

Theatre Three's 2007-2008 Season

Theatre Three's
Mainstage:
Popcorn
September 6 - October 7

Theatre Too:
My Own Private Diva
October 5 - 21

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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This playbill is a publication of Theatre Three, Inc. 2800 Routh Street, Suite #168, Dallas, Texas 75201, 214-871-3300, www.theatre3dallas.com. This playbill is published for: **Popcorn** by Ben Elton, the second show of the 2007-2008 Mainstage Season.

My Own Private Diva by Terry Dobson, the third show of the 2007-2008 Theatre Too Season.

Artwork by Harland Wright & Unigraphics. Playbill Editors: Jac Alder & Kimberly Richard. *Popcorn* rehearsal photography by Ken Birdsell of The ImageAfter. *My Own Private Diva* production photography by Andy Hanson and Linda Harrison.

Jac Alder, Executive Producer-Director of Theatre Three presents...

by
Ben Elton



Artistic Staff

Director, Set Design, & Film segments **Jeffrey Schmidt**

Costume design **Bruce Coleman**

Lighting design **Russell K. Dyer**

Sound design **Richard Frohlich**

Hair and make-up design **Kristin Colaneri**

Choreography **Catherine DuBord**

Cast

Brooke Daniels ****Catherine DuBord**

Bruce Delamitri **Rick Espaillat**

Scout Hudson ***Emily Gray**

Kirsten ****David Meglino**

Farah Delamitri **Mollie Milligan**

Bill **Robert Silva**

Karl ***Lee Trull**

Velvet Delamitri ****Teresa Valenza**

Wayne Hudson **Nicholas Venceil**

Film Appearances by

Reporters **Chad Smith, Trisha Miller-Smith, Ashley Wood**

Victim **Leah Spillman**

Production Staff

AEA stage manager **Terry Vandivort**

Technical director **David Walsh**

Production assistant ****Paul Arnold**

Master carpenter **Jeffrey Schmidt**

Master electrician **Neil Ingles**

Production crew **Mark C. Guerra, Paul Arnold, Maryam Baig,
and Stacie Cleland**

Ordinary Americans clip produced by **Box Car Creative**

Scene Synopsis

Time & Place: Present day. The action of the play occurs principally at the Hollywood Hills home of film director Bruce Delamitri.

Act I

Scene 1: The day of the Oscar ceremony

Scene 2: The day of the Oscar ceremony

Scene 3: The Oscar ceremony

Scene 4: The night of the Oscar ceremony

Act II

Scene 1: The morning after the Oscar ceremony

Special Thanks

The Dream Cafe

Ben Giddings

Project X

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The Artistic Staff

Jeffrey Schmidt (Director, Set design, & Film segments)

Jeffrey directed Tennessee William's *Vieux Carre* for Theatre Three as well as *A Christmas Memory*. Directing credits include *Manifesto 2001 & 2002* and *Sex Drugs, and Rock and Roll* at MoonWater Theater Company, *Bridge to China Basin* at the Out of the Loop Festival, and *Craving Gravy* at Ground Zero Theater Company. Recent onstage credits include *A Few Good Men* at Casa Manana and *YLLA* with Project X at the FIT Festival. Jeffrey was seen on Theatre Three's stage as Posiedon and others in *Metamorphoses*. He also appeared in *Rounding Third, Over the River and Through the Woods, Art, The Happy Time*, and *As Bees in Honey Drown*. Area theater appearances include *Dainty Shapes and Hairy Apes* for Our Endeavors Theatre Collective, *The Laramie Project* at WaterTower, *Out Cry* at MoonWater Theater Company, *Visiting Mr. Green*, *The Sound and The Fury* at Undermain, and *Debbie Does Dallas* at Kitchen Dog Theater. He was the artistic director of MoonWater Theater Company for three years.

Bruce Coleman (Costume design)

Bruce has been associated with Theatre Three since 1985. Mr. Coleman has costumed many plays and musicals here, including *Into the Woods, The Miser, Major Barbara*, and *The Women*. Favorite directing projects include *Mack & Mabel* at Theatre Three, *The Secret Garden* and *Into the Woods* for ICT Mainstage, *Tick, Tick, Boom!*, *The Who's Tommy*, *Thrill Me*, and *The Life for Uptown Players*, and *Close Ties* for the Contemporary Theatre of Dallas. A ten-time winner of the Leon Rabin Award, Mr. Coleman has also been recognized by the Dallas Critics Forum Awards, The Dallas Observer 'Best Of...' issue, and The Column Awards for his contribution to local theatre.

