

**THEATRE
THREE**

THE theatre-in-the-round at the Quadrangle



All About

BETTIE

An Evening with Bette Davis

by Camilla Carr



2007 - 2008 Theatre Too Season Show One: July 6 -- July 29

THEATRE THREE'S 2007-2008 MAINSTAGE SEASON

Mack & Mabel

a Broadway and London musical hit by composer JERRY HERMAN, book by MICHAEL STEWART
July 19 – August 19

In the days of silent movies, director Mack Sennett's comic two-reelers made his discovery, Mabel Normand, America's most adored comedienne. Composer Jerry Herman (*Hello, Dolly; Mame; La Cage aux Folles*) celebrates this pioneer film duo in his rollicking and romantic show with his trademark musical panache and show business dazzle.

Popcorn

a Dallas premiere of the taboo-shattering comedy-thriller by BEN ELTON
September 6 – October 7

PLACE: Hollywood. TIME: Academy Award Night. CHARACTERS: A vain auteur of vogueishly violent films, his ex, his sardonic daughter, his on-the-make date, murderers inspired by his movie, and a voyeuristic TV crew. Elton's award-winning comedy has vulgar vigor and smart-mouthed one-liners, but surprisingly has the moral purpose of a Jacobean revenge drama. (Rated VERY Adult)

Pygmalion

GEORGE BERNARD SHAW's most illustrious and illuminating comedy
October 25 – November 25

Here's a 1913 classic stage play that became a classic movie, which in turn became both the classic stage musical and movie musical, *My Fair Lady*. Now the great play returns to Theatre Three's stage in Shaw's original form. Few plays in the English language contain such intellectual and comic inventions – all so Shaw could argue for nothing less than the perfection of civilization.

The Goodbye Girl

book by NEIL SIMON, music by MARVIN HAMLISCH, lyrics by DAVID ZIPPEL
December 13 – January 20

First, Simon wrote the movie as a Valentine gift to his actress wife. Then Hamlisch and Zippe worked with him to turn his film script into a smash Broadway hit musical. This gifted trio of contemporary theatre giants created a RARE thing these days, a delightfully funny and romantic musical theatre piece! The single mom, a thirty-something dancer, struggles through New York disappointments, user boyfriends, and then clashes with an upstart intruder who may be just another bad actor – or is he?

Crimes of the Heart

the Pulitzer Prize-winning comedy by former Theatre Three actress, BETH HENLEY
February 14 – March 16

In Hazlehurst, Mississippi, the three Magrath sisters face troubles both grave and hilarious but in the end manage to escape the past to seize the future. "Such is Miss Henley's prodigious talent that she can serve us pain as though it were a piece of cake" – *NY TIMES*; "It has heart, wit and a surprisingly zany passion that carries it all before it" – *NY Post*.

Whodunnit

a comedy-thriller by the author of *Sleuth*, ANTHONY SHAFFER
April 3 – May 4

Only one author wrote screenplays for both Alfred Hitchcock (*Frenzy*) and for novelist Dame Agatha Christie (*Death on the Nile, Evil Under the Sun, and Murder on the Orient Express*). "So whodunnit?" you ask. It was the brilliantly inventive Anthony Shaffer! In *Whodunnit*, he gleefully took all he learned from those masters and fashioned his own closed-circle-English-country-house-murder-mystery. And what characters...from horrifying to hilarious.

A Dog's Life

A howlingly funny new musical by SEAN GRENNAN & LEAH OKIMOTO
May 22 – June 22

Charlie Chaplin made a film with this same title in the silent film days. Ever since then, Hollywood has paraded talented canines like Rin Tin Tin, Lassie, Asta, and Benji whose exploits have entertained us in every decade. This refreshing new musical, *A Dog's Life*, romps through the same beloved territory and manages to be goofily hilarious and sweetly moving. This piece tells the story of a rescued pooch, the young man who adopts him, and a complicated pack of four footed pals, all puzzled by the strange ways of the humans around them.

Tickets and Information: 214-871-3300

www.theatre3dallas.com

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2800 Routh Street
Dallas, Texas 75201
Next door to Theatre Three
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We gladly take reservations
for theatre-goers in a hurry

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• **All About Bette: An Evening with Bette Davis** by Camilla Carr, the first show of the 2007-2008 Theatre Too Season.

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The 2007-2008 Season Sponsors

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IN MEMORIAM

Contributions have been made in memory of, or from the estates of...

