



## Phantom Offers Thrills and Chills at the CTG

The CTG's production of *Phantom* opened to an enthusiastic response on September 26th. Amid laughter and tears first-nighters were transported to turn-of-the-century Paris by way of stunning scenery, beautiful costumes and the touching story of the Phantom of the Opera. This is an American adaptation of the story, not to be confused with the Andrew Lloyd Webber version which opened in London shortly before the **Kopit & Yeston** production team were able to secure financing for their own Broadway premiere. So, production plans were shelved, and the story was re-written as a teleplay for a 2-part, 4 hour mini-series starring Burt Lancaster in a pivotal role with Charles Dance as the Phantom and Teri Polo as Christine. Phantom was finally produced as a musical and since then there have been over 1,000 productions around the world. Yeston refers to the musical as "the greatest hit never to be produced on Broadway."

Erik (the Phantom), (the talented **George Chavez**) meets Christine Daae (the lovely and talented **Jill Kocalis Scott**) for the first time when as a street singer she is sponsored by the Count de Chandon (played by CTG newcomer **Christopher Gomez**), to work at the Paris Opera. Erik was born with a horrible facial deformity and was raised in the catacombs under the Opera house to shield him from public ridicule. To forget the hell in which he lives, Erik needs to be surrounded by beautiful music. When he hears Christine sing, he takes her as his pupil, training her for the Opera, but forbids her to see his face. The complications begin when Gerard Carriere (movingly portrayed by **Greg Finley**), who has protected Erik from prying eyes, loses his position as head of the Opera house and can no longer protect Erik.

The new diva and owner of the Opera is La Carlotta (a very funny **Laura Lanoil**) who has such a terrible voice that the Phantom is in torment when he hears it. His salvation must eventually come through Christine, whose voice is so beautiful that he falls in love with her. It is an ill-fated love, and as his world crumbles around him, Erik is pursued by Inspector Ledoux, the chief of police, (**Frank Rock**).

Rounding out the cast are **Michael Davies** who plays Carlotta's husband and manager, Cholet. **Jim Robinson** as The Minister of Culture; **John Morris** as Jean-Claude, the stage manager (a job he is also doing in real life for this production), **Gin Treadwell-Eng** as Belladova (Erik's mother), and **JT Friedman** as the young Erik. Also in the cast: **Carla Bambo**, **Michael Bambo**, **Clare Tompkins-Cook**, **Kamber Moen**, **Felice Wurst**, **David Kenny**, **Kaylee Bodtke-Stout**, **Alexis Crane**, **Liam Johnson**, **Lawrence Patchin**, **Joshua David**, **Phillip David**, **Marissa Munter**, **Bradi Mowry**, and **Presston Kennedy**. The production is under the direction of **Patti Finley**, with **Tamarah Ashton-**

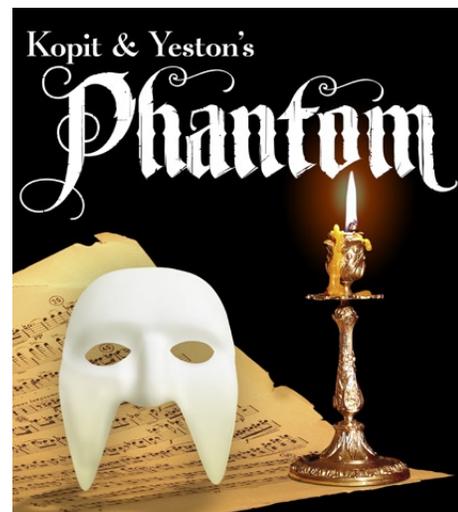


Jill Kocalis-Scott and George Chavez

**Coombs** serving as musical director and **Musette Caing** as choreographer. Assistant Director is **Mike Davies**, and Assistant choreographer is **Megan Hayes**. The complex set was designed by **Mike Davies** and **Frank Rock**, and Jill McGlynn and **Kristi Johnson** designed the lovely costumes. **Carla Bambo** and **Pat Robinson** shared set decoration and props responsibilities and **Doug Holiday** served as Master Carpenter. *Phantom* opened on September 26 with performances every weekend, ending on Sunday November 1 at 2PM.

