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WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
Department of Theatre

THE UNIVERSITY THEATRE 2011 - 2012 Season

References To Salvador Dali Make Me Hot by José Rivera: September 22nd - October 2nd

José Rivera paints an abstract world where cats parley with coyotes, people confer with the moon and the neighbors are very friendly. *References to Salvador Dali Make Me Hot* tells the story of the erratic life of an army wife who has become estranged from her husband. As both reach for each other, their ideals push them apart in this dark drama that puts the two worlds of fantasy vs. reality to the test.

Blithe Spirit by Noël Coward: October 6th - 16th

In Noël Coward's witty farce, *Blithe Spirit*, a novelist arranges for a séance in order to gather material for his next book. Ironically and unfortunately for him, the ghost of his first wife is accidentally summoned. . .and she is not happy. Determined and willing to sabotage his current marriage, chaos is bound to unfold when a ghost is not on your side in this season's chapter of our Simply Classic Series.

The Rocky Horror Show by Richard O'Brien: **SPECIAL EVENT*** October 28th - 29th MILLER AUDITORIUM

Jump into the Time Warp with Richard O'Brien's classic rock musical following the story of a young couple whose car breaks down in front of the castle of Dr. Frank N Furter, a sweet transvestite from Transylvania. Looking for some hospitality and maybe even a phone, the pair gets more than they bargained for moments after setting two feet onto the premise. This production marks a new collaboration as Miller Auditorium and the WMU Department of Theatre co-produce for two nights only at Miller Auditorium.

August: Osage County by Tracy Letts: November 10th - November 20th

Playwright Tracy Letts rips apart the heart of a highly dysfunctional and heavily medicated modern American family in this Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award-winning dramatic comedy. *August: Osage County* comes with a warning sticker for guaranteed laughs and more family drama than you could ever bargain for. You may walk out of the theatre with your therapist on speed dial!

Late Night Broadway: December 1st - December 3rd

Join the graduating seniors of our Musical Theatre Performance program for a cabaret evening of New York show tunes with a special Broadway guest star. Special 9pm curtain.

Never The Sinner by John Logan: January 26th - February 5th

A case of epic proportions is being investigated in this courtroom drama that tells the true story of Leopold and Leob. *Never the Sinner* digs deep into the minds of two rich young men who decide to plot the perfect crime. In the Chicago murder trial of the 1920's that coined the phrase "crime of the century", their attorney Clarence Darrow stated, "I can see sin in all the world. And I may well hate that sin, but never the sinner."

The Tender Land Music by Aaron Copland, Libretto by Horace Everett : February 16th - February 19th

Through the music of Aaron Copland, *The Tender Land* tells the picturesque story of a soon-to-be graduate who falls in love with an ill-reputed drifter staying with her family. Searching for freedom, commitment, and adventure, both yearn to be together, but delicate circumstances loom close as this coming-of-age tale unfolds in the heartland of America. This production marks a returning collaboration between the WMU School of Music and the WMU Department of Theatre.

The Cure For Love by Jay Berkow: March 15th - March 25th

WMU faculty member, Jay Berkow, brings us a flirty farce about an abandoned affair and a prestigious family's quest to find a cure for love. Making its regional and midwest premiere, this bawdy period comedy will have you roaring with laughter.

Tony n' Tina's Wedding: March 29th - April 15th at Cityscape in downtown Kalamazoo

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Vitale cordially invite you to *Tony n' Tina's Wedding!* After all, the next coolest thing to do after high school is get married. With as many laughs as there are Italian stereotypes, this big fat Italian wedding will have you feeling like you're a part of the family and thankful that you're not. Show includes dinner and wedding cake.

Subscription price does not include dinner, please contact the box office for more information on subscriber pricing for this event.

Hairspray Music by Marc Shaiman, Lyrics by Scott Wittman: April 12th - April 21st

Welcome to the 60's with the heart-warming, Tony Award-winning musical, *Hairspray!* This fantastically fun show follows the story of Tracy Turnblad, a big girl with big hair, big dance moves and an even bigger heart as she becomes an overnight teenage sensation by using music and dance to conquer racial divides.