

Contemporary musical opens at the Foulds

“The Last Five Years” is local production

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Synergy Productions, Southwest Florida's professional musical theater company, in association with the Theater Guild of Southwest Florida, presents the award-winning musical, “The Last Five Years,” written by Tony-Award winning composer Jason Robert Brown beginning Wednesday, Dec. 19.



Robin Harris-Jones



Stephen Lyons

A fresh and contemporary musical, “The Last Five Years” chronicles a young couple's romance in a new and exciting way: her story starts at the end of the relationship; his begins on the day they met. Funny and uplifting, the show captures some of the most heartbreaking and universally felt moments of modern romance. Critics have praised the music as creative and groundbreaking. The lyrics evoke Stephen Sondheim. The musical style draws from pop, jazz, folk, Rock and classical.

The production opened in Chicago in 2001 and was followed by its New York opening in 2002. It won the Drama Desk awards for outstanding music and

lyrics. The New York Times hailed it as “trim & elegant” and Time Magazine named it one of the “Ten Best of 2001.”

The show features actors Robin Harris-Jones as Cathy and Stephen Lyons as Jamie. Harris-Jones recently had the pleasure of working with Bill C. Davis (Mass Appeal) and Brett Boles on the World Premiere of their musical *Austin's Bridge* at the Firehouse Theatre Project, Richmond, VA. Also in Richmond, she worked for Theatre IV and Barksdale Theatre on a number of wonderful productions. Favorites include *Sing Down the Moon: Appalachian Wonder Tales*, *James Joyce's The Dead*, *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*, *Seussical the Musical*, *Anything Goes*, *Bunnicula*, and *The Full Monty*. Lyons is a Philadelphia-based actor, singer and songwriter.

Previews run Dec. 13 -16. Opening Night & Champagne Reception is Wednesday Dec. 19. Performances run through Sunday, Jan. 27 at the intimate Foulds Theatre, located at the Lee County Alliance for the Arts (10091 McGregor Boulevard). Tickets are \$30. Performances are Wednesday through Saturday at 8 p.m.; and Sunday at 2 p.m.

For tickets call (239) 236-1645 or visit the Foulds Theater Box Office. www.synergyproductions.org

Theater Guild & Synergy Productions Office Number: (239) 236 1645. ■

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SATURDAY SEMINAR SERIES

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Saturday, January 5 at 2 p.m.
“Successful Accessorizing is a Balancing Act”

Learn how easy it is to accessorize any surface in your home with confidence. See demonstrations of how the same surface can take on entirely different looks through the use of different elements and textures and find out how you can instantly achieve a look that appears to have been acquired over time.

Saturday, January 12 at 2 p.m.
“Manage the Stuff in Your Life in Five Easy Steps”

If you manage the things you accumulate in your closets and other spaces you can make more room in your life for the things that matter most. Learn five tips and tricks for managing the mess, including sorting, taking inventory, considering the “you” in your closet, drawing a plan and choosing the right storage systems for your needs.

For a schedule of upcoming seminar topics, visit www.IDCFL.com

RSVP to (239) 390-8207.

Monday - Friday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (January - March: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.)
Saturday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. • Some showroom hours may vary.

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