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TICKET SALES: 805-756-2787

Cal Poly Arts Brings 'Gypsy' as a Valentine Treat

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA – Just in time for Valentine's Day, Cal Poly Arts presents a sweetheart of a musical – a national touring production of GYPSY, at 8 p.m. on Thursday, February 14, 2008 in the Cohan Center.

"This is the best Broadway musical ever created...Gypsy is a heart transplant for theatergoers." (The Daily News)

"Hey, it's not called a classic for nothing." (Newsweek)

This Broadway musical tells the story of the quintessential stage mother, her dreams for herself and her daughters, and the daughter who dared live her own dream.

Based on the memoirs of entertainer Gypsy Rose Lee, Gypsy tells the story of Rose, an overbearing stage mother who is determined to make her girls the stars of vaudeville. Rose overwhelmingly favors her younger daughter, June, who headlines the act, while Louise is relegated to the chorus.

Mama Rose's attention eventually turns to her older daughter, but it is Louise herself who discovers her own talent and becomes a bigger star than Rose ever dreamed possible.

Set against the freewheeling days of vaudeville and burlesque, Gypsy explores ambition, jealousy, family relationships, and the bittersweet loss of innocence.

Gypsy was written by three virtuosos of American musical theater: Arthur Laurents (book), Jule Styne (music), and Stephen Sondheim (lyrics).

The original production, starring Ethel Merman as Mama Rose and directed by Jerome Robbins, was an instant hit when it opened at the Broadway Theatre in 1959.

Subsequent successful revivals garnered a total of three Tony Awards and featured such talents as Angela Lansbury, Tyne Daly, and Bernadette Peters in the role of Mama Rose.

Gypsy features some of the biggest songs in Broadway history, including "Everything's Coming Up Roses," "Rose's Turn," "Some People," "You Gotta Have A Gimmick," and "Together, Wherever We Go."

General public tickets for the performance range from \$56 to \$68 and may be purchased at the Performing Arts Ticket Office, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays.

To order by phone, call 805/756-2787; to order by fax: 805/756-6088.

Order on-line at www.pacslo.org.

Sponsored by Sheila and Yosef Tiber, Lucia Cleveland and Dr. Paul Vanderheyden, and Matrix Mobile Television, with additional support provided by KCBX 90.1 FM.

For more information on all Cal Poly Arts events, including audio and video samples, please visit www.calpolyarts.org.

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