

MUSICAL THEATRE GUILD

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TUNERS BY KANDER & EBB, LOESSER, LANE, COLEMAN AND TESORI COMPRISE MTG'S 13TH

LOS ANGELES, CA: Musical Theatre Guild, the winner of the Los Angeles Drama Critics' Circle Margaret Harford Award for sustained excellence in the theatre, has announced its thirteenth season of Broadway in Concert musicals. The 2008-2009 season will include Cy Coleman and Dorothy Fields' bright and colorful **SEESAW**, Frank Loesser's romantic **THE MOST HAPPY FELLA**, Burton Lane and E. Y. Harburg's classic **FINIAN'S RAINBOW**, Kander and Ebb's Tony® Award winning **KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN**, and the Los Angeles premiere of Jeanine Tesori's haunting and heartbreaking **VIOLET**.

The company of professional performers, who present concert-staged readings of seldom seen musicals, will stage five productions in two locations beginning in September 2008.

THE MUSICAL THEATRE GUILD 2008-2009 SEASON:

SEESAW

Music by Cy Coleman

Lyrics by Dorothy Fields

Written by Michael Bennett

Based on the play "Two for the Seesaw" by William Gibson

September 15, 2008 – Alex Theatre, Glendale

SEESAW was a show of firsts (launching Tommy Tune's career) and lasts (the final lyrics of the great Dorothy Fields). Featuring pulsating Cy Coleman melodies ("It's Not Where You Start, It's Where You Finish") and with 1970's New York as the background, **SEESAW** tells the tale of a slightly square, not-quite single lawyer from the Midwest and an off-kilter would-be-dancer from the Bronx. *35th Anniversary Production.*

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THE MOST HAPPY FELLA

Book, Music & Lyrics by Frank Loesser

Based on Sidney Howard's play THEY KNEW WHAT THEY WANTED

November 10, 2008 – Alex Theatre, Glendale

November 23, 2008 – Scherr Forum, Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza

Showing Frank Loesser's unlimited imagination, **THE MOST HAPPY FELLA** is the story of an aging vintner, his handsome young foreman and his even younger bride. Running for almost 700 performances (despite having opened just six weeks after MY FAIR LADY), it is full of both soaring romantic melodies ("My Heart Is So Full of You" and "Somebody Somewhere") and catchy show-stoppers ("Standing on the Corner" and "Big D"). A golden work from the "Golden Age"!

FINIAN'S RAINBOW

Music by Burton Lane

Lyrics by E. Y. Harburg

Book by E. Y. Harburg and Fred Saidy

February 23, 2009 – Alex Theatre, Glendale

March 1, 2009 - Scherr Forum, Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza

One of the greatest Broadway scores ever, with a strong Irish tinge and echoes of the deep South, **FINIAN'S RAINBOW** received two awards at the very first Tony ® Awards. Both political satire and romance, the songs are a veritable parade of "hits", including "How Are Things In Glocca Mora", "Look to the Rainbow", "Old Devil Moon", and "When I'm Not Near the Girl I Love." Recently revived to great acclaim Off-Broadway.

KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN

Book by Terrence McNally

Music by John Kander; Lyrics by Fred Ebb

Based on the Novel by Manuel Puig

April 20, 2009 – Alex Theatre, Glendale

Featuring a tough, gutsy Kander & Ebb score, this is one of Broadway's most theatrical musicals. It tells the complex story of the jailed Molina who escapes prison life by imagining he is visited by his favorite B-movie actress in her role as the sinister Spider Woman. Moving between reality and fantasy, Molina discovers love and heroism before the Spider Woman's final fatal kiss. Winner of six 1993 Tony® Awards, including Best Musical! *15th Anniversary Production.*

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VIOLET

Book & Lyrics by Brian Crawley

Music by Jeanine Tesori

Based on the short story "The Ugliest Pilgrim" by Doris Betts

June 15, 2009 – Alex Theatre, Glendale

MTG is excited to present the Los Angeles premiere of this spellbinding 1997 gem by Jeanine Tesori (THOROUGHLY MODERN MILLIE; CAROLINE, OR CHANGE and the upcoming SHREK THE MUSICAL). Developed at New York's Playwrights Horizons Theater and winning the New York Drama Critics Circle Award, **VIOLET** covers the emotional road trip of a scarred young woman - and two handsome soldiers - traveling towards a T.V. preacher who supposedly will make her beautiful. The score is clever and heartfelt, with Gospel, R&B and country influences. *Los Angeles Premiere.*

Season tickets to the complete season at the Alex Theatre in Glendale will go on sale in mid March, with subscription renewal for current subscribers available now by mail. For more information about the Musical Theatre Guild, call 818-848-6844 or log on to www.musicaltheatreguild.com. For single tickets to the Alex Theatre, call the Alex Theatre Box Office at 818-243-ALEX. Single tickets to the Scherr Forum are available by calling Ticketmaster at 805-538-8700 or at the Civic Arts Plaza box office.

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