

STAGE RIGHT

Presents Valentine Confection *My Fair Lady*

By: Carolyn Corsano Wong

Photos: Michael Pittman Images

STAGE RIGHT of Texas, resident theatre company at the historic Crighton Theatre, has an answer for that February question: What do I get my sweetie for Valentine's Day? Bring your sweetheart to the Crighton Theatre this February to see the perfect cockney to companion confection: *My Fair Lady*. This classic of musical theatre will be presented February 10-26. Based on George Bernard Shaw's play, *Pygmalion*, acclaimed Professor and confirmed bachelor Henry Higgins makes a wager with his linguistic colleague Colonel Pickering that in six months he can pass off "gutter snipe" Eliza Doolittle as a duchess at an embassy ball. Through arduous training, day and night, Eliza learns



Eliza makes an impression at Ascot

how to speak English “properly,” and transforms into a lady respected and adored by all classes. Along the way she bewitches young Freddy Eynsford-Hill into falling in love with her, and convinces a supposed linguistics expert that she is royalty. Through her transformation process, Eliza forges a deep connection with Colonel Pickering and most especially with Professor Higgins. However, she finds herself in a difficult position, now too refined to go back to her old life as a flower girl in Covent Garden and not with any means or desire to live life as a lady of leisure – especially by herself. When Higgins completely fails to acknowledge Eliza’s role in her own transformation, she leaves his home. It is only then that Higgins realizes that he cares deeply for Eliza. With song classics of musical theatre including “I Could Have Danced All Night”, “Wouldn’t It be Lovely”, “On the Street Where You Live”, and the rollicking “With a Little Bit of Luck”, and “Get Me To The Church On Time”, My Fair Lady will bewitch and amuse you from start to finish!

Director Manny Cafeo has assembled an accomplished cast to bring this musical theatre classic to the Crighton stage. Leading the cast as Eliza is Sara Preisler. Sara wowed our audiences last year at this time as the seductive Ulla in *The Producers* but she made her biggest ‘splash’ and earned a Best Actress Montie Award as lovely Kathy Selden in our multi-award winning production of *Singin’ in the Rain*. The irascible Henry Higgins is played by Michael Martin. This show marks Michael’s STAGE RIGHT debut but he appeared on the Crighton stage last year in Christian Community Theatre’s *The Music Man*. Conroe audiences may also remember Michael from his portrayal of Billy Flynn in the Player’s award winning production of *Chicago*. Higgin’s chum Col. Pickering is played by Jim King. Jim has appeared previously with us in *The Carol Burnett Show*, *Arsenic and Old Lace* and *On Golden Pond*. Eliza’s suitor Freddy Eynsford Hill is played by Austin Colburn. Austin was last seen on the Crighton stage as Lucas Bienenke and was just the Prince in the Players *The Little Mermaid* at the Owen Theatre. Travis Bryant provides ample comedy to the show in the part of Alfred P.



A battle of wills

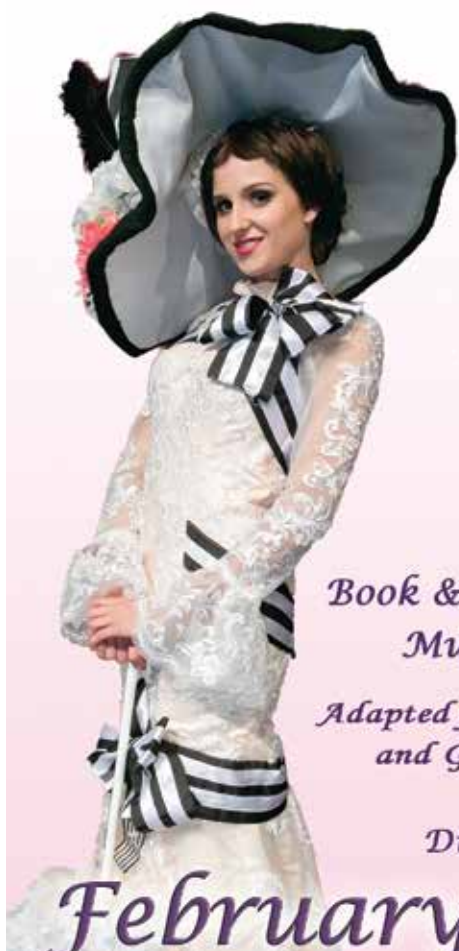
Doolittle. An accomplished director as well as actor Travis was last on the Crighton stage a few seasons ago in *Harvey* and just directed *Rumors* for us last season. Henry Higgins’ housekeeper Mrs. Pearce is played by Leona Hoegsberg. Leona has been in quite a few of our productions and was last seen as the daffy Mrs. Bradman in *Blithe Spirit*. Henry Higgins’ mother is played by

