

MORONGO VALLEY, MAY 15, 2003

GROVES CABIN THEATRE PRESS RELEASE:

“A TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM INGE” AT GROVES CABIN THEATRE
SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS FROM MAY 24 – JUNE 8

Groves Cabin Theatre in Morongo Valley is proud to present “**A Tribute to William Inge**” for six performances only on Saturdays and Sundays from May 24 – June 8. The tribute will feature a program of three one-act plays by the famed playwright, plus *Family Secrets*, an original work by local editor/author/playwright Kurt Schauppner, inspired by Inge’s *The Boy in the Basement*.

William Inge, born in 1913 and raised in Kansas, is honored as one of America’s premier playwrights. Originally inspired by the work of Tennessee Williams, Inge dramatized the heartland of America and became known as our first authentic midwestern playwright. Winner of both the Pulitzer Prize (for *Picnic* in 1953) and an Academy Award for best screenplay (for *Splendor in the Grass* in 1961), his popular works include *Come Back*, *Little Sheba*, *Bus Stop*, and *The Dark at the Top of the Stairs*, considered by most critics to be his finest play. Plagued by depression and alcoholism, William Inge took his own life in June of 1973.

Featured in this tribute to Inge’s genius are his one-act plays, *A Social Event*, directed by Vicki Montgomery; *People in the Wind*—later expanded by Inge to become *Bus Stop*—directed by Brad Vickery; and *To Bobolink, For Her Spirit*, directed by Steve Fuji, who also directs Schauppner’s *Family Secrets*. Members of the talented ensemble cast are: Susan Bradley, Joe De Marco, Anita Ekstrom, Steve Fuji, Joy Groves, Bob Harrison, Vicki Montgomery, Tim Rathke, Louise Ross, Kurt Schauppner, Donette Swain, and Klaus Wille.

These works will be performed in a very intimate setting and seating is very limited so early reservations are highly recommended.

“**A Tribute to William Inge**” will play on Saturdays, May 24, May 31, and June 7, at 8:00 PM, and Sundays, May 25, June 1, and June 8, at 2:30 PM, at **Groves Cabin Theatre**, 8768 Desert Willow Trail in Morongo Valley north of Highway 62 (look for the large red, white, and blue stone on the highway). Tickets are \$8 general admission and \$7 seniors (60+). For information and reservations call! (760) 363-6126

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