To help theatre goers celebrate Halloween, the CTG is having a Halloween Party at the October 31 performances of *Phantom*. Everyone who comes dressed in a costume for either performance that day will be entered into our costume contest and winners will receive free tickets to future productions! In addition, at the 8PM performance there will be a cash bar before the show begins and during intermission. Come and party with the cast of *Phantom*.

If you haven't seen it yet, make your reservation now! Tickets are \$12, \$15, \$17 and reservations may be made by calling the box office at 661.799.2702.





## Artistic Impressions

**TimBen Boydston**  
Executive Director of the CTG,  
Artistic Director

The leaves are turning in Old Town Newhall and that means that Halloween is just around the corner. You will not want to miss our fabulous production of *Phantom* which has been hailed by critics as "Magnificent!" and "Worthy of Broadway."

Many thanks to **Tamarah Ashton-Coombs** and **Claudia Alexopoulos**, the co-chairs of our incredible *Pirate Party*, who made the *Cut Throat Grotto* a fabulous evening of fun! Thanks also to the cast and crew of thousands who helped turn our theatre into THE place to be on October 2ND. We raised some money for the theatre and had a night that we will never forget.

Congratulations to Directors **Michael Davies**, his artistic team, cast and crew for the wonderful, funny and highly entertaining fabulous fifties fun-fest, *Who Was That Lady I Saw You With?* This period piece put a smile on all of our faces. And kudos to co-directors **Mike Davies** and **Brian Watts**, their artistic team, cast and crew who produced a magical rendition of the classic children's fairy tale, *Cinderella*. Children young and old alike were enchanted by the age-old story that teaches our children that dreams do come true.

Thanks also to my musical director, **Leslie Berra**, and my choreographer, **Musette Caing**, the cast and crew for the wonderful SCRT production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. Many standing ovations attested to the artistry and talent on the PAC stage as the Biblical epic unfolded. A special thanks to **Doug Holiday** for single-handedly building the "Joseph" set and to **Frank Rock** for his artistic masterpieces. This is

the first time that Frank has painted 20'x50' drops, and they looked terrific. We will now have these drops available to rent.

A big *merci beaucoup* to all of the volunteers for the Festival of the Arts Grotto Café, especially Billy and Barbi Davis and Jeff Johnson who helmed not only the food production but Saturday entertainment by several bands as well! Through two hectic, fun-filled days, we cooked, chopped veggies, served beer and helped bands set up and strike, all to raise some much-needed funds for the CTG. Thank you to you all.

Please make sure to support our "Third Thursdays Art Walk in Old Town." There are street musicians to enjoy, beautiful art on display at various businesses along Main Street, wine tasting, and the Farmer's Market. Between the hours of 5PM and 9PM, on the Third Thursday of every month. You can stroll through the newly beautified streets of Old Town and soak up the art.

Coming up next month, we're going to get you into that holiday spirit with the Thanksgiving weekend opening of *Miracle on 34th Street*. See you at the theatre!

### Reservation Reminders

☎ Reservations need to be made at least **TWO WEEKS** in advance to ensure preferred seating. The more people in your party, the sooner you need to call us.

☎ The **box office** is open Tuesday through Thursday from 11AM to 6PM, and Friday through Sunday from noon to 7PM. You may either phone 661.799.2702 or come by in person.

**REMEMBER TO RESERVE EARLY!**

### Demand for Seats is High

Due to the increased popularity of our shows, **PLEASE** call ☎ and cancel if you are unable to use your reservations so we can release your tickets to others who'd like to see the show!

**THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH!**



**Patti Finley**  
Assistant Director of the CTG,  
Artistic Director of the Family Season

## Youth Workshop Updates

The fall workshops are getting ready for their end-of-session performances, with the **ACT III** after school program presenting *Jungle Book* on Thursday, Nov. 5 at 7pm. This delightful musical adaptation of the **Rudyard Kipling** classic will be fun for everyone. You only have one chance to see what these children have accomplished in just ten weeks, so plan to see *Jungle Book* directed by **Michael Davies** and **Lissa Gibbs**.

