



Banyan Theater Company Presents Ninth Season

SARASOTA, FL – The Banyan Theater Company opens its ninth season of summer entertainment on June 24 with Henrik Ibsen’s “Ghosts,” which runs through July 11. “The Drawer Boy,” by Michael Healey, runs from July 15-August 1; and Warren Leight’s “Side Man” opens August 5 and closes August 22.

The Banyan Theater Company performs in the Jane B. Cook Theatre at the FSU Center for the Performing Arts, 5555 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota. A three-show subscription costs \$70, a two-show package is \$52 and single tickets are \$28.50. To purchase tickets, visit www.banyantheatercompany.com, call (941) 552-1032, or visit the box office inside the FSU Center lobby Tuesday – Friday from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm, Saturday noon – 3:00 pm, and Sunday noon – 2:00 pm.

“Ghosts” by Henrik Ibsen, June 24-July 11

Considered Ibsen’s most controversial play, “Ghosts” caused a furor when it was first published and it remains one of the Norwegian master’s most influential works. Mrs. Alving (Jessica K. Peterson) wants to protect her late husband’s memory and avoid the awful truth: he was a cheating, immoral philanderer whose public reputation was a sham. Things begin to unravel when their dying son, Oswald (Gordon Myles Woods), announces his plan to marry the family’s maid (Gretchen Porro). This is a must-see play, as timely today as the most recent headlines for its piercing insights into maintaining appearances at all costs. Rick Davis’ and Brian Johnston’s translation is directed by Gil Lazier and also stars Steven Clark Pachosa and Peter Thomasson.

8:00 pm June 24, 25, 26, 30; July 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10

2:00 pm June 26, 27; July 2, 3, 10, 11

“The Drawer Boy” by Michael Healey, July 15-August 1

Michael Healey’s poignant drama about the complex ties that bind a pair of World War II veterans is loaded with twists and surprises. Boyhood friends Morgan (Don Walker) and Angus (Kenneth Tigar) have been living together as farmers since they returned home from the war, where Angus suffered a brain injury that left him with little capacity for memory. Things change when Miles (Ken Ferrigni), a young actor, comes to help them on the farm. There’s plenty of humor as the city kid experiences life on the farm, but Miles’ well-intentioned meddling leads to catastrophic changes in all their lives. Directed by Carole Kleinberg.

8:00 pm July 15, 16, 17, 21, 22, 23, 24, 28, 29, 30, 31

2:00 pm July 17, 18, 24, 25, 31; August 1

“Side Man” by Warren Leight, August 5-August 22

“Side Man” tells the story of a troubled family set against the backdrop of the waning years of the jazz era. Told in flashbacks, Clifford (Juan Javier Cardenas) relates the story of his father (Steve DuMouchel), a passionate and talented jazz trumpeter, and his mother (Roxanne Fay), a woman whose marriage was destroyed by her husband’s devotion to his music. It is a broken family with no heroes or villains, only people doing the best they can at a time of vast changes in the music world. “Side Man” took the New York theater world by storm when it garnered the Oppenheimer Award for Best New American Playwright, eventually going on to be nominated for the Pulitzer Prize for Drama and winning the 1999 Tony Award for Best Play. Directed by Jim Wise, “Side Man” also features Dan Bright, Robert Herrle, Barry Look and Lauren L. Wood.

8:00 pm August 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 13, 14, 18, 19, 20, 21

2:00 pm August 7, 8, 14, 15, 21, 22