Russell K. Dyer (Lighting design)

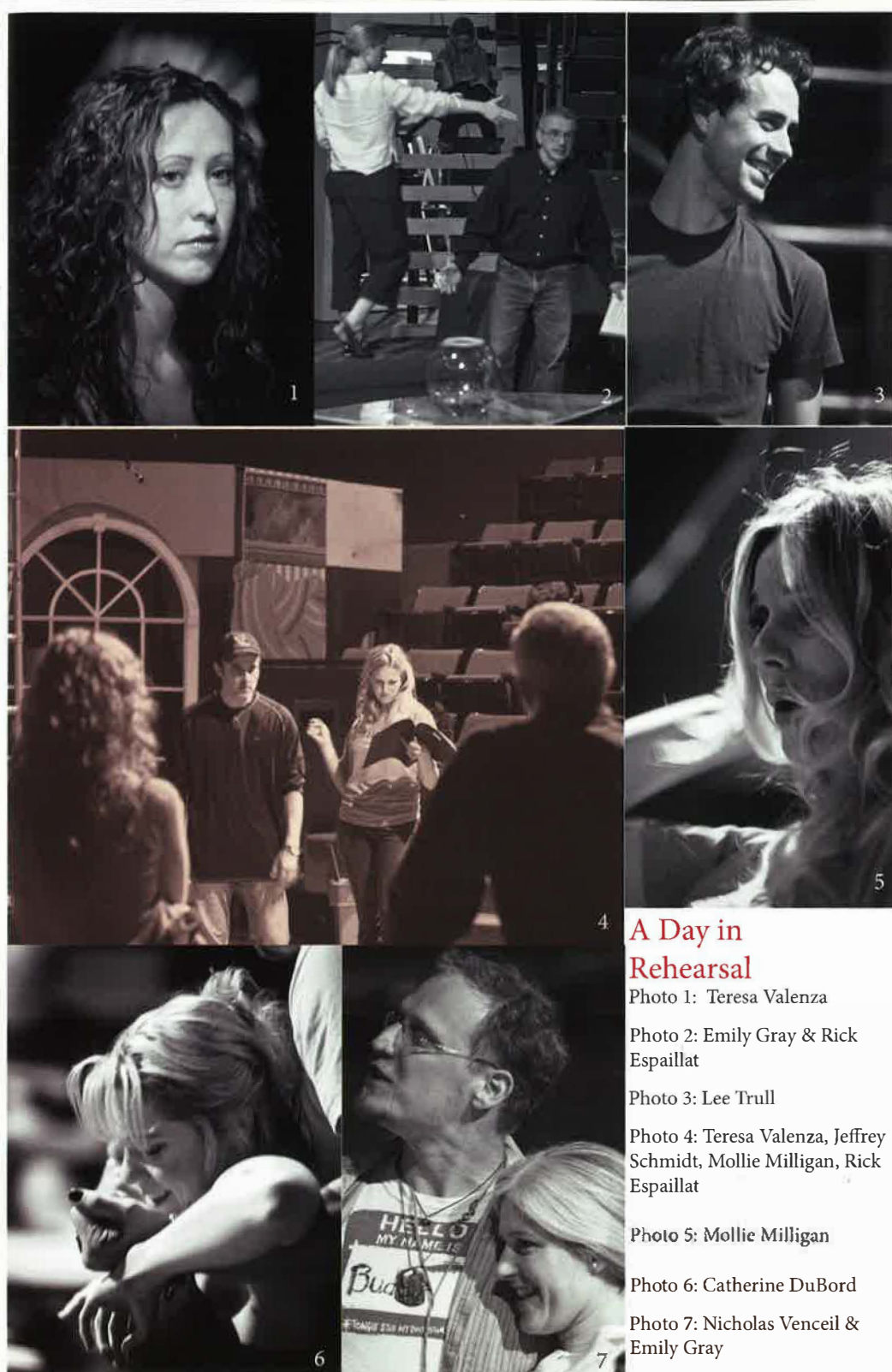
Recent Theatre Three design credits include *Democracy, Glorious!*, and *The Devil's Disciple*. Other Dallas design credits include Kitchen Dog Theater's *Mr. Marmalade*, Wingspan Theater's *The Gnädiges Fräulein*, Echo Theater's *Women and Horses* and a *Shot Straight from the Bottle*, Undermain Theater's *Waiting for a Train*, and Contemporary Theatre *Shadowlands* and *Visiting Mr. Green* (Leon Rabin award nomination). Russell is the Managing Director of the Festival of Independent Theatres and holds a BFA in Lighting Design from the College of Santa Fe.

