

Brüka Theatre 99 N Virginia Street, Reno, NV 89501

Box Office: (775) 323-3221 Fax: (775) 323-8209

Email: boxofficebruka@gmail.com Website: www.bruka.org



THIS IS THE 2011/2012 BRÜKA THEATRE SEASON, 19 YEARS of live theatre in downtown Reno. With this season Brüka salutes great theatre and art of the past with nods to the Federal Theatre Project of the 1930's and riveting new plays set in watershed moments of America. The first play of the season, *39 Steps* is an absurdly gleeful theatrical riff on Alfred Hitchcock movies, based on the movie *The 39 Steps* with a few other Hitchcock leanings that make this a hilarious and fast paced evening of theatre. Written by Patrick Barlow and Directed by Bob Barsonti, *39 Steps* will run October through November of 2011.

The First play reading of the season features the 75th anniversary of the Federal Theatre Project opening of *It Can't Happen Here* by Sinclair Lewis. The reading, which will be read nationally on October 24, 2011, will be read the same night at 7 PM at our own Brüka Theatre. This semi-satirical American Political Play will feature some acting greats from the community. Tickets are \$10 for Students and Seniors. \$12 General. Reservations are recommended. In addition we will read three more original plays through-out the season and bring Tyler Dean's play *The Aftermath* from page to stage in August of 2012.

Our 14th Annual Halloween Freaker's Ball is scheduled for October 29. With the theme of "Mystery and Intrigue" Brüka will continue the tradition of incredible costumes, theatrical antics, dancing, costume contests and the raffle. and will collaborate with **CommRow** this year holding the Ball in their Third Floor Cargo Room. We are very excited about the prospects of this partnership and hope to continue it into other community and artistic events. Doors will open at 8 PM. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. 21 and over.

Christmas brings the return of Michael Grimm's adaptation for three actors of Charles Dickens *A Christmas Carol*- The revival of Brüka Theatre's original adaption of Dickens' masterpiece casts three actors and a minimalist set and gives the audience the unique opportunity to experience the story with the words of Dickens as it's centerpiece. Much like the original theatrical storytelling that Dickens used to perform, himself, this production is a hybrid of a staged reading and a theatrical performance piece. A theatrical experience that is sure to give you a healthy dose of the "Christmas Spirit."

In January of 2012, Brüka presents *The Living Newspaper*, an original Brüka piece based on the concept created by the Federal Theatre Project created from social issues of our day.

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At the end of January we welcome *In The Next Room or the vibrator play*. This comedy about marriage, intimacy and electricity is written by the exciting contemporary playwright Sarah Ruhl and directed by theatre veteran Karen Chandler.

In March – April Andrew Lipka's *The Wild Party* takes us to a very wild night at the end of the roaring 20's with it's dark and sexy tension, similar to that of *Cabaret*, based on Joseph Moncure March's narrative poem of the same name. Great music and torrid relationships steer this musical directed by Mary Bennett with Bill Quinby as musical director.

On the steamy heels of *The Wild Party* comes *God of Carnage*, directed by Tony DeGeiso and is written by Yasmina Reza (*Art*) and translated by Christopher Hampton. *God of Carnage* is poised somewhere in between *Who's Afraid Of Virginia Woolf?* and *The Honeymooners*, and delivers the cathartic release of watching other people's marriages go boom. These two couples have come together to deal with a playground problem between their children, and to solve the issue in a civilized manor. This is a study in the tension between civilized surface and savage instinct. This play (Winner of three 2009 Tony Awards) is itself a satisfyingly primitive entertainment with an intellectual veneer.

Sandra Brunell Neace directs *How I Learned To Drive* written by Paula Vogel who won the Pulitzer Prize for this play. This wildly funny, surprising and devastating tale of survival as seen through the lens of a troubling relationship between a young girl and an older man. *How I Learned to Drive* is the story of a woman who learns the rules of the road and life from behind the wheel. Neace adapted The Medea Project for the Brüka Stage last season.

July brings our celebration of Tennessee Williams centennial. Stacey Spain directs *Orpheus Descending*, explosive Williams at his most passionate. When the play appeared in 1957 Tennessee Williams wrote that: "On the surface it was and still is the tale of a wild-spirited boy who wanders into a conventional community of the South and creates the commotion of a fox in a chicken coop. But beneath that now familiar surface it is a play about unanswered questions that haunt the hearts of people and the difference between continuing to ask them, ... and the acceptance of prescribed answers that are not answers at all." Repression, passion and sacrifice are themes Williams worked with in many of his better-known plays - this play explores the themes with courage and conviction.

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In terms of theatre for the whole family - Brüka's Theatre for Children brings the fourth adaptation of Grimm's Fairytales with *Hansel and Gretel* with public performances March 22, 23 and 24 at 10 am. And touring schools and communities April through July 2012. Brüka will also present performances from our summer acting camp in July of 2012. This year participants between the ages of 8 - 18 will adapt Alice in Wonderland for a site specific performance. Please contact Brüka for information about getting involved in the workshops.

All of the shows will open with a post show opening night champagne reception. The shows run Thursdays through Saturdays with most evening shows at 8:00 pm with one Wednesday night show during each run. All shows have one Sunday matinee followed by a talkback with the company and audience. The doors open a half an hour before curtain time.

Season Tickets are now on sale. Reservations are available through our box office at (775) 323-3221. Box-office hours are 1 - 5 Wednesday through Friday and 12 - 4 Saturday. Individual tickets are \$18 for general \$16 for students, seniors and military and all tickets are \$20 at the door. Tickets for the musical, *The Wild Party* are \$20 for general and \$18 for students, seniors and military. All tickets for the musical are \$25 at the door. Reservations are also available at the Melting Pot World Emporium @ their new location: 1047 S. Virginia Street. Reno. We validate convenient parking at the Parking Gallery on First and Sierra Street. Check us out at www.bruka.org.

ABOUT BRÜKA THEATRE In the 19th season in downtown Reno, Brüka has been named "Best Theatre Company" by *The News and Review* fourteen years running. Brüka Theatre is a leader in the region, recognized for its productions, artists and theatre for children series since it's founding in 1992. Central to Brüka is the commitment to the reinvestigation of contemporary and classic plays and developing new plays within Brüka's Artistic Collective, which include winners of the Nevada Arts Council and Sierra Arts Foundation artist grants and local best actor honors. Brüka is a non- equity and not-for-profit theater company that has produced over 80 shows in our downtown Reno location. 2011/2012 season tickets not on sale. Sign up for our email newsletter by going to our website at www.bruka.org.