

MAMBO ITALIANO

PRESENTED BY PICCADILLY CIRCUS

For Immediate Release

Saturday, May 27, 2006

PICCADILLY CIRCUS

Co-founded 35 years ago by two of Hamilton's best known community theatre faces, Willard Boudreau and Gary Smith, Piccadilly Circus' mandate is to seek out theatre experiences, which are new, exciting and unlikely to be produced by other groups in the area whether they be professional or community based. Piccadilly Circus believes that theatre should be provocative, rebellious and, if need be, revolutionary. Finally, Piccadilly Circus is dedicated to promoting this concept of theatre to young performers and young audiences alike that have grown up on a diet of mega-musicals and television. However, its productions are engaging and thought provoking for audiences of all ages. When theatre is vibrant and relevant, it's exciting and involving. Piccadilly Circus loves to involve people in that kind of commitment and excitement.

PICCADILLY CIRCUS CELEBRATES WITH PRIDE

Once again Piccadilly Circus in partnership with The Hamilton Pride Festival is responsible for premiering a theatrical production on a Hamilton stage. Over the years this partnership has led to presentations of Beautiful Thing, The Laramie Project, and Torch Song Trilogy. This year the performance space will be the newly renovated Westside Concert Theatre. In its former life it was first The Kenmore cinema and then for many years the CHCH Telecentre. Now owned by Lorne Leiberman and Colin Lapsley, it has been lovingly restored as a live theatre venue. Piccadilly Circus had the honour of being the very first theatre event in this exciting new space with their April 2006 production of Samuel Beckett's modern classic Waiting For Godot. Sporting a spacious and attractive lobby area, complete with a well stocked bar, the theatre itself boasts a capacity for 300 persons in traditional theatre seating or approximately 170 in cabaret seating. The Westside Concert Theatre is located at 434 King Street West. Visit www.westsidelive.com to learn more about this exciting new performance space.

MAMBO ITALIANO BY STEVE GALLUCCIO

Produced with permission from Agence Goodwin (Montreal)

"It's fresh, funny, very real and terribly touching." Richard Ouzounian, Toronto Star

Twenty-something Italo-Canadian Angelo and his former best friend Nino, both favourite sons of Italian immigrant families, become a couple and move in together. And all is fine . . . almost. "What is so wrong with living with your parents until you get married?". That is until Angelo decides to come out of the closet and reveals he and Nino are more than mere roommates - they're (gasp) lovers! All hell breaks loose, Italian style of course. Horror is followed by a general outcry; disbelief is followed by indignation; the battlefield is cleared and "tutta la famiglia" goes to war. Mambo Italiano is a hilarious comedy full of neurotic characters, witty dialogue, substance, and great humour.

Steve Galluccio (Playwright) Steve Galluccio is a playwright with a delightful flair for comedy. Born, raised, and still living in Montreal, he first attracted media attention in 1990 with his play My Mom Was On The Radio. During the next 6 years he was a favourite of the Montreal Fringe Festival. Galluccio, who is fluent in Italian, French, and English, subsequently produced works outside the Fringe to great success and acclaim. These include, Sexual Success In Montreal and Peter'n'Paul Get Mary'd. Mambo Italiano premiered at The Jean Duceppe Theatre in a French version translated by Michel Tremblay and enjoyed an impressive run during the 2000 - 2001 season, winning both popular and critical acclaim. The success continued when its original

English version arrived at Montreal's famed Centaur Theatre in autumn, 2001 and quickly made history as the theatre's biggest success. Riding high on its flourishing popularity, this Canadian stage phenomenon repeated that success with subsequent productions in Toronto and across the country. In 2003 it was adapted into a full-length screenplay where its success continued with a worldwide release.

PRODUCTION TEAM

Willard Boudreau (*Director*) Willard has been a part of the local theatre scene for over five decades as an actor, designer and director. As artistic director of Piccadilly Circus, he has created an original musical, Love In A Minor Key, showcasing the music of Dorothy Lees Blakey and directed Beautiful Thing, The Laramie Project and Torch Song Trilogy. Most recently he appeared as Gogo in Waiting For Godot.

Executive Producers: Kathy McRoberts & Jerry McRoberts

Stage Manager & Set Designer: Willard Boudreau

Lighting Designer: Lynne Jamieson

Costumes: Gary Smith

Script Assistant: Susan Kilby

Properties Mistress: Jo Skilton

CAST

Maureen "Moe" Dwyer (*Anna*) Moe is proud to be working once again with Piccadilly Circus, and all her theatre friends, for yet another wonderful show. Her last stage appearance was Agnes of God (Players` Guild), and some of her recent favourites include The Laramie Project and Beautiful Thing (Piccadilly Circus), Proof, Top Girls, and Hey Day (Players` Guild), as well as Into the Woods (Drury Lane), and her one woman show Misbegotten. Most recently the multi-talented actress has been at the helm, directing her drama students at Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School in the musical Grease.

