

# Seasonal farce hits River City Playhouse

## Peninsula Players to present 'The Ramplings' play

ILWACO, Wash. — The Peninsula Players will present Stephen Levi's play "The Ramplings," a metaphysical farce in two acts, this November.

The curtain will rise at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Nov. 11, 12, 18 and 19 and at 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 13 and 20 at the River City Playhouse, located at 127 S.E. Lake St.

Set on a snowy Christmas Eve in the lobby of the Singapore Inn in Singapore, Maine, nothing is as it appears, yet everything is as it should be.

Irish race car driver Hector Rampling, played by Barry Sears, seeks an elusive bottle of Irish whisky. His snobbish wife, Clarice, played by Rita Smith, wants to lay a wreath on her mother's grave on this first anniversary of her death in an automobile accident, which Clarice blames on Hector. Their marriage moves from rocky to blissful during their strange stay at this magical Maine inn.

The only other guest at the inn also has plans for that bottle of whisky: She thinks it will coax her husband — who also died exactly a year ago — from his grave. Philosophical innkeeper Arden Pelfrey,

played by Clint Carter, and strange spiritual medium Tweety Brickle, played by Penny Bierly, help to create a fast-paced spirit filled with surprises.

Invisible cats, flying ghosts and an ageless innkeeper who may or may not be an angel spell madcap merriment that concludes with lives restored and relationships healed.

Laurie Carter directs this holiday delight, which was written by playwright Stephen Levi, who also wrote the Broadway-produced plays "Daphne in Cottage D," "Angel on My Shoulder," "Getting Mama Married," "Cherry Soda Water" and "Good Morning

Miss Vickers."

Levi was also a writer on seven television series, including serving as a staff writer at Walt Disney Television Animation. He passed away in 2007.

"The inn is truly a state of mind," said Levi in 2004. "The innkeeper could be called an angel or Obi-Wan Kenobi. He could be God or the universal spirit. This inn is where people come to be healed. Audience members might be surprised by the play's humor."

The Ramplings contains some adult themes and is for mature audiences.

All tickets are \$10 and are available at the box office 30 minutes before the



SUBMITTED PHOTO

From left, Clint Carter as Mr. Pelfrey, Barry Sears as Hector Rampling, Rita Smith as Clarice Rampling, and Penny Bierly as Tweety Brickle, in "The Ramplings."

show begins. Tickets are also available at Okie's Market in Ocean Park, Stormin' Norman's in Long Beach,

and The Olde Cafe in Ilwaco. For more information, call 360-244 5700 or visit peninsula-players.com

## coast weekend

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Astoria artist Noel Thomas stands by one of his paintings for the art show "Nocturne," opening Nov. 12 at RiverSea Gallery.

PHOTO BY DWIGHT CASWELL

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