

Broadway Bound Opening Night

Chanticleers Theatre

“Broadway Bound,” the third play in Neil Simon’s autobiographical trilogy, opened Friday, July 23rd at the Chanticleers Theatre in Castro Valley. Opening night audience members enjoyed the performance, and after-show horsd’oeuvres and drinks. The show tells the story of the Jerome family’s trials and dreams including aspirations of the two sons to become comedy writers. If you are like most theatre-goers, a Neil Simon fan, this is a must-see story about Mr. Simon’s life as a youth growing up in New York. “Broadway Bound” has been acclaimed as the most successful non-musical in American theatre history and the best play of the 1980’s.

Director Marty Nemko, KGO-AM and KALW-FM show host, has assembled a fine troupe of actors to bring “Broadway Bound” to life in the intimate Chanticleers theatre in Castro Valley. Sue Trigg and Chris Chapman (real-life husband and wife) play the mother and father, Kate and Jack Jerome. Their sons, Stanley and Eugene (Neil Simon) are portrayed by Patrick Barresi and Brady Woolery, respectively. Completing the strong cast is Kip Wixson as Grandpa Ben and Karol Strempe as Kate’s sister Blanche. Those who come early can enjoy live piano stylings and narrative by Marty Nemko before shows on July 30, 31, and August 7, 13, 14 and 15.

“Broadway Bound” runs Friday and Saturday nights at 8:00 p.m. through August 15, with twilight matinees on Sundays August 1, 8 and 15, curtain at 6:00 p.m. There will be talk-back sessions for audience members after each Friday and Saturday performance (not after performances on Sundays as previously listed). This is your chance to ask questions and hear special behind-the-scenes tidbits from the director and cast. Doors open ½ hour prior to performances. For reservations call 510-SEE-LIVE (510-733-5483). Ticket prices are \$18 General, \$15 Students and Seniors (55+) (and bargain night pricing of \$13 for all seats on Friday, July 30). Performances are at the Chanticleers Theatre, 3683 Quail Avenue, Castro Valley. Follow Chanticleers on Facebook and at www.chanticleers.org.

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Picture Credit: Sarah Linda Gossett-Raderman