Sam & Shirley Jones Catter, Margaret Hatcher Coit, Bill Dallas, William T. Dobson, Scott Everheart, Javad Fiuzat M.D., Paula Goodlet, Oliver Hailey, Lloyd W. Kitchens Jr. M.D., Anne Weeks Jackson, Jim Jackson, Lynn Mathis, Masha Porte, Carolyn Ryburn, Frank Rey, Mary Blanche Scales, Charlotte E. Schumacher, Lynn Townsley, May Tweed, Audrey B. Waite, Evelyn Wilke, Martha Roselyn Wright, and Norma Young.

THEATRE THREE presents the first show of the 2007-2008 Theatre Too Season...

Artistic Staff

Director & Set Design	Jac Alder
Costume Design	Bruce R. Coleman
Lighting Design	David Oppen
Sound Design	Richard Frolich
Dialect Consultant	Jessica Drake

Cast

Bette Davis and supporting cast Eva LaGallienne, Martha Graham, Doctor, Charlotte Vale, Fanny, Baby Jane Hudson, Corporal Lewis A. Riley, Orry-Kelly, Hedvig, Bobby Davis, Junior Laemmle, George Arliss, Ruthie Favor Davis, Jack Warner, Mildred, Joyce Heath, Ham Nelson, Julie, William Wyler, Margo Channing, Regina Giddens, Tallulah Bankhead, Madge Norwood	*Morgana Shaw
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Stage Hand | Ryan Gohsman

Production Staff

AEA Stage Manager	*Terry Vandivort
Production Manager	Linda Harrison
Painters & Carpenters	Linda Harrison, Ryan Gohsman, Stacie Cleland
Prop Master	Linda Harrison
Production Assistant	Sarah Schniepp

The Staff of Theatre Three

Administration

Executive Producer-Director	Jac Alder
Company Manager	Terry Dobson
Director of Business Affairs	Joan Sleight
Computer Services Manager	Nick Rushing
Director of Publications & Communications	Kimberly Richard
Intern Supervisor	Mark C. Guerra
In-House Accountant	Wendy Kwan
Executive Administrative Assistant	Adele Acrey

Production

Director of Design	Jac Alder
Musical Director	Terry Dobson
Production Manager	Linda Harrison
Resident Artist	Bruce Coleman
Master Carpenter	Jeffrey Schmidt
Intern Staff	Paul Arnold, Maryam Baig, Stacie Cleland, Ryan Gohsman, Julianne LeVieux Elliott, Sarah Schniepp, Richard Tregilgas, Anna Wright

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by Camilla Carr

Special Thanks to
.Hollywood Floral
Warren Wilkes of Warren Wilkes Salon, Ms.
Shaw's hair stylist

Bette Davis: A Brief Biography

Tart-tongued and independent, Bette Davis was one of America's biggest movie stars in the years surrounding World War II. After several supporting roles in the early 1930s, she began getting more notice and bigger roles in such films as *Of Human Bondage* (1934) and *Dangerous* (1935, for which she won an Oscar). In 1938 she won another Oscar for *Jezebel* (with Henry Fonda), and throughout the 1940s and '50s appeared in mostly dramas (including a memorable 1955 role as Elizabeth I in *The Virgin Queen*). Not a typical screen beauty, Davis made up for it with spunk and flamboyance, and off-screen she earned a reputation as a "difficult" star. During the 1960s her career was revived somewhat by a string of horror movies, including *Whatever Happened To Baby Jane?*, in which she played opposite fellow screen legend Joan Crawford. Late in her career she made television movies, winning three Emmy Awards between 1979 and 1983. Her biggest philanthropic effort was co-founding the Hollywood Canteen, a club offering food and entertainment for WWII American servicemen, usually on their way overseas.

Bette Davis: Famous Quotes & Lines

"I will never be below the title."

"I do not regret one professional enemy I have made. Any actor who doesn't dare to make an enemy should get out of the business."

"I'd luv to kiss ya, but I just washed my hair."

"I survived because I was tougher than anybody else."

"You should know me well enough by now to know I don't ask for things I don't think I can get."

"I've been lucky. I'll be lucky again."

"Attempt the impossible in order to improve your work."

"Everybody has a heart. Except some people."

"Fasten your seat belts. It's going to be a bumpy night!"

