

11/15/07

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

She's back...Joan Crawford, that is. Why snuggle close to the fire with someone you love, sipping egg nog and stealing a kiss under the mistletoe, when you are invited to Joan Crawford's house on Christmas Eve?

SNAP! Productions and Shelterbelt Theatre have teamed up again this year to give you the drag romp that the Omaha World-Herald says is "... one of the hottest tickets for the Holiday Season." ***Christmas With The Crawfords*** is sort of a "Mommie Dearest: The Musical" with a holiday theme and the show is back for it's fourth hilarious year.

This fundraiser sold out completely the first three years, so you won't want to miss your chance to spend ***Christmas With The Crawfords***. Hedda Hopper will be there to telecast a live radio broadcast from Joan's living room. Hollywood elite will surely drop by to help keep the festivities interesting.

Christmas With The Crawfords is a refreshing antidote for the anxiety-prone times that the holidays are for so many. Perhaps the show's appeal is that it is just a lot of fun. Where else these days can you see the likes of Joan Crawford singing "Oh, Chirstmas Tree" as she wields an axe, or a grinning, gregarious Ethel Merman leading a rousing Jerry Herman song or Judy Garland offering "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas?" ***Christmas With The Crawfords*** may be the seasonal tonic you need.

Directed by Michal Simpson and musically directed by Todd Brooks, ***Christmas With The Crawfords*** features a top notch cast, and as in any musical, there's a lot of singing and dancing which anyone can enjoy, even those unfamiliar with the people and era covered. The fact that it is mostly men impersonating Hollywood's leading ladies adds a certain "extra dimension" to the roles. And there are all the bitchy lines one would expect in a show like this.

SNAP! Productions and Shelterbelt Theater are pleased to present ***Christmas With The Crawfords***, December 13 - 16, 19-23, and December 26-30, 2007 at 3225 California Street. Curtain times are 8:00 pm for every night except Sunday which has a curtain time of 6:00 pm. The theater opens a half hour before curtain time. Reservations are strongly encouraged and may be made by calling 402-341-2757 or on the SNAP! website: www.snapproductions.com. Tickets prices for this fundraiser are \$20.00 and go on sale Thursday, November 15, 2007.

Wire hangers? Forget about them. It's Christmas! Be merry and gay! Besides, you have a special invitation to spend ***Christmas With The Crawfords***.

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SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL

Contacts:

Liz Heim, SNAP! President (402) 552-9326
Michal Simpson, SNAP! Artistic Director (402) 871-9101
Todd Brooks, SNAP! Publicity Director (402) 968-5543

Synopsis: The premise of **“Christmas with the Crawfords”** is that gossip columnist Hedda Hopper is going to interview Joan Crawford and her family for a 1944 Christmas Eve radio broadcast and during that evening any number of Hollywood stars will appear, mistaking Crawford’s home for that of next door neighbor Gary Cooper, where Coop is throwing a Christmas party.

Production Dates: December 13 - 16, 19-23 and December 26-30, 2007

Venue: 3225 California Street, Omaha, NE 68131

Curtain Times: 8:00 pm, every night except, 6:00 pm on Sunday, December 16, 23 and 30.

Reservations: 402.341.2757 or www.snapproductions.com

Photos: Download from web site: www.snapproductions.com

Cast:

Joan Crawford	Ron Osborn	Carmen Miranda.....	Michal Simpson
Bette Davis	Denise Chevalier	Patti Andrew	Scott Fowler
Christopher Crawford.....	Dan Chevalier	Maxene Andrew	Johnny Mack
Christina Crawford	Roderick Cotton	Laverne Andrew.....	Mark Cramer
Shirley Temple	Jeff Nelson	Ethel Merman.....	Denny Maddux
Hedda Hopper.....	Michael Taylor-Stewart	Liberace.....	Todd Brooks
Gloria Swanson	Wai Yim	Judy Garland	Teri Fender
Hattie McDaniel.....	Echelle Childers/Robert Williams		

Production Staff:

Director:.....	Michal Simpson	Lighting Design	Daena Schweiger
Music Director:	Todd Brooks	Sound Design	Dave Podendorf
Producers:	Michal Simpson, M. Michelle Phillips	Box Office	Debbie Zadina
Costume Design:	Nancy Ross & Ron Osborn	Light and Sound Technician:.....	Dave Podendorf
Props Design:	Rhonda Hall	Reservations.....	Liz Heim
Set Design:	Michal Simpson	Stage Manager	Bryan Callaghan

SNAP! Productions’ Mission Statement: SNAP! Productions is a nonprofit theatre organization with the mission to provide Educational and Humanistic Support of AIDS-Related Programs and to Promote Understanding and Acceptance of All Members of the Community Through Artistic Expression.

Shelterbelt Theater’s Mission Statement: The mission of the Shelterbelt Theatre is to provide a safe and nurturing environment in which to focus the development of original work and to provide for the practical education of writers, performing artists, creative and technical staff, and the general public in the art and science of moving an idea from the mind to the stage.

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