Richard Frohlich (Sound design)

Richard received his training at Western Connecticut State University, Danbury, CT. Having debuted with us in the 2006 presentation of *The Mousetrap*, he has since designed *All About Bette, The True Story of the Incarceration of Little Egypt, The Odd Couple, Talking Pictures*, and *Democracy*. Richard has worked with other Metroplex theaters: Echo Theater, Irving Community Theater Mainstage, Palace Arts Center, Grapevine, TX; Texas Radio Theatre Company, Arlington, TX; and Uptown Players. His work has been recognized with a 2002 Ogle Award, 2004 Mark Time Award, and a 2006 Column Award for our production of *The Full Monty*. Richard makes his home in Arlington, TX with his wife and three children.

Kristin Colaneri (Hair and make-up design)

Kristin is making her debut at Theatre Three on our Production Crew, and is looking forward to the opportunity this show offers where some of her "groesome talents" can be utilized; but remember not to be too shocked – it's all an illusion! Although she is best known for her work as an actress, she "makes her living" as a professional makeup artist. She lived and worked in New York for several years and has experience in runway, theatrical, beauty, and special FX makeup design.



A Day in Rehearsal

Photo 1: Teresa Valenza

Photo 2: Emily Gray & Rick Espallat

Photo 3: Lee Trull

Photo 4: Teresa Valenza, Jeffrey Schmidt, Mollie Milligan, Rick Espallat

Photo 5: Mollie Milligan

Photo 6: Catherine DuBord

Photo 7: Nicholas Venceil & Emily Gray

The Cast

Catherine DuBord (Brooke Daniels)

Catherine received her BFA in Acting from Southern Methodist University. She is making her Theatre Three debut in this show, but is familiar to Metroplex audiences of the Classical Acting Company, Contemporary Theatre of Dallas, Dallas Shakespeare Festival, Pocket Sandwich Theater, Rover Drama Werks, and SMU. Catherine's film experience includes *On the Wire* and the Internet series: *Alphagirls*. She received the Greer Garson Award for Acting in 2006. Catherine lives here in Dallas, TX and is represented by the Mary Collins Agency.

Rick Espailat (Bruce Delamitri)

Rick received his training at Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX. This will be his Theatre Three debut. However, he has performed for these theatres in the Metroplex: Contemporary Theatre, Irving Community Theatre Mainstage, Risk Theatre, and Uptown Players. He has done work in several films and commercial presentations. Rick makes his home in Dallas, TX and is represented by the Kim Dawson Agency.

Emily Gray (Scott Hudson)

Emily's educational credits are from Drama Studio London (London, U.K.) and Warwick University, Coventry, UK. She is making her first appearance on the Theatre Three stage, but has appeared in productions in these Metroplex venues: Classical Acting Company, Dallas Children's Theater, Echo Theatre, and Second Thought Theatre. Her regional/national theatre work includes the Pearl Theatre Company, New York City; and the Fifth Street Theatre, New York City/Philadelphia. Her film and TV experience includes *Karma Police* (2008 release) and *Banished*; and commercial work includes Pier One, Denny's, and Ponderosa Steak House. Emily has won the Golden Earphones for Audio Books three times. She teaches voice at Richland Community College, Dallas, TX and resides in Richardson, TX with her husband Matthew Gray.

