

Ticket



**THE DROWSY
CHAPERONE**

Stage Right

www.yourconroenews.com

Friday, February 15, 2013

'The Drowsy Chaperone' a rollicking musical comedy for young and old

BY BRAD MEYER
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After seeing the award-winning production of "The Drowsy Chaperone" on Broadway, Stage Right founders Carolyn and Steven Wong knew it was a play they wanted to do in Conroe.

That wish becomes reality tonight at 8 p.m. when the talented cast brings the zany musical comedy to the stage of the Crighton Theatre, located at 234 N. Main Street in Conroe. The play runs weekends through March 3.

"It's a really entertaining, lighthearted musical that's a lot of fun," said veteran actor-director Travis Bryant, making his directorial debut



Staff photo by Brad Meyer

Stage Right Productions opens "The Drowsy Chaperone" tonight at the Crighton Theatre. Shows continue weekends through March 3. Call 936-441-SHOW (7469) for tickets.

WHAT'S NEXT

The Stage Right production of "The Drowsy Chaperone" opens tonight at the Crighton Theatre and continues through March 3. For information, visit www.stage-right.org or call 936-441-SHOW.

with Stage Right. "The script is clever, the music enjoyable and the cast is superb."

The play focuses on a sad, lonely middle aged shut-in whose only joy is playing a recording of a fictional 1928 musical comedy, "The Drowsy Chaperone." As he listens, fantasy merges with reality and the characters from the production come to life in his apartment.

"We create a fully staged, fast-paced musical comedy in the set of his apartment," said Bryant. "The 'man in the chair' begins to interact with the characters in an increasingly complicated – but always entertaining – storyline."



Staff photo by Brad Meyer

Carolyn Wong, left, and Steve Wong, share a comic moment in rehearsals for "The Drowsy Chaperone" at the Crighton Theatre. The show opens tonight.



Staff photo by Brad Meyer

Travis Bryant, director of Stage Right's "The Drowsy Chaperone" works with Michael Hayes who plays "Man in Chair" in the play.

Performing Arts Center Presents

ACTORS WORKSHOP

Feb. 21-22, 7:30 p.m.

Feb. 23, 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

Black Box Theatre, 2nd Floor, Bldg D

\$5 Admission

For more info., call 936.273.7021 or
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DROWSY

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That storyline of the musical within a play concerns a pampered Broadway starlet who wants to give up show business to get married, her producer who is out to sabotage the nuptials, her chaperone, a debonair groom, a Latin lover and a pair of gangsters who double as pastry chefs.

Conflicts arise and high jinks ensue.

"Kids will enjoy the slapstick, physical comedy of the play," said Carolyn Wong. "Adults will appreciate the fast-paced, snappy dialogue.

There are a lot of great one-liners in the play."

The fast action pacing presents something of a challenge for the technical crew, Bryant acknowledged.

"There are a lot of set changes and costume changes that need to happen quickly," he said. "There also a few surprises I think the audience will enjoy."

While remaining mum on the surprises, Bryant said he was thrilled with the cast assembled for the production of "The Drowsy Chaperone." Michael Hayes anchors the show as "the man in the chair," but Bryant had praise for the talent and ded-

ication of his actors and technical crew.

"This really is an ensemble piece where everyone is working together," said Bryant. "The result is a fantastic musical comedy experience."

Part of that experience involves Carolyn and Steven Wong, a married couple whose characters meet and fall in love in the play – but not without some humorous complications, including a spit-take in which Carolyn sprays her husband with water.

"It's a really fun play," said Carolyn. "Anyone who has been moved and transport-

ed by musical theatre will enjoy this play."

"The Drowsy Chaperone" debuts tonight at 8 p.m. and runs Friday and Saturdays through March 2 with Sunday matinees on Feb. 24 and March 3 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$17 for seniors and \$15 for children and are available at www.stage-right.org or by calling 936-441-7469.

In keeping with Stage Right's commitment to community involvement, organizers encourage patrons to bring a gift card donation for the Montgomery County Women's Center when attending the play.



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