

★ ★ ★ 56th ANNIVERSARY ★ ★ ★

2022-2023
SEASON

40

THEATRE FORTY

*Beverly Hills'
Award-Winning
Professional
Theatre Company*



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Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle
RECIPIENT
"Margaret Harford Award"
for Sustained Excellence
in the Theatre

2011
Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle
WINNER
Best Solo Performance
Nazi Hunter-Simon Wiesenthal



2009 Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce
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2022-2023 FIFTY-SIXTH ANNIVERSARY Season

- * One World Premiere * Three Los Angeles Premieres
- * Best Ticket Price In Town * Free (Covered) Parking * Wheelchair Accessibility
- * Flexibility In Schedule * Air-Conditioned Comfort



Theatre 40 of Beverly Hills
 is supported, in part, by grants from



and



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Dear Subscribers and Friends:

I am very excited about our **2022/2023 Season** of plays at Theatre 40. It is our **56th Anniversary Season!**

It has provocative dramas, hilarious comedies, charming romances and several premieres on our stage. All of our productions will, as always, include Sunday Matinees. Extraordinary special events are planned throughout the year! Your enjoyment is guaranteed especially as our air-conditioning is working beautifully and our brand new theater seats could not be more comfortable!

And — back by popular demand, in its 20th year — Theatre 40's critically-acclaimed production of *The Manor* will be returning to Greystone Mansion. I am grateful to you, our subscribers and contributors, for your unwavering support. You are the key to our continued survival and success.

I invite all of you to join with us to celebrate our exciting **56th Anniversary Season** by subscribing to our very affordable season package — **6 plays for only \$180** — we are still the best buy in town! I look forward to welcoming you at the theatre, where as a bonus, the on-site parking is always ample and FREE!



David Hunt Stafford
 Artistic & Managing Director,
 Theatre 40 of Beverly Hills

OUR 2022-2023 SEASON

A CLEAN BRUSH *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?*

INCIDENT AT **Our Lady of Perpetual help**

THE METROMANIACS

IT'S ONLY A PLAY

THE REVOLUTIONISTS

As Good as Gold



HIGHLIGHTS FROM OUR 2021-2022 SEASON

As Good as Gold



The Manor



The Manor



The Manor



As Good as Gold

As Good as Gold



Good People



Good People



Death, With Benefits



Death, With Benefits



Death, With Benefits



The Play's the Thing



Good People



Death, With Benefits



Silent Sky



The Play's the Thing



The Play's the Thing



Silent Sky



Silent Sky

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JOIN US FOR OUR
56TH SEASON →

PLAY 1 — COMEDY

☛ **The Metromaniacs**

LOS ANGELES PREMIERE

July 21 - August 21, 2022

PLAY 2 — COMEDY

☛ **A Clean Brush**

WORLD PREMIERE

September 22 - October 23, 2022

PLAY 3 — COMEDY

☛ **Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?**

LOS ANGELES PREMIERE

November 17 - December 18, 2022

PLAY 4 — COMEDY

☛ **Incident at Our Lady of Perpetual Help**

LOS ANGELES PREMIERE

January 19 - February 19, 2023

PLAY 5 — COMEDY

☛ **It's Only a Play**

COMEDIC REVIVAL

March 23 - April 23, 2023

PLAY 5 — MANNERED COMEDY

☛ **The Revolutionists**

WITTY COMEDY

May 18 - June 18, 2023

All plays will perform
Thursday, Friday, Saturday at 8:00pm

Sunday Matinees at 2:00pm

All dates and times subject to change.

PLAY 1



THE METROMANIACS

by David Ives

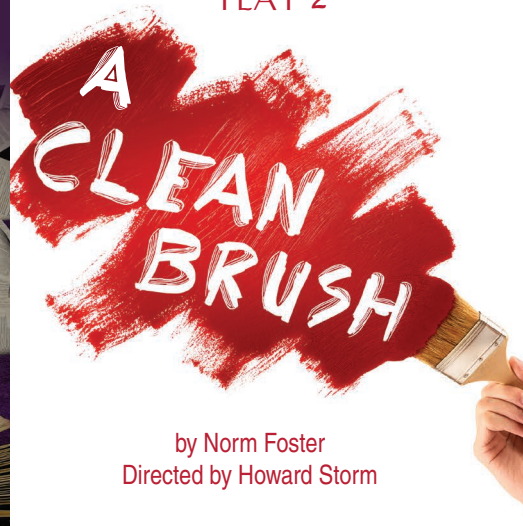
Adapted from Alexis Piron's *La Métromanie*

Directed by Marjorie Hayes

It's springtime in Paris, 1738. Metromania, the poetry craze, is all the rage. Damis, a young, would-be poet with a serious case of verse-mania falls for a mysterious poetess from Breton. She turns out to be none other than a wealthy gentleman with a touch of the mania himself—looking to unload his sexy but dimwitted daughter—who also just happens to be cuckoo for couplets. Soon scheming servants, verbal acrobatics, and mistaken identities launch a breathless series of twists and turns in this breezy “translaptation” of a rediscovered French farce by comedic master David Ives (*The Liar*, *Venus in Fur*, *All in the Timing*).