David Meglino (Kirstin)

David studied at The College of Santa Fe, Santa Fe, NM. This appearance will be his debut with Theatre Three, but he has appeared with Irving Community Theatre Mainstage, Pocket Sandwich Theatre, and Stolen Shakespeare Guild here in the Metroplex. David has also performed in regional/national theatres in New York City: Theatre San Greal, Midtown International Theatre Festival, Wings Theatre, and Theatre Studio, Inc. His film experience includes *Death to Smootchy*; his commercial work was with Rivals.com. David lives in Dallas, TX.

Mollie Milligan (Farrah Delamitri)

Mollie received her BA from Baylor University and her MFA from Southern Methodist University. She is making her Theatre Three debut with this performance, but has performed in the Metroplex at Echo Theater, Kitchen Dog Theatre, Second Thought Theatre, and Stage West. Her work outside of this area include Kentucky Shakespeare Festival, Louisville, KY; Stella Adler Theatre, NYC; The Met Theatre, L.A.; and The Tiffany Theatre, L.A. Her film experiences include: *The Grey Man*, *Male Mail*, *Legally Blonde 2*, and *Los Jorales*. TV work includes *Strong Medicine*, *Prime Time Glick*, *Cold Case/New Evidence*, and *Inspector Mom*. Mollie resides in Dallas, TX.

Robert Silva (Bill)

Robert received his theatre training at the University of Texas - Pan American, Edinburg, TX. He is not new to Theatre Three audiences as he debuted in *Sly Fox* in 2003.

Since then he has performed in *Metamorphoses* and *Arsenic and Old Lace*. Robert is also familiar to Metroplex audiences of Dallas Children's Theatre, Flower Mound Performing Arts Theatre, Garland Civic Theatre, and Irving Community Theatre Mainstage. Outside of the Metroplex, his experience includes *A Midnight Cry* (National Tour). Film work includes *The Mourning After*, his TV experience includes *Safe Harbor* (WB Network), and he has done commercials for Wal-Mart and Chili's. Robert makes his home in Dallas, TX and is represented by the Cios Agency in Austin.

Lee Trull (Karl)

Lee made his debut with Theatre Three in the 2006 presentation of *The Imaginary Invalid*. He has also performed around the Metroplex in the Classical Acting Company, Dallas Children's Theatre, Dallas Theater Center, and Kitchen Dog Theater (artistic company member); and Stage West Theatre, Ft. Worth. His film experience includes *Night Crawlers* and TV experience includes *Barney & Friends*, *Dragon Ball Z*, and *Case Closed*. Lee resides in the Oak Cliff area of Dallas, TX.

Teresa Valenza (Velvet Demitri)

Teresa received her acting training at Texas State University, San Marcos, TX. This will be her Theatre Three debut, however, she has performed at Stage West, Ft. Worth, TX. Her film experience includes *Waiting by Spider Circle Films*. Teresa lives in Euless, TX with her family. She is represented by the Campbell Agency.

Nicholas Venceil (Wayne Hudson)

Nicholas' education includes WTAMU, KD Studio, Dallas, TX; AMDA, New York, and McCombs Studio. Although this will be his debut with Theatre Three, he has performed at Casa Mañana and Sage & Silo Theatre in Ft. Worth, TX; Shakespeare Festival of Dallas, and Theatre Arlington, Arlington, TX. Beyond the Metroplex area, he performed with the St. Louis Actors Ensemble. He has done commercial work for VISA. Nicholas makes his home in Dallas, TX.

Ben Elton (Playwright)

Born in London, Elton became a stand-up comedian and comedy writer shortly after leaving Manchester University in 1980. His first major success was as co-writer of the television sitcom *The Young Ones*. This was followed by *Happy Families*, *Filthy Rich*, and *Catflap*. He went on to co-write the second and subsequent series of *Blackadder*, while simultaneously becoming well-known for his television appearances as host of Channel 4's *Friday Night Live* — which was seen as a UK version of *Saturday Night Live*. In 1990 he starred in his own stand-up comedy and sketch series entitled *The Man From Auntie*. A similar format was used for *The Ben Elton Show*, which aired in 1998. His most recent television sitcom was *The Thin Blue Line*, which ran for two series (1995, 1996). His novels and plays include *Stark*, *Gridlock*, *This Other Eden*, *Popcorn*, *Blast From the Past* and *Inconceivable*. The latter was made into a film under the title *Maybe Baby* (2000), directed by Elton himself.



