

WEEK OF JANUARY 10-16, 2008 A GUIDE TO THE GREATER FORT MYERS ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT SCENE

“What do you do when you’re not sure?”

—Father Flynn, in “Doubt: A Parable”

GETTY IMAGES

John Patrick Shanley at the opening night of “Doubt: A Parable,” his Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award-winning Broadway play. “Doubt” opens at the Florida Repertory Theatre on Friday, Jan. 11.



BY NANCY STETSON
nstetson@florida-weekly.com

Inspiration hits in myriad ways. For playwrights, it can come as a line of dialogue, a conflict, or a character or two.

For John Patrick Shanley, his Pulitzer Prize- and Tony Award-winning Broadway play “Doubt: A Parable” began with just one simple word.

“I was in rehearsal with another play. We were on break,” Shanley recalls. “I said, apropos of nothing, ‘I think I’m going to write a play called ‘Doubt.’” An actor sitting next to me said, ‘What’s it about?’ I said, ‘That’s all I got.’

“I knew that title had an attractor that brings other information and points of contemplation. The first people to show up were a couple of nuns, a priest, and a mother. And only after the mother arrived in my imagination I said, ‘That’s a play!’ And that’s when I began to write.”

SEE DOUBT C4 ▶



FLORIDA REPERTORY THEATRE
Brendon Powers and Rachel Burtram star in “Doubt: A Parable” at the Florida Rep.

WEEK at-a-glance



“Luck be a Lady”

If you’re looking for fun, “Guys and Dolls” at the Broadway Palm is a sure thing. C8 ▶



Janet Evanovich

Successful Naples author’s new book “Plum Lucky” was just released. C16 ▶



Breaking Up Is Hard To Do

Pop singer, pianist, and songwriter Neil Sedaka performs at the Mann Hall. C6 ▶



New Blu

Sushi bar in Gulf Coast Town Center serves first-rate food, drinks. C23 ▶

Broadway meets BIG ARTS

David Mamet’s “Oleanna” part of OnStage series

Special to Florida Weekly

Tony nominee Alan Campbell, best known to Broadway audiences for his lengthy stint as the ill-fated Joe Gillis in Andrew Lloyd Webber’s “Sunset Boulevard,” will star in the original Gulfshore Playhouse production of David Mamet’s “Oleanna,” in the BIG ARTS OnStage series, Wednesday and Thursday, Jan. 16 and 17.

Written by the Pulitzer Prize winning

Mamet, (author of plays such as “Glengarry Glen Ross” and films such as “Wag the Dog” and “Hoffa”), “Oleanna” is an edge-of-your-seat drama covering the themes of power, manipulation, spin and human perception. By the end of the piece, the audience is fully engaged in this riveting psychological “everyman” story, completely aware that life, and our good-standing in it, sits pre-



CAMPBELL



NESSLEY

The seemingly harmless encounter quickly

curiously on a fence and could, at any moment, be jostled from its perch.

Spectators notoriously find themselves siding with one character or the other in this two-person drama that begins when a struggling student visits the office of her college professor for help.

SEE OLEANNA C12 ▶