LOS ANGELES PREMIERE

PLAY 2



by Norm Foster
Directed by Howard Storm

From the pen of Canada's and Theatre 40's favorite playwright comes the world premiere of his newest wonderful and hilarious comedy, *A Clean Brush*. This brand new Norm Foster play tells the story of two house painters, Dick and Mello, who land a job painting a room in the basement of recently-widowed Zoe Craig's home. Zoe's husband died in the room when he 'accidentally' fell into a stand of fireplace implements and suffered a severe head trauma, and now Zoe is looking to turn the room into a rental cash cow. The house painters think this is just another job until Zoe's nosy neighbor stops by and plants doubt in the painter's minds as to what really happened to the Widow Craig's clumsy spouse.

A Clean Brush marks the 6th Norm Foster play Theatre 40 has produced and it promises to keep you laughing from start to finish...or until the paint is fully dry.

WORLD PREMIERE

PLAY 3



by Todd Kreidler



Directed by Gate Caplin

A progressive white couple's proud liberal sensibilities are put to the test when their daughter brings her black fiancé home to meet them in this fresh and relevant stage adaptation of the iconic film *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*. Blindsided by their daughter's whirlwind romance and fearful for her future, Matt and Christina Drayton quickly come to realize the difference between supporting a mixed-race couple in your newspaper and welcoming one into your family--especially in 1967. But they're surprised to find they aren't the only ones with concerns about the match, and it's not long before a multi-family clash of racial and generational difference sweeps across the Draytons' idyllic San Francisco terrace. At the end of the day, will the love between young Joanna and John prevail? With humor and insight, this play begins a conversation sure to continue at dinner tables long after the curtain comes down.

LOS ANGELES PREMIERE

PLAY 4



INCIDENT AT Our Lady of Perpetual Help

by Katie Forgette

Directed by Ann Hearn Tobolowsky

Money-strapped family tries to cope in 1973. 19 year-old daughter is our narrator and she is attempting to re-enact the most turbulent day of her life, but her family keep interrupting to tell their side of the story. The 70s were a time of old school living; no social media and public ridicule in a close-knit community was the ultimate nightmare. Her parents want her to explain to her younger sister about the birds and the bees. Somehow the blunt explanation is overheard by the parish priest and he is not amused. He confronts her parents about the "corruption of their eldest daughter's very soul."

LOS ANGELES PREMIERE

PLAY 5

IT'S ONLY A PLAY

by
Terrence McNally

Directed by
Larry Eisenberg



It's the opening night of The Golden Egg on Broadway, and the wealthy producer is throwing a lavish party in her Manhattan townhouse. Downstairs, celebrities are pouring in, but the real action is upstairs where a group of insiders have staked themselves out, waiting for the reviews to come in. Included are the excitable young author; the brilliant, unstable director; the pill-popping leading lady; and the playwright's best friend, an egotistical but insecure comic actor who passed up a chance to star in the play for a television series—which has since been cancelled. As euphoria slides into despair, the narcissism, ambition, childishness and just plain irrationality that infuse the theatre and its denizens take over, and as the curtain falls plans are eagerly afoot for their next venture—this one sure to be the hit they have all been hoping for.

PLAY 6



Directed by
Melanie MacQueen

Four beautiful, badass women lose their heads in this irreverent, girl-powered comedy set during the French Revolution's Reign of Terror. Playwright Olympe de Gouges, assassin Charlotte Corday, former queen (and fan of ribbons) Marie Antoinette, and Haitian rebel Marianne Angelle hang out, murder Marat, and try to beat back the extremist insanity in 1793 Paris. This grand and dream-tweaked comedy is about violence and legacy, art and activism, feminism and terrorism, compatriots and chosen sisters, and how we actually go about changing the world. It's a true story. Or total fiction. Or a play about a play. Or a raucous resurrection...that ends in a song and a scaffold.

WHAT THE CRITICS HAVE SAID:

THE REVOLUTIONISTS

"...a sassy, hold-on-to-your-seats theatrical adventure...[Gunderson] has created a play that is wonderfully wild and raucous...It's a wild ride, filled with verbal gymnastics that come racing at you so quickly it's occasionally hard to keep up. Listen closely, though, and hang on tight. If you do, you'll be treated to an invigorating and enlightening journey." —Cincinnati Enquirer.