A Day in Rehearsal

Photo 1: Emily Gray & Lee Trull

Photo 2: Nicholas Venceil

Photo 3: Nicholas Venceil, Emily Gray, Mollie Milligan, Rick Espaillet, Catherine DuBord

Photo 4: Rick Espaillet

Photo 5: Robert Silva, David Meglino

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Jac Alder, Executive Producer-Director of Theatre Three presents...



Written by
Terry Dobson

Artistic Staff

Director & Set design **Jac Alder**

Lighting design **David Oppen**

Cast

The Man ***Terry Dobson**

The Diva ***Sally Soldo**

Production Staff

Technical director **David Walsh**

Production assistant **Maryam Baig**

Master carpenter **Jeffrey Schmidt**

Production crew **Mark C. Guerra, Paul Arnold, Maryam**

Baig, Stacie Cleland



From last year's production of
My Own Private Diva

In all of the photos:
Sally Soldo and Terry Dobson



*indicates members working under Actor's Equity Association contracts in this production.

**indicates a performer enrolled in the AEA membership candidate program.

The Artistic Staff & Cast

Jac Alder (Director & Set design)

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 2006-2007 season finale, *Caroline, or Change* and the 2007-2008 season opener, *All About Bette: An Evening with Bette Davis*. He most recently directed *Blind Date*. 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.

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, and 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. Most recently he served as the lighting designer for *All About Bette*, the first show of Theatre Three's Theatre Too season and the popular *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*.

Terry Dobson (The Man)

Terry has been a member of Theatre Three's artistic staff since May 1980. He currently serves as the theatre's musical director and company manager. Terry directed (and accompanied) the longest running stage production in Dallas theater history -- Theatre Three's production of *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*. He also directed and accompanied many of the critically acclaimed Theatre Too productions. *Myths & Hymns*, *First Lady Suite*, *Grateful: The Songs of John Bucchino*, *Elegies: A Song Cycle* and last season's *The Big Bang* are among his favorites. Terry has performed with The Dallas Theater Center, Casa Manana, Lyric Stage, FMPAT, and Theatre Arlington. Awards include a Leon Rabin Award for Outstanding Musical Direction for *Jon & Jen* and many Column Awards. Theatre Three appearances include *Sylvia*, *Nice People Dancing to Good Country Music*, *Beyond Therapy*, *Death Defying Acts*, *God's Man in Texas*, *Dirty Blonde*, and most recently, *Glorious! My Own Private Diva* won a DFW Theatre Critics Forum Award for Best New Play of 2006 and a Column Award for Outstanding New Work by a Local Playwright. Terry recently became a homeowner and spends most of his free time working on his condo and taking care of his new dog, Cooper.

Sally Soldo (The Diva)

Sally has appeared in twenty-seven musical productions at Theatre Three including *A...My Name is Alice*, *Triumph of Love*, *Assassins*, *Lucky Stiff*, *Company*, and *A Little Night Music*. In Theatre Too important assignments include performances in *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change!*, *Grateful: The Songs of John Bucchino*, *First Lady Suite* and *Elegies*. She began her professional career as a teen performer with The Dallas Summer Musicals (25 productions) and has appeared at other DFW venues including the Meyerson, Casa Manana, Lyric Stage, and Dallas Repertory Theater. Regional productions saw her playing leads for Starlight Musicals in Kansas City, Chanhassen Theatres (Minneapolis), Theatre Under the Stars (Houston), and Florida theatres including Burt Reynolds Jupiter Theatre and Golden Apple Theatre. Sally has staged managed, choreographed and costumed theatrical and industrial shows. Her honors include the Leon Rabin Award, The Dallas Time Herald Theater Critics' Best Actress Award, the Column Award, and has been a "Dallas Diva" for Lyric Stage for ten years. Ms. Soldo works as an RN/Medical Technologist for Parkland Health and Hospital System. She makes her home in Dallas with husband, Jon Veon, son Jonathan, and five kitties.

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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 riotous 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 hysterical. 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.

Tickets and Information: 214-871-3300

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