any size will receive recognition in our programs along with our heartfelt thanks.***

*Kentwood Players is a registered 501-C3 not-for-profit corporation and your contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.*

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Our Generous Donors**

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**GYPSY ROSE LEE** was born on January 8, 1911 and was given the name of Rose Louise Hovick. Mama wasted no time in getting Rose Louise started in the business as she won first place in a Seattle "Healthy Baby Contest." Her mother Rose Thompson Hovick was married at the tender age of 19 to Jack Olaf Hovick. June (June Havoc), Rose Louise's younger sister, was born a few years later in Vancouver, BC. The older Rose soon separated from her husband and moved the girls back to her parent's home in Seattle. Rose Thompson's father worked for the railroad in the baggage room. Her mother made hats and clothing, embellished with feathers and beads, and then traveled on the road selling her outrageous apparel to prostitutes frequenting the mining camps.

Rose early attempts to make Louise a star were futile. June however could dance on point at the age of two. Baby June quickly became a favorite of lodge halls in and around the Seattle area. Mama always tried to capitalize on anyone and anything that could make June sound more important. Once Baby June appeared on the bill with Anna Pavlova and Rose changed June's billing to read "Baby June, the Pocket-sized Pavlova."

Before long June was discovered by Alexander Pantages. Mr. Pantages built theatres in California, Oregon and Washington and Baby June's vaudeville career was launched. Hollywood called too, and since June didn't speak until the age of three, she was a natural for the silent movies as she could cry on cue (Rose would tell Baby June that her dog had died in order to get her to cry.)

Louise stayed back home in Seattle with her grandparents and went to kindergarten. When she was seven, she joined June and Mama on the road. Mama then created a new act—"Madam Rose presents Dainty June and her Newsboy Songsters." Louise dressed as a young boy in knickers and a cap. Mama often made Louise dress like a boy off stage as well. June wore furs, exaggerated makeup and Rose dyed her ringlets with peroxide. The act was quite successful and at one time, Baby June and Company were making \$1500.00 a week on the Orpheum Circuit. As a headliner, Dainty June often stopped the show and got top billing.

No one could have imagined that little Louise would become the most famous member of the Hovick family as the Queen of the Striptease. Gypsy Rose Lee died in 1970 and stories about her life and times live on as part of our Broadway heritage.



## *Meet Monty!*

*Tara's Prince Montague a.k.a. Monty. Gypsy marks Monty's show biz debut aside from appearances at various wiener dog races around SoCal. Like many actors, Monty is willing to work for just a tasty snack and a tummy rub.*



*Andy Abbott, Sarah Mahoney, Drew Fitzsimmons*



*Shirley Hatton, Marla McClure, Karl Schott*



*Jeannine Barba, Robyn Rothstein, Lynn Reed*



## **Our Upcoming Productions**

### **A Murder Is Announced**

*By Agatha Christie*

**Runs: May 16, 2008 - June 21, 2008**

**Directed by Carol Becker**

**Assistant Director Liz Reinhardt**

**Produced by Lori Marple**

**Auditions: Saturday, March 15, 2008 11:30—5pm**

**Sunday, March 16, 2008 7:00pm—10pm**

### **The Lion In Winter**

*By James Goldman*

**Runs: July 11, 2008—August 16, 2008**

**Directed by Ed Cotter**

**Produced by Jim Crawford & Karintha Touton**

### **Little Green Men**

**Music/Lyrics and Book by Scott Martin**

**World Premiere Musical**

**Directed by Scott Martin**

**Produced by Calia Mintzer & Lori Marple-Pereslete**

**September 12, 2008—October 18, 2008**

*All announced shows are subject to change.*

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