



1875 N. Central Ave. Phoenix, AZ 85004 Box Office 602-357-3247

Greetings!

We hope you are ready to gear up for a busy and prolific theater season with Central Community Theatre. In this eNewsletter, you will find so much information that you will want to save the Email in your "Saved Mail" folder!

First order of business is just below this introduction; our season announcement including TWO full length plays, and THREE Jazz Cabarets. We believe we will hear the collective gasp when you read that Jazz Vocalist Margo Reed is opening our entire season with a BANG on Sunday September 14th, with a one-night-only command performance! Oh, don't forget to scroll down to the bottom to read short synopses of the show events that you are most excited about.

Next, we will be challenging you this season with our new, ambitious Staged Reading Series. These three compelling shows can be purchased individually, as a stand-alone season at a discount, or with our primary season at an even deeper discount. You can learn what a Staged Reading is in this very eNewsletter. We promise that you will want to stay after the show and DISCUSS themes and your own personal feelings with these three titles!

With what we believe is perfect timing for the Easter holidays, we offer the most popular musical of all time, Stephen Schwartz's "Godspell", imagined and staged as you have never seen it. In fact no show has ever been staged in CCT's theater this way before. More about that little nugget in future eNewsletters!

Without further ado and theatrically yours,
The Staff, Board and Volunteers of Central Community Theatre

Central Community Theatre

Proudly announces it's 2008-2009 Season!

With an eclectic collection of top valley Jazz performers, comedies, a well-placed musical and an ambitious staged reading series, Central Community Theatre is offering a body of performances that is sure to impress the most discriminating and demanding community theater aficionado.

Jazz Vocalist Margo Reed
"The Seven Year Itch"
Staged Reading of "Salome"
Jazz Legend Dennis Rowland

September 14, 2008*
October 3-19, 2008
November 7-9, 2008
December 14, 2008*

Staged Reading of "The Women"
 "Godspell"
 Staged Reading of "Jane Doe"
 CCT presents TML Arts' "Together Forever"
 & Broadway Style Diva Shana Bousard

February 20-22, 2009
 March 20-April 5, 2009
 April 24-26, 2009
 May 10, 2009*

* One night only!

CCT presents Margo Reed - Jazz Vocalist!

by Phil D'Agostino

We are pleased to open with a ONE NIGHT ONLY performance by the local Jazz Great -
 Performing Sunday, September 14th, 7pm ONLY.



Margo Reed has been performing in the Valley since she moved to Phoenix in 1973 where the Chicago native quickly made her musical presence felt. If you're a veteran of the Valley jazz scene, you can recall the days when Margo, her sister Francine and indeed the entire Reed family, were regulars on the local club circuit.

This celebrated chanteuse has performed at all the best local and national nightspots, including the Century Sky Room, and the legendary Boojum Tree and major venues around the country.

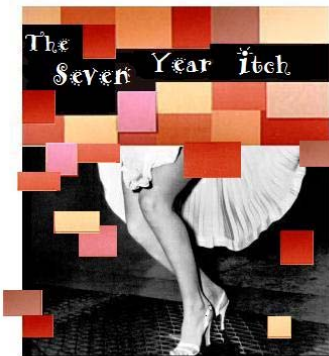
Margo Reed will evoke memories of jazz greats Billie Holiday and Bessie Smith. Arizona Jazz Magazine named her Female Vocalist of the Year in 2000. In 2003, Reed was inducted into the Arizona Blues Hall of Fame.

As she has for over 30 years, Margo will be sure to bring the CCT house down! This is one special evening you don't want to miss.

Please call the CCT box office at 602-357-3247 for ticket information.

CALL FOR AUDITIONS - "THE SEVEN YEAR ITCH"

Saturday August 9th 1-3pm
 Monday August 11th 7-9:30pm
 Tuesday August 12th 7-9:30pm



Newly appointed Artistic Director Ken Kahle will direct one of the theatre's biggest comedy hits, George Axelrod's "The Seven Year Itch".

See below for Synopsis.

The cast of characters consists of: 3 men, 6 women, 1 boy.

Auditions will take place in Womack Center on the

campus of Central United Methodist Church.

1875 North Central Avenue, Phoenix, AZ, 85004.
 Auditions are open call, no appointment necessary.

Remembering Chryl



The whole CCT family is doing our best to carry on our "class act" tradition after the passing of our leader Chryl Bohnenkamp on April 8, 2008. Chryl had been our Executive Director for five years. Here, several CCT friends will share their special memories of her.

Contributed by Mike Kaiser:

Chryl sat in on a tech rehearsal for

Headshot/Resume: Preferred, but not required.
 Snapshots are fine.
 Acting audition - cold read from script.

