

MORONGO VALLEY, APRIL 11, 2007
GROVES CABIN THEATRE RELEASE:

GALA CELEBRATION ON SATURDAY, APRIL 28 TO OPEN
PROGRAM OF THREE ONE-ACT PLAYS AT GROVES CABIN THEATRE
TO BE PERFORMED SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS THROUGH MAY 20

A **Gala Opening Celebration** is planned for the program of **Three One-Act Plays** that will open at **Groves Cabin Theatre** in Morongo Valley on Saturday, April 28. The show, comprised of Edna St. Vincent Millay's 1919, commedia styled anti-war offering and two hilarious contemporary comedies, will play four weekends on Saturdays at 8:00 PM and Sundays at 2:30 PM through Sunday, May 20.

In her intense one-act play in verse *Aria da Capo*, renowned poet Edna St. Vincent Millay presents an insightful look at the relationship of what goes on between two people in "ordinary life" and what makes for the horror of war. Written after World War I, this anti-war play is interestingly relevant today. Done in commedia style, it features the stock characters Columbine and Pierrot and—like any good absurdist play—its meaning is ultimately left to the audience. In this case, however, deciding whether the play works as comedy or tragedy may be moot. It's clearly both. The play's title is a musical term for a composition in three parts, with the last a repeat of the first. That is what happens in the play—it ends, dramatically, as it began. Patricia A. Smith directs *Aria da Capo*, which features the talents of Steve Fuji (Pierrot), Joy Groves (Columbine), Warren Lavender (Cothurnus), Sue Kelly (Corydon), and Donette Swain (Thyrsis).

Jane Martin's *Vital Signs* is a series of monologues that will stimulate, delight, inform, and amuse playgoers. Originally performed at the Actors Theater of Louisville as part of the 1990 Humana Festival of New American Plays, the comedy is a lively romp with surprises at each turn, including such characters as a cranky cocaine hotline employee, a former nude truck-stop waitress, and a woman entirely surprised that she fell in love. The talented cast of local favorites includes Sue Bradley, Hannah Covington, Michael Dorrington, Barry Inscore, Cathy Inscore, Vicki Montgomery, Julie Scott and Wynelle Waters.

Family Names is a hysterical "Who's on First" for women. Written by Edna Pelonero, it was selected by New York theater critics and the editorial staff of Samuel French, Inc. as a winner in the 19th Annual Off-Off Broadway Original Short Play Festival. A young and nervous but determined Sheila O'Keefe enters Holiday Hardware to confess her affair with Marie Saluzo's husband Joe, only to find that she may be admitting her indiscretion to the wrong Marie, about the wrong Joe. And that's just the beginning of the fun! This rapid-fire one act stars Julie Scott as Marie Saluzo and Hannah Covington as the sincere but confused Sheila O'Keefe. Direction for *Vital Signs* and *Family Names* is by Marge Doyle assisted by Marty Neider.

Groves Cabin Theatre has won multiple Desert Theatre League awards for its high-quality productions. The 23-seat theater offers one of the most intimate theatrical experiences available anywhere in the world. The limited seating means early reservations are a must.

The **Gala Opening Night Celebration** on Saturday, April 28, begins at 7:00 PM with champagne, select wines, and hors d'oeuvres. Curtain will be at 8:00, and coffee and deserts will be served at intermission. Opening night tickets are \$15, and due to the limited seating, must be prepaid by 48 hours prior to the performance. For reservations and payment instructions, phone 760-365-4523.

Three One-Act Plays will play Saturday evenings at 8:00 PM and Sunday afternoons at 2:30 PM from April 28, through May 20. **Groves Cabin Theatre** is located at 8768 Desert Willow Trail in Morongo Valley north of Highway 62 (look for the large red, white, and blue stone on the north side of the highway). Tickets for all seats (except opening night) are \$10. For additional information and reservations call! (760) 365-4523.

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