

BROADWAY ICONS  
CAROL LAWRENCE AND DONNA McKECHNIE



TO STAR IN

WEST COAST PREMIERE OF *GIRL'S ROOM*  
AT HISTORIC EL PORTAL THEATRE  
OCTOBER 8<sup>th</sup> - NOV 2<sup>nd</sup>

Dennis Grimaldi Productions in association with Queens Theatre in the Park presents Broadway legends Carol Lawrence and Donna McKechnie in the **West Coast Premiere of *Girl's Room*** by Joni Fritz. **The gala opening is Saturday, October 11 at 8PM** at the historical El Portal Theatre in North Hollywood. This is the pre Broadway tryout for this delightful three generation comedy . ***Girl's Room***, is directed by the award winning Lynne Taylor-Corbett. There will be low priced previews October 8,9,10<sup>th</sup>.

Donna McKechnie, who created the role of Cassie in *A Chorus Line* and Carol Lawrence, Broadway's original Maria in *West Side Story* co-star in this charming new comedy about three generations of lively women and the lies that bind them together as well as the truths that tear them apart. Rebecca Mae Palmer joins them as the third generation young ballet dancer about to break into the big-time who has another kind of break – an accident that could end her career.

McKechnie is a Tony Award winner for her performance as Cassie in the original company of *A Chorus Line*. McKechnie's illustrious career has included *Promises, Promises, Company, How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* and *State Fair* on Broadway and the Paper Mill Playhouse revival of *Follies*.

Carol Lawrence was Tony-nominated for originating the role of Maria in the groundbreaking musical *West Side Story*. Her Broadway credits include *Plain and Fancy, Subways Are For Sleeping, I Do! I Do!* and *Kiss of the Spider Woman – The Musical*.

Director Lynne Taylor-Corbett is known for her work in theatre, dance and film. She was nominated for two Tony Awards for direction and choreography of Broadway's *Swing!* and for two American Theatre Wing Star Awards for its National Tour. She also choreographed Broadway's *Chess* and *Titanic*.

Actress turned playwright Joni Fritz work also includes *First a Home* written to raise awareness of the plight of the homeless. She has created well over 200 Live theatrical pieces, film and documentaries. television and stage pieces.

**A Note From the Producer:**

Producer Dennis Grimaldi states: *I am delighted to be able to have these two important Award winning Broadway Stars in one show directed by a twice nominated Tony director, Lynne Taylor Corbett. And, to have the opportunity to present them to the West Coast audiences for this premiere.*

*What attracted me to GIRL'S ROOM and why I developed the show with the author is that it dealt with a world I am very familiar, having been a former dancer myself. The fun is that including myself, I have a director, who was a former dancer, two stars who were dancers, an author who was a dancer, a Production Stage Manager who was a dancer with ABT and Harkness, and a set designer who's married to a dancer. Lots of "Six Degrees".*

## **CALENDAR LISTING**

### **GIRL'S ROOM:**

Starring Carol Lawrence and Donna McKechnie with Rebecca Mae Palmer

Produced by Dennis Grimaldi Productions

in association with Queens Theatre in the Park

Written by Joni Fritz

Directed by Lynne Taylor-Corbett

Scenic Design by Beowulf Boritt

Costume Design by Jennifer Caprio

Lighting Design by Jason Kantrowitz

### **PERFORMANCES:**

Performances: October 8 – November 2

Wednesdays Matinees at 2 PM

Saturday & Sunday Matinees at 3pm

Thursdays - Saturdays at 8 PM

Previews: October 8, at 2:00 pm  
October 9 & 10 at 8pm  
October 11 at 3pm

**GALA OPENING NIGHT AND PRESS**  
**Opening: October 11 at 8pm**

**PRICES:**  
\$40 - \$60

**Previews:**  
\$50 Center Orchestra  
\$40 Side Orchestra

**Regular Performances:**  
Thursday - Friday 8pm  
Wed, Sat, Sun Mat 3pm  
\$55 Center Orchestra  
\$45 Side Orchestra

Saturday 8pm  
\$60 Center Orchestra  
\$50 Side Orchestra

**TICKET INFORMATION:**  
Call 818-508-4200 or 866-811-4111.  
or order online [www.elportaltheatre.com](http://www.elportaltheatre.com)

**WHERE:**  
El Portal Theatre Mainstage  
5269 Lankershim Blvd.  
North Hollywood, CA 91601  
At the corner of Lankershim & Weddington in the NoHo Arts District.

**PRESS CONTACT:**  
**Pegge Forrest/Jay Irwin**  
**Forrest & Associates**  
**(818) 693-0964 cell / (818) 508-0281 office [rnfrst@aol.com](mailto:rnfrst@aol.com)**