

## OYSTER MILL PLAYHOUSE 2009 SEASON

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### **The Importance of Being Earnest (Mainstage)**

**January 23<sup>rd</sup> – February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

"The very essence of romance is uncertainty," opines handsome ladies' man, Algernon Moncrieff. And in Oscar Wilde's exquisitely convoluted tale of romantic mayhem among England's aristocratic class, uncertainty abounds! Mistaken identities, verbal duels and sexual warfare (of the most polished and elegant kind, of course!) delight and confound in this masterpiece of drawing room comedy. A hit with audiences since 1895, critics have hailed The Importance of Being Earnest as perhaps the most perfect comedy ever written.

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### **Dial M for Murder (Mainstage)**

**March 6<sup>th</sup> – March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2009**

Is there such a thing as the perfect murder? Crime writer Max Halliday thinks so. But he's not so sure about the perfect murderer. After all, plans can be perfect, but people...well, people make mistakes...don't they? Will Max work out the would-be murderer's fatal mistakes in time to save the woman he loves? Packed with shocking twists and turns, this 1952 Broadway hit, the inspiration for Alfred Hitchcock's stunning film starring Grace Kelly and Ray Milland, was praised as a "holiday for whodunit fans." A classic tale of suspense!

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### **Lend Me A Tenor (Mainstage)**

**April 17<sup>th</sup> – May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009**

The Cleveland Grand Opera is banking on a gala season opener, headlined by "Il Stupendo," the world famous opera star, Tito Morelli, to catapult them to the national A-list. But a last-minute gastronomic catastrophe sets in motion a hilarious, flat-out, over-the-top spectacle of mistaken identities, romantic romps, lusting fans and determined autograph hounds that nearly brings down the house! Come see for yourself why audiences and critics alike called this winner of the 1989 Tony Award for Best Play, "the funniest show on Broadway!"

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### **The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man-In-The-Moon Marigolds (Spotlight)**

**May 29<sup>th</sup> – June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

Faced with a constant and often losing battle with her own demons, Beatrice Hunsdorfer struggles to raise her two daughters. Ruth is pretty and popular, but emotionally fragile. Matilda is shy and smart with a passion for science. But amid the dark humor and chaos of their dysfunctional life, like a strange and beautiful flower springing from a toxic garden, Matilda's quiet strength and optimism bloom. Winner of the 1971 Pulitzer Prize, the Obie Award and the New York Drama Critics Circle Award as Best American Play of the season.

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### **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat (Mainstage)**

**July 10<sup>th</sup> - July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

Great books often inspire great plays. But, in this case, the most famous book of all time inspired one of Broadway's biggest box office hits of all time! This colorful tale of favored son, Joseph, and his eleven jealous brothers bursts on stage with a kaleidoscopic score of playful tunes and memorable hits including, "Close Every Door" and "Any Dream Will Do." Winner of the 1982 Tony Award for Best Musical, this light-hearted retelling of a tale of family and forgiveness will send you home with a smile on your face and a song in your heart!

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### **Early One Evening At the Rainbow Bar and Grille (Mainstage)**

**August 21<sup>st</sup> - September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

If you believed the world would end tomorrow, what would be on your "bucket list?" For the offbeat denizens of the small, seedy Rainbow Bar & Grille, the answer is easy: get rich, get drunk, get even, get... well, you get the idea! And what if, just in the nick of time, a mysterious stranger appeared offering "salvation?" This off-Broadway hit by Philadelphia playwright, Bruce Graham, is a preposterously funny tale of greed, friendship, revenge, and the power of love! You'll be glad you put it on your "to do" list!

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### **Bad Seed (Spotlight)**

**October 2<sup>nd</sup> – October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

Sweet Rhoda Penmark is the perfect little girl. She never dirties her dress or scuffs her shoes. She's always polite and respectful of her elders. And she's smart. Very, very smart. Why, then, would Rhoda's nervous teacher ask that she leave her school? What is Rhoda hiding in her little box of treasures? And what does Rhoda's worried mother fear is the answer? A Broadway hit in 1955, this spine-tingling dramatization of William March's best selling novel will give you chills that won't stop even after the curtain falls.

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### **Anything Goes (Mainstage)**

**November 6<sup>th</sup> – November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2009**

Lovesick Billy Crocker stows away on the S.S. American intent on winning the girl of his dreams. But a shipload of zany friends and shady characters, mistaken identities and mismatched lovers may capsize his plan! A daffy and delightful door-slamming farce embraced by a "delovely" score by the incomparable Cole Porter. Song favorites also include "I Get a Kick Out of You," and "You're The Top." A 1935 Broadway hit and winner of the 1988 Tony Award for Best Revival, audiences have christened Anything Goes their favorite "love boat!"

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