Jac Alder (Director & Set Design)

Jac Alder is proud to direct and present *All About Bette* for a couple of reasons. One, his good, personal friend, Camilla Carr, is the playwright; and two, he couldn't have asked for a better leading lady to portray Bette Davis than Morgana Shaw. Some of Jac's recent favorite Theatre Three assignments include being the set designer for *The Odd Couple* and *Talking Pictures*, and serving as designer and director of the Theatre Three season finale, *Caroline, or Change*. Later this season he will direct *Blind Date* and the revival of another hit Theatre Too show, *My Own Private Diva*. He is the proud godfather of Caley O'Dwyer Feagin, the son of tonight's playwright, Camilla Carr and actor Hugh Feagin. Alder serves on the board of the Arts Magnet High School and on the board of Texas Non Profit Theatres. His many awards include the Dallas Historical Society's Award of Excellence which, since he co-founded and has been working for Theatre Three since 1961, makes him unquestionably, some sort of historical figure (as well as an occasional hysterical figure.)

Camilla Carr (Playwright)



Camilla Carr made her acting debut at Theatre Three in 1965 in *Stop the World...I Want to Get Off!* and has since moved to Los Angeles where she has received three Hollywood Dramalogue Awards: Outstanding Performance by an Actress (*The Pink Lady*), Ensemble and Producing (the original *Last Summer at Bluefish Cove* for which she also received the Oscar Wilde, Robby, and Alliance of Gay and Lesbian Artists Awards.) As a series regular on *Another World*, Camilla created the fanatical "Aunt Rita". On *Designing Women*, she played the villainous "Imogene" on the award-winning segment "They're Killing All the Right People," which was the first primetime series to dramatize a story about AIDS; this segment was included in the Funny Women in Television Special and is in the Television Hall of Fame. She adapted *Last Summer at Bluefish Cove* for the screen with her late husband, the two-time Academy Award-winning screenwriter, Edward Anhalt. Her critically acclaimed first novel, *Topsy Dingo Wild Dog*, was published in both the United States and England, and she has written seven motion pictures for television, including *High and Mighty* for Dolly Parton. She is currently developing her screen adaptation of Nobel prize recipient Thomas Mann's last novella, *The Black Swan*, for the screen with Brenda Blethyn, who is co-producing and will star. *All About Bette* is her first play. She thanks Carol Kane and David Schweizer for all they have done, including the initial workshop of *All About Bette* at the Public Theater in New York. She also thanks Dr. James Warmouth and Bruce Campbell for use of their extensive Bette Davis library and collection. And endless thanks to Jac Alder for facilitating her debut both as an actress and as a playwright.

David Oppen (Lighting Design)

David began his professional theatre career at Theatre Three thirty plus years ago as the resident scenic, lighting, and sound designer, hall swabber, and bathroom scourer. In the intervening years, David has designed for the touring music industry, corporate, and trade show presentations. He is currently the owner of the design company, Aurora Event Group, and technical director at Tarrant County College Northwest campus.

Bruce R. Coleman (Costume Design)

Bruce has been associated with Theatre Three as a director and costume designer since 1985. His most recent design assignment was the fantasy characters in *Caroline, or Change*. Past favorite costume designs include *Into the Woods*, *The Miser*, *Wholley Moliere*, *Animal Farm*, *The Ugly Duckling*, *Once on this Island*, *June Moon*, *The Boyfriend* and *The Women*. Other designs include *Into the Woods* (ICT MainStage - Leon Rabin Award), *Sunday in the Park with George* (Plano Rep - Leon Rabin Award), *Don Juan on Trial* (New Theatre Company - Leon Rabin Award) and *The Secret Garden* (ICT MainStage - Leon Rabin Nomination). Most recently, Bruce designed *String of Pearls* for Echo Theatre and will be designing *Much Ado About Nothing* this summer for the Junior Players Guild. Bruce has been recognized by the Dallas Critics Forum Awards, The Dallas Observer 'Best Of...' Issue, and The Column Awards for his contribution to local theatre.

Richard Frolich (Sound Design)

Richard's sound design work for Theatre Three includes *The Mousetrap*, *The Full Monty*, *Vieux Carre*, *Frozen*, *Glorious*, *Democracy*, *Talking Pictures*, and *The Odd Couple*. Richard has recorded and produced over 60 audio plays with the award-winning Texas Radio Theatre Company, produced CDs for many area storytellers and designed sound for ICT Mainstage, The Pocket Sandwich Theatre, Slappy's Puppet Playhouse and *Bonnie Parker On-Stage* at the John Houseman Theatre Centre, New York. He produces a modern audio theater program that airs Sundays on KNTU-FM in Denton, Texas.

