

Notes from our Artistic Director

Greetings and welcome to the Gaslight-Baker Theatre and to our featured drama of the season, *BOOM TOWN*. And what a drama it is as you will soon find out. But before I discuss that too much, let me remind you of some of the wonderful things we still have in store for the 2009 season. Following *Boom Town* will be an old fashioned melodrama, complete with villain and plenty of pop corn to throw!! Then we bring you the wonderful comedy, *Over the River & Through the Woods*, followed by the classic thriller, *Wait Until Dark*. We will close the 2009 season with a clever take on a Christmas classic with *The Trial of Ebenezer Scrooge*. In addition, we are pleased to announce that in the spring of 2010 we will feature our first full length musical as Cal Collins Productions presents the Disney classic, *Beauty & The Beast!* So as you can see we are continuing to bring quality productions with as much variety as we can find.

And speaking of variety, each year we try to do a piece that we feel is slightly more cutting edge, contemporary, dramatic, etc.... *Boom Town* fills that role. For me as the artistic director I feel it is important to have plays like this for a number of reasons. I often think of theatre as a reflection of life. And yes, comedies are great because we always love to laugh but sometimes it is important to stimulate the other senses as well, because sometimes life makes us uncomfortable, or sad or angry. Indeed, sometimes life can be a struggle, to understand the why, the how, maybe even the difference between right and wrong. Hopefully if we have all done our job with this production, you will feel some of those emotions, be affected by it and ultimately leave the theatre stimulated and thinking, wondering and maybe even..... struggling a bit.....

Enjoy the show and as always - Thanks for your continued support!

-Randy Wachtel

Coming Attractions:

Peril at the High Seas...or...Let's Get Together
and Do Lunch by Billy St. John
July 17 - August 1

Over the River and Through the Woods
by Joe DiPietro
September 11-26

Wait Until Dark by Frederick Knott
October 30-November 14

The Trial of Ebenezer Scrooge by Mark Brown
December 4-19

Boom Town by Jeff Daniels

CAST (In order of appearance)

STU.....Randy Wachtel
ANGELA.....Christy Smith
FRANK.....Todd Allen Martin

SETTING

The play takes place in the kitchen of Stu and Angela Tompkins

TIME

The action takes place last summer

CREW

DIRECTOR.....David Schneider
STAGE MANAGER.....David Young
LIGHTS & SOUND.....Alan Krumm
SET DESIGN.....David Schneider

Originally produced by the Purple Rose Theatre Company (1998)

Jeff Daniels, Executive Director
Guy Sanville, Artistic Director
Alan Ribant, Managing Director

Director's Note

I first became aware of *Boom Town* about six years ago. From the moment I read the play, I was compelled to do this show. This season appeared to be the perfect opportunity. I have been honored to work with such a dedicated cast and crew. The subject matter and pace of the play, at times, could be exhausting for everyone involved. This play was never meant to leave you with a warm and fuzzy feeling, but rather a glimpse into the lives of these characters. I hope you will feel we have done it justice.

--David Schneider

Randy Wachtel - Randy was last seen on the stage as the villain in last summer's melodrama and most recently directed the season opener, *Almost Maine*. He received a BFA in Theatre Arts in 1995 and has been an active part of the Lockhart theatre community since 1999. He currently serves as the Artistic Director for the Gaslight-Baker Theatre. He has acted and directed in numerous productions, some favorites including *The Paris Letter* and *Months On End*, among many others. He is thrilled to be working with such a talented cast and director for this production.

Christy Smith - Christy has spent a good chunk of her free time at the Gaslight-Baker Theatre over the last year or so. You might have spotted her most recently as "Gayle" in *Almost Maine*, "Irene" in *Amateurs*, "Cherle" in *Bus Stop*, or "Cactus" in *A Christmas Cactus*. Christy holds a BA in theatre from Macalester College in St. Paul, MN. She worked professionally with the Academy Theatre in Atlanta, GA before moving to Texas and falling in with the theatre crowd here. Christy spends her days teaching theatre and dance to the wonderful students at Cedar Creek Middle School.

Todd Allen Martin - Todd returns to the Gaslight-Baker stage after last appearing in *Almost Maine*. His other roles on the Lockhart stage include Milo Tindle in *Sleuth* and Burt Sarris in *The Paris Letter*. A few of his other favorite roles are The Marquis de Sade in *Marat/Sade*, Ben Gant in *Look Homeward Angel*, Smudge in *Forever Plaid*, and Starbuck in *The Rainmaker*. Todd holds a BA in Theatre Performance from Chadron State College where he received a KC/ACTF from Ryan Acting Nomination for his portrayal of King Creon in *Medea*. He will also be directing the Gaslight-Baker production of *Wait Until Dark* later this year!!

David Young - First of all, I really hate the Lakers. This is the first time David has worked in a non-acting capacity for the Gaslight-Baker and is happy to be helping out with a great show. Did I mention I hate the Lakers? I really, really hate the Lakers! David was last seen on stage in the season opener *Almost Maine*.

Alan Krumm - Although rarely seen by our theatre patrons, all of you have seen Alan's work. You can see it because, as the Gaslight-Baker's Technical Staff, he controls the lighting and sound for almost every production. In addition to being the theatre's technical guru, Alan also serves on the theatre's Board of Directors.

David Schneider - David has been involved with Lockhart Theatre for almost a decade. A few of his directing credits include the recent productions of *Only an Orphan Girl* and *Sorry Wrong Chimney*. You may have recognized his set design for *Sleuth*, in addition to the designs for his own sets. David was last seen on stage in last year's production of *Amateurs*. He currently serves as Vice-President of the Gaslight-Baker Board of Directors.