

“Dames at Sea” to Open At Community College

Dames at Sea, the still-fresh 40-year-old musical comedy that won the 1969 Outer Critics Circle Award for Best Off-Broadway Musical, will begin a two-weekend run at Mercer County Community College’s Kelsey Theatre on Friday, October 17 at 8 p.m. A reception with the cast and crew will follow the opening night performance.

Presented by Pierrot Productions, the show tells the story of Ruby, a small town girl who tap dances her way from the bus station to stardom in just 24 hours.

Written by George Haimsohn and Robin Miller, with music by Jim Wise, *Dames at Sea* pays tribute to the Busby Berkeley all-singing, all-dancing Hollywood ex-

travaganzas of the 1930s. With high camp and a touch of silliness, the show chronicles the adventures of Ruby, fresh off the bus from Utah with only a pair of tap shoes in her suitcase, who quickly falls in love with a sailor, then saves a Broadway show by stepping in when the star can’t go on. The show’s songs are nostalgic, lyrical, and clever. And the joke remains fresh — that a cast of six,

with minimal accompaniment, can pull off a spoof of the large, lavish movie musical genre in the 42nd Street tradition.

The cast will include Cathy Liebars of Langhorne, Pa., as Mona, Liat Perelman of Plainsboro as Joan, Jim Petro of Hamilton as Dick, John Ragazzo of East Windsor as Lucky, Melissa Rittmann of Ewing

as Ruby, and Joe Zedeny of East Windsor as Hennessey. It will be directed by Pete LaBriola of Pennington, with musical direction by Lou Woodruff of Washington Crossing, Pa., and Pam Sharples of East Windsor, and choreography by Kat Ross of Langhorne, PA.

Performances will be Fridays and Saturdays, October 17, 18, 24 and 25 at 8 p.m., and Sundays, October 19 and 26 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$16 for adults, \$14 for seniors, and \$12 for students and children, and may be purchased online at www.kelseytheater.net or by calling the Kelsey box office at (609) 570-3333. The Kelsey Theatre is located on MCCC’s West Windsor campus at 1200 Old Trenton Road.



GUYS AND DAMES: Preparing to set sail at Mercer County Community College’s Kelsey Theatre in October is “Dames at Sea,” featuring, from left, John Ragazzo, Liat Perelman, Jim Petro, Melissa Rittmann, Cathy Liebars, and Joe Zedeny. The musical comedy will open on Friday, October 17 at 8 p.m. and run for two weekends through October 26. For tickets, call the Kelsey box office at (609) 570-3333 or visit www.kelseytheatre.net.