Continued on page 36 ⇨

Action BUGGIES
SPECIALIZING IN CUSTOM BUILT GOLF CARTS
SALES * SERVICE * RENTALS
ALL MAKES AND MODELS
FREE PICKUP & DELIVERY
 11767 FM 1097 WEST • WILLIS, TX 77318
WWW.GOBUGGIES.COM **936-856-8309**
YAMAHA GOLF CARS AUTHORIZED DEALER

STAGE RIGHT

Performances at the historic Crighton Theatre in Conroe, TX



My Fair Lady

Book & Lyrics by Alan Jay Lerner
 Music by Frederick Loewe

Adapted from George Bernard Shaw’s Play
 and Gabriel Pascal’s Motion Picture
 “PYGMALION”

Directed by Manny Cafeo

February 10-26, 2017

Fri & Sat at 8 pm
 Sundays at 2 pm

Box Office at 936-441-SHOW (7469)
 Online tickets: www.stage-right.org

FUNDED IN PART BY THE CITY OF CONROE COMMISSION ON ARTS & CULTURE
 PRESENTED BY ARRANGEMENT WITH TAMS-WITMARK MUSIC LIBRARY, INC.

Carolyn Wong who was also in *Blithe Spirit* as the bedeviling Elvira.

Here is a full cast list:

Eliza Doolittle...Sara Preisler
Henry Higgins...Michael Martin
Colonel Pickering...Jim King
Alfred P. Doolittle...Travis Bryant
Freddy Eynsford-Hill...Austin Colburn
Mrs. Pearce...Leona Hoegsberg
Mrs. Higgins...Carolyn Wong
Mrs. Eynsford-Hill...Jane Haley
Harry...Hunter Mehrens
Jamie...Ryan Rodriguez
George...Will Radcliffe
Prof. Zoltan Karpathy...Phil Clarke
Lord Boxington...Jim Boy
Lady Boxington...Deanie Harmon Boy
Dancers: Abigail Hudson, Monae Lott,
Monique Lott, Hillary Moore, Miranda Roberts
Cockvants/Servants/Chorus:

Cameron Bereke, Cameron Collins, Kelly Drath, Hannah Gilchrist, Madison Lyons, Jim Murph, Rebekah Rice, Churck Smith, Maisy Tidwell, Jay-lynn Young

SPOTLIGHT NON-PROFIT

As with every STAGE RIGHT show we highlight a need in our community and then throw a spotlight on a non-profit organization that is trying to help- we call them our Spotlight Non-Profit. Our Spotlight Non-Profit for *My Fair Lady* is Montgomery County Meals on Wheels. Their mission is to provide home delivered meals and transportation services to the homebound elderly of Montgomery County. They will be in the lobby during the run



of the show with information about volunteering and collecting donations. With your donation, you help to provide our aging neighbors with a nutritious meal they can count on, a ride to stay independent, a regular safety check, and a friendly face knocking on their door. Every donation is used responsibly with more than 90% of each donation going directly towards programs and services. If you would prefer to make your donation by mail, please send your check or money order, made payable to Meals on Wheels Montgomery County, to:

Meals on Wheels Montgomery County
Attn: Development
1202 Candy Cane Lane
Conroe, TX 77301



Doolittle with his many admirers

ELIMINATOR™

All Natural Product for Spider & Web Control
Call now for the only products that can safely and legally be used on boat docks & marinas!



For A FREE Estimate Call:
1-800-299-8584
www.boatdockspray.com

We install and service mosquito and spider misting systems.

**Purchase
THE ELIMINATOR
Here**

More information about Montgomery County Meals on Wheels can be found on their website: www.mowmc.org.

My Fair Lady will be presented at the historic Crighton Theatre located at 234 N. Main St. in

downtown Conroe. Performance dates are February 10-26, 2017: Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00 PM and Sunday Matinees at 2:00 PM. Tickets can be purchased online at www.stage-right.org or by calling the Crighton Box Office at 936-441-7469. Discounts are available for groups of 12 or more by calling the box office. Tickets are \$22 for adults, \$20 for seniors, \$18 for groups and \$15 for students and youth and senior groups of 12 or more.

More information about STAGE RIGHT can be found on our website www.stage-right.org. ♦

Eliza and Freddy



Middleton
DDS
on proof

randys sports bar &
grill