

STAGE RIGHT OF TEXAS

Invites the Woodlands to a Season of Southern Comfort at the 'Crown Jewel of Montgomery County'



By Carolyn Corsano Wong

Did you know a historic theatre sits less than a half hour's drive north of the Woodlands? Known as the 'Crown Jewel of Montgomery County' the historic Crighton Theatre has stood in downtown Conroe for over 75 years. Surprisingly, many in the Woodlands are not even aware of the treasure that has been providing entertainment to the citizens of Montgomery County for decades. STAGE RIGHT of Texas, the resident theatre company at the Crighton, invites Woodlands residents to come on up and enjoy a season of Southern Comfort. We offer a season of down home knee-slapping comedies and musical favorites that are as comforting as slipping your cold toes into a warm pair of fuzzy slippers. There is no need to fight traffic to get to downtown Houston only to pay to park and sit in the nose-bleed section in order to save money. Great entertainment at a reasonable price and old style ambiance await you just a few miles up the road.

In September we began our third season at the historic Crighton Theatre with the hilarious military comedy *NO TIME FOR SERGEANTS*. Described as "possibly the best comedy performance I've seen in the great state of Texas" by critic David Dow Bentley III, our audiences delighted in Will Stockdale's attempt to get classified for duty in the US Air Force of the 1950s. As our way of saying "thank you for your service" all performances were free to veterans, active duty military and their spouses.

Additionally, we were honored to have a special performance of the show with the WWII veterans that have been on the Lone Star Honor Flights as our special guests. If you missed it, check out the pictures and articles on our website photo gallery and archives at www.stage-right.org. You won't want to miss another show this season!

The holiday show will be *CHRISTMAS BELLES* on Dec. 3-19, 2010 from Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope, and Jamie Wooten. A reprise of our very first show at the Crighton this hilarious Christmas celebration has been described as "The Golden Girls" meet "A Charlie Brown Christmas"! The authors of *DEARLY BELOVED* and *SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY* return to Fayro, Texas, where the feuding Futrelle sisters attempt to mount a Christmas program despite Santa's kidney stone, a cast bout of food poisoning and various family concerns. Even an Elvis impersonator makes an appearance. In addition to being laugh-out-loud funny, this is one of the few Christmas plays that actually has the telling of the Christmas story in it. You'll laugh until you cry and get to sing along to some Christmas Carols with the Statesmen Chorus, a barbershop harmony group, who will be singing ½ hour before the show starts.

Around Valentine's Day STAGE RIGHT will present a loving tribute to one of country music's greatest stars with *ALWAYS... PATSY CLINE* on Feb. 18-Mar. 6, 2011. Written and originally directed by Ted Swindley

this show has been entertaining audiences since 1990. In what can be described as a twist of fate, playwright Ted Swindley stumbled upon the work of Patsy Cline for the first time while running the Texas Playwright Festival in Houston. Gathering every available scrap of her catalogue to his side, Swindley spent an entire weekend immersing himself in Patsy Cline's work; a weekend that would end in a lifetime love affair with the tragic singer's life and music. Despite the numerous accounts of Cline's sometimes tumultuous life, Swindley chose to tell an uplifting and touching true story of the friendship between Cline and Houston based divorcee Louise Seger based on letters that Swindley uncovered while researching the play. The music, the talent, and the comedy will captivate you; you'd be 'Crazy' to miss it!

The spring show will feature Mary Chase's *HARVEY* on Apr. 22-May 8, 2011. Jimmy Stewart originally played the part of the wealthy eccentric Elwood P. Dowd who has a six and a half foot rabbit as his imaginary friend. Affable Elwood P. Dowd has a kind word for everyone he meets. He lives a quiet life with his social-climbing sister and her daughter and is devoted to his loyal and trustworthy friend and constant companion, Harvey. The fact that Harvey happens to be invisible to everyone else doesn't seem to bother Elwood but is an ongoing embarrassment to his family who decides to have him committed. In this Pulitzer Prize-win-

ning comedy, the medical establishment is turned topsy-turvy as Elwood and Harvey cause pandemonium. Elwood and Harvey become the catalysts for a family mending its wounds and for romance blossoming in unexpected places.