"It's simply a brilliant script..." —CityBeat (Cincinnati). "...in this sparkling work, politics is very, very funny. [Gunderson] knows it's tricky to present entertaining, yet socially driven art, but she does so without losing the rhythm and forward momentum of her characters...These are hilarious and lovable women trapped in a history with a somber final act." —Houston Chronicle.

"...an astoundingly accomplished show...a cause for rejoice...Ingeniously conceived and delivered." —Atlanta Journal-Constitution.

"THE REVOLUTIONISTS resembles a blindingly scintillating gem-like puzzle...By turns it is drolly funny and affectingly poignant, then doubles back to satirical farce, then ends by bringing into stark relief the social commentary that it has been nurturing all night." —FloridaTheaterOnStage.com.

THE METROMANIACS

"Frisky, competitive wordplay and high-octane mix ups ... almost criminally enjoyable." —Washington Post

"Frolisome verse comedy...Ives's cleverness is indisputable, and he excels at a rare sort of verbal glitter." —Time Out New York

"Ives [is] wizardly ... magical and funny ... a master of language. He uses words for their meanings, sounds and associations, spinning conceits of a sort I've not seen or heard before. He's an original." —The New York Times

"Disguises and ruses and verse-ical abuses." —BroadwayWorld

IT'S ONLY A PLAY

"... it's a pure hoot, a rollicking comedy that gleefully dissects modern Broadway and doesn't pretend to mask its targets by using fake names... wickedly funny." — Broadwayworld.com

"Theatergoers will get their money's worth, if you can calculate worth by belly laughs, McNally's It's Only a Play is hilarious...don't miss it!" — Huffington Post

GUESS WHO'S COMING TO DINNER?

"All told, *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*, is warm, good old-fashioned theater. Without preaching, it purrs out its message of "can't we all just get along." Eternally relevant and timely." — Houston Press

"Guess Who's Coming to Dinner is an entertaining "must see," with a message we all need to be reminded of more often than just from time-to-time with characters grappling with mental patterns we all have encountered as human beings." —Broadway World

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Every year generous subscribers support us, in addition to their subscriptions, by donating the much needed funds we depend on for high quality productions.

Patron: \$600 - \$850

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For our 56th Anniversary Celebration, we would be honored to name a production for you, your company or a loved one, in recognition and acknowledgement of a contribution of \$20,000.

Theatre 40 is in residence at the Reuben Cordova Theatre, conveniently located on the campus of

**Beverly Hills High School
241 Moreno Drive • Beverly Hills**

Air-conditioned theatre • Disabled Access • Free on-site indoor parking
Theatre 40 is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization

THEATRE 40 OF BEVERLY HILLS SUBSCRIPTION MAIL ORDER FORM

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2022-2023 SEASON PACKAGE

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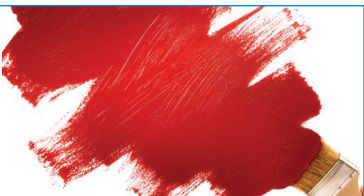
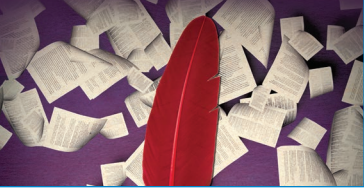
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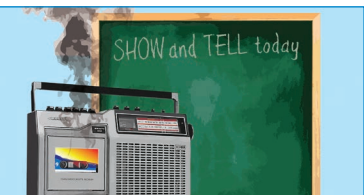
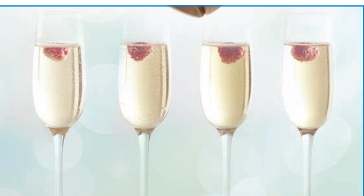
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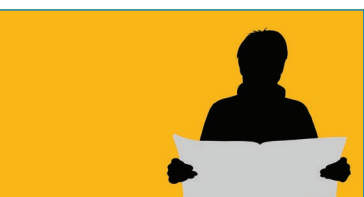
THANK YOU!



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The longest running professional theatre in Beverly Hills and one of the most respected companies in Los Angeles





THEATRE 40 OF BEVERLY HILLS

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"Theatre 40 has found in 'Dinner With Friends' a reaffirmation of the quality of performances that set them off as one of the best theatres in Los Angeles."

— Obed Medina | EDGE on line Magazine

2022-2023

CELEBRATORY SEASON

Theatre 40's 56th Anniversary

Join the excitement!



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"... no struggling with traffic to enjoy an evening of fine theater, we have a splendid and highly professional theater right here in Beverly Hills, Theatre 40!" — Beverly Hills Weekly