

WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

This week's theatre

■ **Wizard of Oz** - The classic movie musical "The Wizard of Oz" comes to the **Broadway Palm Dinner Theater** stage June 5 through July 26. The Wizard of Oz, based on the book by Frank L. Baum and the world famous 1939 film, chronicles the adventures of Dorothy, the Scarecrow, the Tin Man, the Cowardly Lion and... Toto, too. You'll hear the songs from the score you know and love such as "Somewhere Over the Rainbow," "We're Off to See the Wizard" and "Follow the Yellow Brick Road." Performances are Wednesday through Sunday evenings with selected matinees. Ticket prices range from \$25 to \$52. There is a summer special for children 18 and under, tickets are just \$18 for dinner and the show. Group discounts are available for parties of 20 or more. Tickets are now on sale and can be reserved by calling (239) 278-4422, by visiting www.BroadwayPalm.com, or by stopping by the box office at 1380 Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers.

■ **Wit** - The **Naples Players'** summer drama "Wit," an extraordinary, Pulitzer Prize winning play by Margaret Edson, runs through June 14 at the Toby Studio in the Sugden Community Theatre in downtown Naples. Janina Britolo, well-known to Naples' audiences, stars as Vivian Bearing in a role that is intellectually challenging and emotionally gripping. "Wit" tells the story of a noted professor of English who has specialized in teaching the Holy Sonnets of John Donne, and who has been diagnosed with terminal ovarian cancer. She becomes a prize patient in a teaching hospital - and comes to reassess her own life with humor and profundity. The play runs Wednesday through Saturday evenings at 8 p.m., through June 14, and on Sunday, June 1 and June 8 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for adults; \$10 for students. Tickets may be purchased at The Naples Players Box Office, 701 5th Avenue South in downtown Naples, by phone at (239) 263-7990 or at www.naplesplayers.org

■ **Run for your wife** - "Run for Your Wife" is Ray Cooney's biggest hit and the longest running comedy to have played in London's West End. It plays at the **Schoolhouse Theater** on Sanibel on Saturday, Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturdays, until June 14. In this hysterically funny British farce, London cabbie John Smith lives a happy life with his wife Mary. He also lives a happy life with his wife Barbara. Since neither Mary nor Barbara knows the existence of the other, John's cleverly scheduled life is free of incident...UNTIL...a trip to the hospital sends John Smith into the most hilarious mix-up. All showtimes are at 7 pm. For more information and tickets for the show, call the box office at 472-6862 or online at www.theschoolhousetheater.com

■ **Bald Soprano** - London-trained theater director Annette Percivall of More Crinoline Productions, will put her spin on Ionesco's "The Bald Soprano" from June 6-21 at 8 p.m.. The production will be performed at the **Theatre Conspiracy**, 2711 Park Windsor Dr. suite 302, Fort Myers. An anti-play, exposing the alienation of individuals in a superficial society, the work remains as timely today as it did when it premiered in the 1950s. Percivall questions whether we can be an audience at all in this production, or whether we are all unwitting players in this tragicomedy. Call 936-3239 for tickets and information. Tickets are \$10 for students and \$15 for adults. For more information or to purchase tickets, call the Theatre Conspiracy box office at 936-3239.



>>"Wit" is on stage at the Sugden Community Theatre in Naples through June 14.

Friday, June 6

■ **Barely a Chance** - "Barely a Chance," an independent movie filmed and produced in Southwest Florida by filmmaker Eric Raddatz will premiere at the **Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center** at 8 p.m. Guests will enjoy a concert by the Heather Brooks Band, Modulation and the fresh chunky sounds of DJ Michael Briscoe during a pre-premiere concert and mixer starting at 6:30. The movie's stars; Keegan Shayne, Scott Thompson, Doug MacGregor, Amy Whicker, Jessica DiTomaso, director and executive producer Raddatz will be at the social. The romantic comedy about the journey of a man miserably lost in the '90s who becomes single and learns to embrace the five stages of grief while struggling to accept his dysfunctional asexual and somewhat dork-like identity was filmed in Cape Coral, Fort Myers, Captiva Island, Bonita Springs and Naples. The movie contains original music by Dan Miller, Danny Sinoff, Darrell Nutt, Heather Brooks, Mike Rogers, DJ Michael Briscoe and Kelsey Merritt. The event is sponsored by the Sidney and Berne Davis Center for the Arts, Fort Myers Downtown Redevelopment Agency, Erad Productions L.L.C., Southwest Florida Modeling and Talent, Three Kings Productions, Capomaestro Studios, Envie Lounge.