This past summer, STAGE RIGHT presented a highly successful and critically acclaimed production of ANNIE. Tons of little girls filled the Crighton stage, this year it will be filled with little boys. The summer show will be Meredith Wilson's THE MUSIC MAN on Jul. 15-31, 2011. Robert Preston was the original con man intending to cheat River City with his standard scam of offering to equip and train a boy's marching band. Things go awry when he falls for a librarian he tries to divert from exposing him. Come for the barbershop quartet, the dancing, the singing, and the comedy!

You can still purchase season tickets at the prorated rate of \$60 for the four remaining shows. Benefits of season subscription include:

- reserved seats for all shows (we sold out three performances of our production of ANNIE this past Summer and had to turn folks away; as a season subscriber you don't have to worry about being unable to get seats for any show)
- Complimentary ticket exchange
- Over a 20% discount on tickets
- 1 Free "Friends of a Subscriber" ticket to one show. Invite a friend to join you for a night of theatre.

- Your name in every program
If you purchase season tickets this season your seat will also be reserved for our next season. We will start that season with a WORLD PREMIERE of a play by famed playwrights Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope and Jamie Wooten. These are the three most produced comedic playwrights in the country right now and they are writing a brand new comedy to be produced for the first time anywhere by STAGE RIGHT at the Crighton Theatre. As of this writing we have been given a synopsis and the name of the show: "Mama Won't Fly". "An overwhelmed bride places her older sister in charge of getting their mother from Alabama to her wedding on the West Coast. There's only one problem: Mama won't fly. With only three days to make it to the big event, the determined daughter and her equally willful mother hastily set out on a cross-country drive, experiencing hilarious misadventures, wildly eccentric Texas relatives and a rapidly growing urge to ditch each other anywhere along the way. But the race to get Mama to the church on time proves to be more than just a road trip. It becomes a journey of two women embracing their differences and discovering a delightfully wacky side of the country, their family and themselves they never knew existed.

No matter how you do it - walk, run, swim or hang glide - find a way to get yourself to the World Premiere of this side-splitting new JONES HOPE WOOTEN COMEDY

at the Crighton Theatre, Conroe, Texas, in September of 2011."

You can get more information about season tickets from the Box Office at 936-441-7469 (SHOW). Feel free to download the brochure with the season on the website at www.stage-right.org or www.crighton-theatre.com.

Y'all come on up to the Crighton!



STAGE RIGHT 2010-2011 SEASON



at the Historic Crighton Theatre

Call 936-441-7469 and website:
www.stage-right.org
\$75 for 5 shows (price prorated)

A Season of Southern Comfort

Come join us for some down home knee-slapping comedies and musical favorites!



No Time for Sergeants

by Ira Levin

Shows: Sept. 10 - 26, 2010
Auditions: June 27 & 28, 2010
Follow the adventures of country boy Will Stockdale as he is drafted into the Air Force. The hysterical comedy that made Andy Griffith a star on Broadway! Rated: PG



Christmas Belles

by Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope & Jamie Wooten

Shows: Dec. 3 - 19, 2010
Auditions: Oct. 17 & 18, 2010
A church Christmas program spins hilariously out of control in this Southern farce about squabbling sisters, family secrets, a surly Santa, a vengeful sheep and a reluctant Elvis impersonator. Rated: PG



The Music Man

by Meredith Wilson

Professor Harold Hill comes to River City Iowa and causes a heap of 'Trouble' yet loses his heart to the town librarian. With hits like 'Seventy-Six Trombones' and 'Till There Was You' this classic is sure to please. Rated: G



Always... Patsy Cline

Written and originally directed by:

Ted Swindley

Based on a true story. Licensed by the family and Estate of Patsy Cline. All rights reserved. Original cast album available on MCA/Decca Records.

Shows: Feb. 18 - Mar. 6, 2011
Auditions: by appointment
A tribute to Patsy Cline as told through her music and her friendship with a Houston fan. Rated: PG



Harvey

by Mary Chase

Shows: Apr. 22 - May 8, 2011
Auditions: Feb. 20 & 21, 2011
Sweet, affable Elwood P. Dowd never met a creature he didn't like including his six and a half foot rabbit friend Harvey. If only his family felt the same way! Rated: PG

Shows: July 15 - 31, 2011
Auditions: May 15 & 16, 2011