

Murder, lust and liquor add up to great fun in 'Chicago' the musical



Maree Beers as “Roxie Hart” is the main character of Last Resort Players’ (LRP) “Chicago the Musical” — just don’t let Jennifer Marus, who plays “Velma” hear you say that. In fact, Jason Wood as matron “Mama” Morton and Matthieu Korso as lawyer “Billy Flynn” would

probably disagree, as well.

But hey, that’s “showbiz,” kid.

Beers leads the 40-plus member LRP cast through the high-velocity and often cagey world of jazz, liquor, lust, greed and murder. Marus is the former star who fights to keep the spotlight. The stars’

mutual antagonism will keep the audience eating out of the palms of their hands.

LRP’s vaudeville production is a jest on 1920s jazz theater. Ron Green and his band play live on stage for the entire show, serving as an unofficial liaison between the audience and the stage.

“This is a musical I’ve always wanted to direct,” said director David Lauria.

The production team includes Lauria, his wife Rosemary, Paula Burnette, Dave Hansen and Leah Goodwin. Talented set designers, prop makers, costume designers, light technicians and sound technicians have given many hours to the production to make it a high caliber show.

Several of the cast members also have dual roles in the production. Besides playing “Mama,” Wood fills a second pair of shoes as the show’s musical director; ensemble member Angela Palmer choreographed every dance in the two-act show; merry murderesses Polly Fleming and Genevieve Meltzer created a vaudeville look for the show with costumes and accessories.

Every aspect of the show is about shaking the blues away — with hot music, sizzling dances, and themes ranging from self-reliance to honest love. And physical love ain’t so bad, either.

LRP presents “Chicago the Musical” for six showings at the Florence Events Center (FEC) on Nov. 6 to 8 and 13 to 15. Friday and Saturday evening performances will be at 7 p.m. Sunday matinees will be at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$18 for seniors and military. Contact www.eventcenter.org or go to the FEC box office at 715 Quince St for tickets.

For more information about LRP and “Chicago,” go to www.lastresortplayers.org or view the show’s website at www.lrpproductions.org.

You've got it coming.

CHICAGO
THE MUSICAL

DIRECTOR
DAVID LAURIA

BOOK BY
FRED EBB and BOB FOSSE

LYRICS BY
FRED EBB

Winner of:
6 - Tonys
6 - Academy Awards
and a Grammy

MUSICAL DIRECTOR
JASON WOOD

MUSIC BY
JOHN KANDER

LAST RESORT PLAYERS
Florence Events Center
November 6 - 8 & 13 - 15
Fri & Sat: 7:00 Sun: 2:00

Tickets at eventcenter.org, 541-997-1994, or box office
Show info at www.lrpproductions.org

based on the play "Chicago" by
MAURINE DALLAS WATKINS

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