

# Entertainment Review

## WOW!!! New Play "Mama Won't Fly!" Is A Smashing & Hilarious Success At The Crighton Theatre

By Doc Fennessy

You want a gut busting laugh a minute, you got it!!! From the first line before the opening of the curtain to the final one liner, it was an on-going and continuous roar of audience laughter. The Premiere of the new Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope and Jamie Wooten play "MAMA WONT FLY!" at the historic Crighton Theatre on Friday evening, September 9th, energized the audience into powerful hilarity that hasn't been seen & heard in this theatre for decades. The play is a cleverly written multi-dialogue and continuity of action by three primary actresses, and a host of very weird supporting characters, that keeps the audience in awe of the interaction and what will come next. Individual and season tickets are at reasonable family prices and now available by calling Ticket Manager Kim Kelly daily in the theatre Box-office between 3:00 & 6:00 p.m. at: (936) 441-7469 - OR on line at: {www.crightontheatre.org}.

Martha Davis who played "Mama," the cool, calm and directional lead put on a professional performance and was exceptionally funny with her quick "One-liners". Veteran actress Catherine Anderson played the dippy-dumb-blond bride-to-be with such wildly humorous and contorted antics that she kept the audience in spontaneous side splitting laughter. Folks, this is a wildly hilarious play with a cleverly written plot and series of continuously funny scenes. Knowing the southern charm and the unique and weird characters that abound the show has a somewhat believable reality to it to Texans, especially rednecks.

The playwrights should take professional actress Melody Montez, with them when they re-open the show on Broadway in the next months in New York; she will earn them a "Tony Award" for the show. Melody's performance was fantastic as the situational and wildly resistant to adaptability Mama's daughter. Melody, being professional actress utilized many greatly effective

vocal-motor gesticulations, facial expression and body movements to emphasize the ongoing dialogue that so many times brought the house down in roaring belly-laughter and thunderous applause. It was interesting that some actors played effective multiple roles. A fine seasoned actress and acting teacher Amy Sowers was hilarious playing three divergent roles as a religious addict to a drunken redneck cowgirl in a Texas Irish Saloon to a chorus girl minister in a Las Vegas wedding chapel. Light Engineer Steve Wong did some interesting and clever things with the lights to emphasize the stage actions.

This entire show was a "CLASS AFFAIR" beginning with the Thursday evening huge cocktail party at Jim & Angela Graves Ville on Lake Conroe to meet the writers was M.C'ed by Amy Sowers. The three writers each received a proclamation by the Mayor of Conroe who declared that Friday, September 9th, the day of the show opening would be the official Jones, Hope & Wooten holiday in the City of Conroe, Texas. Additionally, as you first entered the theatre you got to meet all three of the show's scriptwriters. It was interesting to have the vivacious Director Carolyn Corsano Wong announce that when the show closes on Sunday, September 25th the show will open on Broadway in New York City with a new cast and the New York Show Director was in Texas that night for the opening. As the show ended there was complimentary food and beverages for the audience as they met the writers, cast & crew for a street party.

It is interesting to note that Director Carolyn Corsano Wong announced that the show was dedicated to the first responders of the 9/11 tragedy, and for the rest of the entire run of the show, Fridays & Saturdays - September 16th, 17th, 23rd & 24th plus the September 18th and 25th Sunday 2:00 p.m. Matinees, will be "ADMISSION FREE" for any and all first responders to local fires and accidents to include firefighters, police officers,



Playwrights of the new Broadway show Premiering first in the Crighton Theatre - "MAMA WONT FLY!" will have a long New York show run coming up for them with this wildly hilarious production. {Left to right} Jamie Wooten, Jessie Jones and Nicholas Hope. \* {Photo by Nikie Brown; Wishnik Photography}.

EMTS, ambulance personnel etc.. Theatre Manager Jim Bingham suggested that the first responders call Theatre Ticket Manager Kim Kelly, in the theatre Box-office to make reservation between 3:00 & 6:00 p.m. at: (936) 441-7469 or on line at: www.crightontheatre.org.. {Spouses will need regular ticket}.