**Adventures in Theatre**, our daytime workshop for home-schooled children is preparing for performances of a musical adaptation of **Rudyard Kipling's Just So Stories**. This whimsical show tells how the camel got its hump, how the elephant got its trunk, how the first letter was written, and more delightful stories. The evening performance will be on Sunday, November 15 at 7PM. Admission to these workshop shows is \$6 per person, with festival seating.

The new semester of workshops will begin on January 5TH. The **Adventures in Theatre** daytime workshop will be holding auditions for the spring production of *Gooney Bird Greene and Her True Life Adventures* on January 5. Call Patti Finley for audition time: 661.799.2702. The **ACT III** after school workshop for third through eighth grade students will present the musical comedy *Space Pirates* this spring. Both of these workshops will meet on Tuesday and Thursday for ten weeks. In addition, we will be forming a new workshop for children between the ages of five and 7 years old, called the "Star-To-Be" workshop. This group will meet twice a week, for one hour each time, for eight weeks. All workshops culminate in public performances. We offer family discounts and some scholarships through the Boys and Girls Club. For information on our workshop programs call Patti Finley, Director of Daytime Programs at 661. 799.2702.

## It Takes a Village Thank you, Volunteers

Why are we constantly asking you to give us your time to volunteer for the many jobs necessary to keep our Canyon Theatre Guild Running? Because it takes all of us (the village) to make our theatre thrive! I have often said that for every 'star' on stage, at least 20 people are needed behind the scenes. This includes those individuals who design and build sets, find props, set light and sound, create costume and serve in the concession stand.

Our recent production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, presented at the College of the Canyons, shows us the importance of volunteers. COC requires that anyone working on a production and going beyond the lobby area must sign a 'waiver.' For the production of Joseph, **Kathi Lund** gathered these waivers and was able to calculate the number of volunteers involved: 127 volunteers received Waivers! Of these, 54 served in more than one position. Therefore, the total number of volunteers for the production totaled 181! The next time you attend a CTG production, please ask: "What can I do to help this theatre?" Remember, it takes a village. Please help us!

Marla Khayat

## Online Ticketing is Coming!

A new and exciting development for the CTG is coming soon! We are creating a brand new web site that will be easy to navigate and chock full of good information. One of the most exciting aspects of this web site will be the ability to purchase your tickets on line. Watch for further information as we jump into the 21st Century!

## RENT Auditions

Director **Leslie Berra** announces the auditions for the **Santa Clarita Regional Theatre** production of *Rent*:

**Saturday, November 14, 2009** - SIGN IN from 9AM-10AM for hour-long audition slots starting at 10AM and ending at 4PM

**Monday, November 16, 2009** - SIGN IN from 5PM-6PM for hour-long audition slots starting at 6PM and ending at 10PM

**Wednesday, November 18, 2009** - CALLBACKS

We expect a heavy turnout for these auditions, so in order to use everyone's time efficiently we ask that you come sign in for an audition time and return later that day at the appropriate time. Sign-ins will be handled on a first-come, first served basis. If you are unable to get a slot on Saturday you may sign-up in advance for Monday's auditions - this is strongly encouraged.

Please prepare 32 bars of a contemporary Broadway/pop/rock piece. Bring **sheet music** with your cut marked in the appropriate key. Accompanist provided - we will NOT be using tracks at these auditions. Dress comfortably for a movement audition.

Although there is no age restriction for these auditions, you must be able to play age 19 and up.

**Performance Dates:** Saturday, March 6, 2010 at 8PM  
Sunday, March 7, 2010 at 2PM

Saturday, March 13, 2010 at 8PM,  
Sunday, March 14, 2010 at 2PM

Friday, March 19, 2010 at 8PM  
Saturday, March 20, 2010 at 8PM

All performances will be at the **College of the Canyons Performing Arts Center**.