Ongoing events

■ **History** - One of the greatest anthropological finds in history, "LUCY: The Story of Human Origins" spans 50 million years in scope, from the early primates to the dawn of humanity. This exhibition, at the SWFL Museum of History in downtown Fort Myers, represents a historical frame of reference for the human timeline which includes this comprehensive collection of exact replicas of skeletons, skulls, footprints, tools, and artifacts dramatically illustrates the story of the progression of humankind on Earth. As part of the exhibit, the museum store will feature anthropological items and gifts and the best-selling book by the man who discovered her; "Lucy: The Beginning of Humankind," by Donald Johanson and Maitland Edey. The exhibit runs through June 12. Call (239) 332-5955 or visit www.cityftmyers.com/museum.

■ **Auditions** - The newly formed **Naples Publick Theatre**, dedicated to free Shakespeare in the park, will hold auditions for its inaugural production, "The Comedy of Errors," Tuesday, June 17, from 5 to 8 p. m. at the Norris Center, 755 8th Ave., S. (across from City Hall), Naples. The Shakespeare play will be presented at the Norris Center Amphitheatre during November and December. The production is non-union and all roles are open. Previous acting experience is required. Casting: Duke Solinus (50+); Egeon (50+), Antipholus twins (20-30); Dromio twins (20-30), Adriana (20-30); Luciana (16-25); Angelo (35+); Balthasar (additionally taking all Merchant roles, 30+), Nell/Abbess (50+); Courtesan (25+); Dr. Pinch (50+); Maid (taking Messenger role, 16+); Officer/Jailer (30+); male extras (16+). NPT is also seeking a costume designer, stage manager, light-sound techs, wardrobe mistress/master, and any other parties who wish to be involved. Send email stating your interest, or resume where applicable, to d@DonatoPresents.com.

■ **Art** - "First Look" is a visual art exhibit at the **Alliance for the Arts** featuring Senior Projects of Florida Gulf Coast University visual art students. An opening reception, free to the public, runs from 5 - 7 p.m. Also in attendance at the opening will be the new C.E.O. of the Alliance, Gary Conley. The artwork created by FGCU visual arts students will be featured in the exhibit at the Alliance and were chosen by the Exhibition Committee from the Alliance. "First Look" will be on display at the Alliance for the Arts through June 6. The Alliance for the Arts is located at 10091 McGregor Boulevard just south of Colonial Boulevard. Visit www.artinlee.org for further information.

■ **Call to artists** - The **Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program**, a partnership program working to protect the natural environment from Venice to Estero Bay to Winter Haven, is encouraging artwork submissions for its **2009 calendar**. People can submit up to three digitized entries by 5 p.m. on July 14. Qualifying images captured must be within the watershed of concern to the CHNEP, which includes all or portions of Charlotte, DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands, Lee, Manatee, Polk and Sarasota counties. Entries and forms must be received by Maran Hilgendorf, CHNEP, 1926 Victoria Ave, Fort Myers FL 33901-3414 prior to the deadline. If you have any questions, please contact Maran at mhilgendorf@swftrpc.org.

■ **Art** - **Space 39 Modern & Contemporary gallery** presents "Reflexive," featuring the works of **Pavol Roskoven-sky**. The artist explores a more naturalistic method of painting, creating images that are meticulously detailed and provide an almost spiritual transcendence. He explores the idea that true nature cannot be rendered on a picture plane by a human hand. "Reflexive" will be on display until June 15. Space 39 Modern & Contemporary is located at 39 Patio de Leon, Fort Myers. For more information, call (239) 690-0004 or visit www.spacet-hirty-nine.com.

■ **Art** - **Art of the Olympians** will be featured in the **Bob Rauschenberg Gallery/Edison College** through June 19. There will be a special preview event featuring the Art of the Olympians collection to be showcased at the 2008 Summer Olympic Games at The Prince Jun Palace. Olympic Gold Medalists, Bob Beamon and Pat McCormick, among other Olympians will be present at this special preview exhibition, from 6:30-9:30 p.m. The Bob Rauschenberg Gallery is located on the campus of Edison College. For additional information call: 239-489-9313 or visit the Web site, www.bobRauschenberggallery.com

■ **Call to artists** - The **Alliance for the Arts** recently partnered with Florida Shores Bank to administer a juried exhibition, where all work will be for sale. This is a rare opportunity for artists to sell artwork and be recognized in the community. The bank has ample space available for paintings, photographs, drawings, sculptures, and prints of all shapes and sizes. There is a \$25 entry fee for up to five pieces. All submissions need to be digital and must include dimensions and weight. Send submissions to Chelsea Birczak at rentals@artinlee.org. Submissions must be labeled with name, title, medium, size/weight and price. Due date is June 11. The show will open Monday, June 16.

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