Rehearsals begin: Monday, August 18th.
 Performance dates: Oct 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 17, 18 & 19,
 2008. Oct 5, 12 & 19 are matinees.

CCT introduces Inagural season of Staged Reading Productions!

This season CCT offers an additional way to view theater, culture and the arts. We present a series of Staged Readings to test your thinking and to offer the chance for you to see plays that might not ordinarily be produced on our stage.

But you might first ask us; "What the heck is a staged reading"? Good question.

It is just that. The performers have several rehearsals with a Director who establishes entrances, exits, and other movement as well as basic character interpretation. There will be no elaborate set, but the actors may use props, music and a suggestion of costumes, or the work may be performed without aids of any kind. There is much more creative process involved in presenting a staged reading versus that involved in simple reader's theater, or a "table reading".

This affords us the opportunity to produce play titles that CCT has historically rejected for consideration because of subject matter, theme, style, cast size, cost, or perceived lack of commercial value. As an audience, you will need to employ all facets of your imagination, but you will also pick up on much more sub context within the play. The first thing you will notice is the raw, bareness of the production, but this experience will prove to you how quickly you will dismiss the need for bells and whistles.

This season we have chosen a sophisticated offering of three titles: "Salome", "The Women", and "Jane Doe"; each bringing to life three decidedly different kinds of strong female characters. We invite you to sit back and open your ears and your minds to an exceptional THEATRICAL method of raw storytelling.

Please call CCT's box office at 602-357-3247 for individual and season ticket pricing for our Staged Reading Series.

Meet Jane Doe

"Breast cancer saved by life..."

"J.B." in 2002. It had been a long and grueling rehearsal. By the time we sang what was to be the jubilant finale, the song was flat. Really flat. We were asked to sing it again. This time when we finished, Chryl stood, shouted out, "WOO-HOO, we've got ourselves a show!"

"Sell, sell, sell!" was Chryl's cheerfully insistent refrain. "Sell those advertising spaces, sell those tickets!" She encouraged cast members to purchase well-wisher message spots in the playbill.

"Are you enjoying the show?" Chryl would ask the audience at the end of each intermission, before announcing the coming attractions, the twice as nice invitations, and - with great flair, the 50-50 jackpot winner. Chryl was always our cheerleader, our best cheerleader.

(Mike appeared in "J.B.", "Caught in the Villain's Web" and "As 1000's Cheer" at CCT)

Contributed by Johanna Carlisle:

Chryl and I had a wonderful evening out last year. After a glass of wine at My Florist Café we went to see "Die Mommy Die" at @PRO (Community Theatre). It was such a fun girl bonding night! We realised that we had so much in common from wine right down to our love of our Aquarian men. I did not pre-warn her that the female lead of the play was a man in drag. When he took the stage, Chryl peeled out in laughter. The theatre is so tiny that her laugh filled the house spilling out into the street! Everyone turned and looked at us which made us laugh harder. A few months later, she and (then CCT Administrative Assistant) Cindy McNeely helped my family as I recovered from abdominal surgery. Chryl shared with me a lot about her past abdominal surgeries and that helped me handle mine with much more ease and comfort. She also

Jane needed to talk about things that her friends and family were not comfortable with... like death and dying. With no one to turn to, a 40% chance to survive, and an intention to say what she felt needed saying before she died, she started talking to her video camera. The video-taping was deeply healing for Jane and miraculously uplifting to others. Jane says, "The whole experience gave me wings. I'm so lucky I got Cancer."

TO BE CONTINUED...

Come and join us for a truly inspiring evening with a Survivor... Coming to the CCT stage in 2009.

Central Community Theatre - Play Synopses

Newly announced 2008-2009 season

Cabaret - Jazz Vocalist Margo Reed - Sunday, September 14, 2008 - Delighting Phoenix audiences for many years, the energy and emotion, joy and passion that Margo infuses into her music is exhilarating! Her music versatility has thrilled listeners in San Diego and Denver, captivated patrons in Detroit, and wowed crowds at jazz festivals across the country.

"The Seven Year Itch" by George Axelrod - October 3-19, 2008. SYNOPSIS - With his wife and son off to the shore for the summer, Richard Sherman, a husband of seven years fantasizes about having a fling with a young woman who has moved into the apartment in the unit above. He invites the delectable doll down for an evening of temptation. The night doesn't quite go the way he thought it would, as morality and guilt sneak into his head. In his conscience-literally following him about the apartment-a soul-struggle of heroic and hilarious proportions ensues.