## High School Musical 2 Auditions

Director **Patti Finley** will be holding auditions on Saturday and Sunday, November 21 and 22, from 11AM – 4PM. Auditions will be held at the CTG's studio next door to the theatre. There is one adult male role in this show; all the rest should look like high school students (Junior year). All roles require singing, so please come prepared to sing about 16 bars from a contemporary musical. Bring your own recorded accompaniment track (no voices on track please). We are looking for high-energy, talented teens. Please bring appropriate shoes/clothes for dance audition. Readings will be at callbacks on Sunday evening. **David Kenny** will be acting as vocal director and **Kamber Moen** is choreographer. Performance dates are February 6 through March 7, 2010.

## ESCAPE FROM SUBURBIA CD Release Concert

*Rock The Denim* musician **Brad Alden** will release his new CD "Escape From Suburbia" with a concert at the Canyon Theater Guild on November 6 at 7PM.

Special guest **David Pramik** will also appear. This is an all ages show.

Advance tickets are available at [www.bradalden.com/store](http://www.bradalden.com/store) or at the CTG box office on the night of the show. There will be a cash bar available.

To listen to tracks from the new CD, please access Brad's site [www.bradalden.com](http://www.bradalden.com) or visit his MySpace page [www.myspace.com/bradaldenmusic](http://www.myspace.com/bradaldenmusic).

# Remainder of 2009-2010 Season

## CTG PLAYHOUSE SEASON

Downtown Newhall

November-December 2009

*Miracle on 34th Street*

Directed by **Greg Finley**

April-May 2010

*Be My Baby*

Directed by **Ingrid Boydston**

June-July 2010

*The Producers* (Musical)

Directed by **Leslie Berra**

## SANTA CLARITA REGIONAL THEATRE

at the Santa Clarita Performing Arts Center at COC

March 2010

*RENT* (Musical)

Directed by **Leslie Berra**

## CTG FAMILY SEASON

Downtown Newhall

February-March 2010

*High School Musical 2* (Musical)

Directed by **Patti Finley**

June-July, 2010

*Tom Sawyer* (Play with music)

Directed by **Jeff Johnson**

### Save these Dates!

- Nov 1 *Phantom* closes Sunday at 2PM
- Nov 9 CTG Board Meeting Monday at 7PM
- Nov 14 & 16 *RENT* auditions, Sat & Mon, See article on page 3.
- Nov 21-22 *High School Musical 2* auditions, See article on page 3.
- Nov 27 *Miracle on 34th Street* opens Friday at 8PM

## Canyon Theatre Guild

Presents its annual

# Holipalooza!

*A Smorgasbord of Sounds of the Season*

**Friday, December 4**  
**Dinner at 6PM, Show at 7PM**

*Holipalooza! 2009* is a musical-variety show fundraiser celebrating America's December holidays featuring our talented Santa Clarita Valley youth.

Refreshments, silent auction items, opportunity drawings, and soooooo much more! Proceeds will benefit CTG's educational programs and scholarship fun

Call the Box Office now! 661.799.2702  
 Tickets range in price from \$15 to \$25

### 2009-2010 CTG BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- President..... Randy Aronson
- 1st Vice President..... Billy Davis
- 2nd Vice President..... Jeff Johnson
- Secretary..... Flo Loring
- Treasurer..... John Morris
- Members-At-Large: .. Claudia Alexopoulos
- ..... Michael Keane
- ..... Wade Bradford
- ..... Frank Rock
- ..... Andy Fried
- ..... Duane Harte

### OTHER PEOPLE YOU SHOULD KNOW

- Executive Director & Artistic Director of the Playhouse Season ... TimBen Boydston
- Assistant Director & Artistic Director of the Family Season ..... Patti Finley
- Box Office Manager ..... Ryan Massey
- Facilities Director ..... Brian Watts
- Costume Director ..... Jill McGlynn
- Membership ..... Felice Wurst
- Newsletter Editor ..... David Barsky
- Web Mistress ..... Cat Christine Ellen