Jessica Drake (Dialect Consultant)

Jessica, a graduate of Julliard, is daughter of former *LA Times* theatre critic Sylvie Drake and sister of Robert Drake, Director of Production at the Old Globe Theatre, San Diego. Regarded as Hollywood's top dialect coach, she has worked with such actors as Anthony Hopkins, Russell Crowe, Tom Cruise, Steve Martin and Tom Hanks. Her pictures include: *Waitress*, *The Good German*, *Mission Impossible III*, *Memoirs of a Geisha*, *Ocean's Twelve*, *The Cat in the Hat*, *Saving Private Ryan*, and *L.A. Confidential*, to name a few.

Morgana Shaw (Bette Davis)

Morgana created the role of Bette in the World Premiere here last season, for which she won the Best Actress Column Award. She also danced off with the Outstanding Choreography Award for *Cats* at the Garland Civic Theatre. She recently played Claudine Hampton in Contemporary Theatre of Dallas' production of *Luann Hampton Laverty Oberlander*. Morgana just completed filming *Mad Money* as Molly Johnson with Diane Keaton, Queen Latifah and Katie Holmes, which will be released in 2008. Other upcoming releases are *Missionary Man* opposite Dolph Lundgren, and indie films *Shroud* and *The Significant Other*. Past film work includes: *Secondhand Lions*, *Jericho*, *American Outlaws* and *Home Fries*. Television work includes guest starring and supporting roles on *Prison Break*, *Inspector Mom*, *Sweet Tornado-Margo Jones*, *Walker Texas Ranger*, *Promise to Carolyn* and *True Women*. Other award-winning theatre roles include: Gladys in *Pajama Game* (Lyric Stage) Column Award; Abbie in *Desire Under the Elms* (Watertower Theatre) Column Award; and Louise in *Gypsy* (LyricStage) Rabin Award. She would like to thank Jac Alder and Camilla Carr for this amazing opportunity to share Bette with the world once again and Terry Vandivort for enhancing the entire experience. Morgana is represented by The Home Agency.



THEATRE THREE'S 2007-2008 THEATRE TOO SEASON

All About Bette: An Evening with Bette Davis

the critically hailed play by CAMILLA CARR

July 6 – July 29

Theatre Three has brought back this new piece from its extended hit run last season. Morgana Shaw will recreate the performance that won her "Best Actress in an Equity Play" Column Award.

Blind Date

an exciting new intimate drama by South American playwright MARIO DIAMENT

August 17 – September 2

An anxious adulterer alights in a confessional mood on the blind man's favorite Buenos Aires park bench. From that chance meeting the blind man, a distinguished poet, sees deeply not only into the life of others, but deeply into his own life and its still-astonishing possibilities:

My Own Private Diva

a "confessional cabaret" by TERRY DOBSON

October 5 – 21

"Best New Play" award-winning cabaret (from both Column Awards and Dallas-Ft. Worth Critics' Forum Awards) performed by the author and his personal diva, Sally Soldo. "... a fabulous evening in the theatre" – *The Dallas Morning News*.

Season's Greetings

the hilarious family comedy by ALAN AYCKBOURN

November 23 – December 9

A Christmas gathering replete with family recriminations, a chaotically incompetent puppet show, over-consumed Christmas spirits, and a hilariously bungled midnight tryst, make this superbly crafted comedy a must-see holiday show.

The LaVidas' Landlord

a clash of cultures in a new comedy-drama by LAWRENCE WEINSTEIN

March 14 – 30

An idealistic high school teacher rents out an apartment to a political refugee from Central America. It turns out there are more than minor philosophical differences between the two, which cannot be solved by the teacher's anxious attempts to be understanding.

Mid-Life, the Crisis Musical

a revue of middle-aged gains and losses by BOB and JIM WALTON

May 2 – 18

This polished, fall-out-of-your-seat-funny show is woven out of a series of vignettes dealing with classic midlife phenomena – all unpleasant, and virtually all hilarious. Brash, refreshing, and inventively silly, it has an honesty that makes it okay to laugh at ourselves.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change

the most favorite show ever at Theatre Three by JOE Di PIETRO & JIMMY ROBERTS

January 17 – February 17

It had a huge run in 2000 on the main stage, it moved into Theatre Too that fall and played there for an amazing three years! Since then this record-breaking musical revue has returned annually for an encore run and manages to find new enthusiasts who pack the place to laugh and cheer.