Cabaret - Jazz Legend Dennis Rowland - Sunday, December 14, 2008 - National jazz recording artist and stage actor, Dennis Rowland brings with him the stage performers ability to convey intimacy in even the most immense of settings. He cannily pulls off an inspired homage to the ultimate larger than life jazz musician, Miles Davis.

"Godspell" - March 20-April 5, 2009. DESCRIPTION - One of the most successful musicals in history brings to life the parables of Jesus Christ in a whimsical view. His followers and disciples re-enact allegories and scenes from His life with great energy using various theatrical

offered Mark (my husband) catering for the Divas in the Desert fundraiser when he lost his job. I have never met a person who was as beautiful on the inside as she was on the outside! I just hope I can grow up and be just like her!

(Johana appeared in "Nunsense" for CCT)

Other CCT friends, who wish to share a memory of Chryl, please send to Marietta Moravetz, MettaMetz@aol.com.

Are you interested in
Supporting Culture & the
Arts??

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CCT is currently seeking
businesses and individuals
who are interested in
sponsoring Community
Theater in Central Phoenix
in a significant way.

With the upcoming launch
of our 2008/2009 season,
Central Community
Theatre is offering
substantial visibility
and publicity to
community minded
organizations and
individuals who
are interested in improving
the quality of our "Cultural
Life" in Central
downtown Phoenix.

Please call CCT's Artistic
Director Ken Kahle at 602-
380-3788 or Email at
info@cctstage.org for more
information.

THE ACTOR'S CORNER

My experiences as Luisa
in "The Fantasticks"
by
Chelsea Groen

traditions including pantomime, charades, acrobatics and vaudeville tied together with a string of well-loved songs, led by the international hit "Day by Day."

Cabaret - CCT Presents TML Arts' "Together Forever" & Broadway Style Diva Shana Bousard - Sunday, May 10, 2009 - A dynamic Diva with a passion for song, Shana was a featured singer/dancer for Holland America and Regency Cruise lines, and has performed several cabaret acts in New York City, as well as her solo vocal recital at Carnegie Hall. With a professional career and talent that promises to please, this vibrant vocalist entices you to relax and enjoy as she warms your heart and tickles your fancy with the vocal styles of Broadway, Jazz, and Blues.

STAGED Reading Series

Staged Reading 1 - "Salome" by Oscar Wilde - November 7-9, 2008. DESCRIPTION - A classic tragic tale of desire and revenge, this is the Biblical story of Salome, stepdaughter of the tetrarch Herod Antipas, who, to her stepfather's dismay (but to the delight of her mother Herodias), requests the head of John the Baptist on a silver platter as a reward for performing the Dance of the Seven Veils.

Staged Reading 2 - "The Women" by Clare Booth Luce - February 20-22, 2009. DESCRIPTION - "The Women" is an acidic and biting commentary on the pampered lives and power struggles of various wealthy Manhattan socialites and the gossip that propels and damages their relationships. While men frequently are the subject of their lively discussions, they are strictly characters mentioned but never seen. The plot involves the efforts of a group of women in an artificial society that consists of vain show, comedy, tragedy, hope and disappointment.

Staged Reading 3 - "Jane Doe" by Jane Fendelman, adapted to the stage by Ken Kahle - April 24-26, 2009. DESCRIPTION - "Breast cancer saved my life". During the year prior to her 2005 Breast Cancer diagnosis, Jane Fendelman and her (then) husband experienced a devastating miscarriage. Three months later he left her for her best friend, then Jane's father died suddenly. Two months after that, she was diagnosed with an aggressive, grade three lump in her left breast. Deeply heartbroken, Jane decided dying didn't sound so bad. She could never have predicted what happened next. Jane Doe is a new stage adaptation of the extremely personal, awe-inspiring video diary of Jane's odyssey.

Season tickets are available now!! Please call the CCT box office at 602-357-3247 or contact us via email: info@cctstage.org

When I saw that Central Community Theater was doing "The Fantasticks", I was so excited! I saw the show in New York and already sang "Much More" for many of my auditions, so I was quite familiar with it. Luisa was a role I had dreamed of playing!

Everyone in the cast was amazing and perfect for their part. Toby, the musical director, was extremely talented and wonderful to work with as well. The rehearsals ran very smoothly, and the CCT staff was so welcoming and helpful. I was amazed at Sally Jo's patience and sincere kindness throughout the entire process, because a director's job can get quite stressful. I loved how the theater was closely connected with the church, and had such a blast performing at the Sunday services and meeting all of the theater's supporters. When we opened, we received such praise from all who saw the show and our cast felt so proud of what we had accomplished. "The Fantasticks" is such an unbelievable and beautiful show, and because of this show I grew not only as a performer, but also as a person!

-Chelsea performed Louisa in "The Fantasticks" for CCT in March of 2008.

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