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Village Playhouse Presents a Classic: Henrik Ibsen's *A Doll's House*

Performances are at Inspiration Studios, 1500 S. 73rd Street in West Allis.

By Inspiration Studios - Mar 21st, 2017 10:46 am



The Village Playhouse proudly presents Frank McGuinness' adaptation of Henrik Ibsen's *A Doll's House*. Directed by **Deanna Strasse**, the show opens for a 3-weekend run on Friday, March 24 at 7:30PM at Inspiration Studios in West Allis. Additional performances are March 25, 31, April 1, 7 and 8 with a Sunday matinee on April 9 at 2:00PM.

This epochal drama of marriage and the individual portrays a controlling husband, Torvald Helmer, (played by **David Dawursk**) and his wife, Nora, (played by **Melody Lopac**) who suffers from a crippling dependency on her husband of eight years. Torvald has always done the thinking for the both of them. They have an ideal homelife, as perceived by society, but it collapses as events are revealed throughout the story.

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According to the play's Producer, **Derek Jacobs**, "The play is significant for its critical attitude toward marriage. It focuses on the expected roles that people have to play in society in order to fit in. Although this play was written long ago, the plot and themes easily translate into today's world."

In order to save Torvald from debt, and to save his masculine pride, Nora borrowed a large sum of money without his knowledge by secretly forging her father's signature. The inevitable revelation of this crime results in an unexpected reaction from Torvald, exposing the illusions and challenges that make up their marriage.

A Doll's House premiered at the Royal Theatre in Copenhagen, Denmark, on December 21, 1879. This play was open to much criticism with an ending that didn't fit societal norms.

The themes of the play are absolutely relatable in today's world," said Director Deanna Strasse. "One theme is that women are struggling for an equal say and equal rights, in today's world as much as yesterday's world. I like a show that is able to transcend time and inspire people. Of course, it's always great when so many people offer support to a production of substance."

Rounding out the cast are <u>Scott Sorensen</u> as Dr. Rank, <u>Rita</u> <u>Bates</u> as Kristin Linde, <u>Scott Stenstrup</u> as Nils Krogstad, with <u>Mary Breitrick</u> as Helene and <u>Juliano Méndez</u>, <u>Dominic</u> <u>Bartos</u> and <u>Ava López</u> as the children.

"The character development is great, and there's no one character that is pure evil or pure good, but there's still plenty of conflict. It's nice to have dimensions to the characters," said Jacobs. "It adds to the relatability of the story. A good story will draw me in, and that's why producing this show has been a pleasure.

Performances are at Inspiration Studios, 1500 S. 73rd Street in West Allis.

General admission is \$17 for adults; \$15 for students and seniors. A special group rate of \$14 per ticket is available for groups of 10 or more when purchased together. Tickets may be reserved by calling (414) 207-4VPW (4879) or emailing ADollsHouse@VillagePlayhouse.org. Tickets are also available

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