

Country legend Patsy Cline returns from the beyond
Houston Community Newspapers: The Champions Sun
Posted: Tuesday, March 15, 2011 5:00 am

By KIMBERLY POORE

In Playhouse 1960's collaborative production the spirit of Patsy Cline fills the theatre with Cline's most loved music.

Playhouse 1960 and Conroe's Stage Right have joined forces to bring Northwest Houston audiences the iconic sounds of Patsy Cline in the musical, *Always...Patsy Cline*. The show will run March 11-26 at Playhouse's main stage theater.

"If you are a fan of Patsy Cline, then you must see this musical," said President Tom Aldridge. "The show is based on a true story about Cline's friendship with a fan from Houston named Louise Seger. She befriended the star in a Texas honky-tonk in 1961 and continued a correspondence with Cline until her death. The show's title was inspired by Cline's letters to Louise Seger, which were consistently signed Love Always, Patsy Cline."

For Cline fans Aldridge says this show won't disappoint.

"The play, complete with down home country humor, true emotion and even some audience participation, includes many of Patsy's unforgettable hits such as *Crazy*, *I Fall to Pieces*, *Sweet Dreams* and *Waking After Midnight*. 27 songs in all."

This show will give Playhouse audiences something new and fresh, in addition to an evening of classic country music.

"This show will bring a different style of show than our normal main stage production of a comedy or drama as well as not being the typical large cast musical," Aldridge said. "We are hoping it generates an interest in a style of show that we are seeing increased interest in throughout the country. It will be a chance to celebrate the music of an iconic performer in an intimate theater setting."

This collaborative production comes on the heels of a great partnership that has long existed even before this show.

"Throughout the years, performers and directors from all of the community theaters in Houston have participated in productions at other theaters and as a result there is a great deal of cooperation that has been created," Aldridge said. "In recent years and due to the long-standing reputation and history of Playhouse 1960, we have been able to share various props, set pieces, and costumes with other theaters. Among these is Stage Right. This past summer, Tina Cafeo, a long-time performer and director at Playhouse 1960 directed *Annie* with Stage Right. We shared a number of props and set pieces to support her in this venture. Stage Right has also been very supportive of Playhouse 1960 by promoting our productions throughout the years."

For more information and tickets go to playhouse1960.com.

Playhouse 1960 is a nonprofit community-based theater. It is located at 6814 Gant Road.