Robert Knuckle (*Gino*) Bob portrayed football coach Vince Lombardi on the stage, on radio, and on television in his play I Am Not A Legend. He retired from education in 1993 and since then has devoted most of his time to writing. Two of his true crime novels are presently under option to be made into movies. But he still loves the theatrical process, the collaborative effort that transforms a script through rehearsal to a performance before an audience. He is particularly enjoying working with the talented cast assembled for Mambo Italiano. Bob and his wife Elizabeth live in Dundas. Their family includes four children, their partners, and six grandchildren.

Tamara Kamermans (*Pina*) Tamara is a graduate of McMaster University's drama program and enjoys working in community theatre in Dundas, Burlington and Hamilton. Her most recent productions include: Good Night Desdemona, Good Morning Juliet (Constance), and Marvin's Room (Lee). Next year she will take on her first directing assignment as she helms Hansel and Gretel for Theatre Burlington.

Murline Mallette (*Lina*) In her first appearance with Piccadilly Circus Murline brings a wealth of experience to our company. Her long list of acting credits includes small polished gems as well as leading roles. A partial list of favourite plays in which she has performed include: And Miss Reardon Drinks A Little, Private Lives, Blood Relations, The Women, and the world premier of local playwright Kevin Land's Hey Day. In her spare time this busy gal trains chefs to international standards at her wonderful school; Liaison College, and also serves as president of The Players` Guild of Hamilton.

James Pettit (*Angelo*) James is an award winning actor and graduate of the Theatre Aquarius Performing Arts Programme. In addition to honing his acting skills the last few years has also seen him assume the role of instructor at the Aquarius Junior School. Recent performing credits include: Pinocchio (The Coachman), How Could You Mrs. Dick? (Sgt. Preston), Man Of La Mancha (Cpt.of the Inquisition,Pedro), Proof (Hal), The Laramie Project (Andy Paris), Les Miserable (Major Domo), and Footloose (Lyle).

Kitty Varley (*Maria*) Kitty's list of credits is indeed a long one reflecting her position as one of the area's leading performers. Equally comfortable with comedy as she is with drama she has played roles as diverse as Martha in Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf, and Doty Otley in Noises Off. Most recently she was seen in Theatre Burlington's Ring Round The Moon and in On Golden Pond at Theatre Aquarius. This is Kitty's first appearance with Piccadilly Circus.

Matthew Willson (*Nino*) Matt is an award-winning actor concentrating on character work for stage, film and T.V. This will be Matt's third appearance with Piccadilly Circus. Other roles with this company include Arnold in Torch Song Trilogy and Lucky in Waiting For Godot. Earlier this season he also distinguished himself in the role of John Dick for the Players' Guild production of How Could You Mrs. Dick? As soon as the curtain falls on Mambo, Matt will begin work on the horror film, Left For Dead.

TICKETS SELLERS

Bryan Prince Bookseller

Address: 1060 King Street West, Hamilton, Ontario

Phone: (905) 528-4508

Hours of Operation: Mon-Wed:9am-6pm Thu-Fri:9am-9pm Sat:9am-6pm

Methods of Payment: Cash, Debit, Visa, MC

The Comfortable Pew (*Tickets for June 16th & 17th shows only.*)

Address: 24 Main Street West

Hours of Operation: Mon-Fri: 9:30am-3pm

Methods of Payment: Cash

La Jardinere Flower Market (*Tickets for June 16th & 17th shows only.*)

Address: 246 Locke Street South

Hours of Operation: Mon-Fri:9am-6pm Sat:9am-5pm Sun:10am-4pm

Methods of Payment: Cash, Debit, Visa, MC, AMEX, Diner's

SHOW DATES AND TIMES

Friday, June 10th, 2006 at 8pm

Saturday, June 11th, 2006 at 8pm

Thursday, June 15th, 2006 at 8pm

Friday, June 16th, 2006 at 8pm (***\$5 from each ticket donated to The Hamilton Pride Festival.***)

Saturday, June 17th, 2006 at 8pm (***\$5 from each ticket donated to The Hamilton Pride Festival.***)

Tickets are \$20 each. Mambo Italiano will be presented at the Westside Concert Theatre (Formerly the CHCH Telecentre) located at 434 King Street West between Locke and Queen Streets in the heart of downtown Hamilton, Ontario.

SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS

1010 Bistro, The AIDS Network, Ariel Rogers, Bill Carson Hypnotherapy, Bryan Prince Bookseller, Carson Chiropractic, Cedar Springs, Coldwell Banker, The Dance Centre, Drury Lane Theatre, Dundee Private Investors Inc., Fogarty's Cove & Cole Harbour Music, Halton Honda – Patricia Turner, Hamilton Pride Festival Inc., Gilbert's Big & Tall Men's Shop, Grapes & Hops, La Jardinere Flower Market, Liason College Culinary Arts, The Player's Guild of Hamilton, Pinnacle Realty, The Pita Pit, Simpson & Watson, Stardust Dancewear & Costumes, Studio Technique Pilates & Acting, Susan Gudgeon Voice Studio, Valentino's Restaurant, The Werx, The Westdale Bookworm, and The Westside Concert Theatre.

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