

# Happy Birthday! The Merlin Players are 25 Years Old!



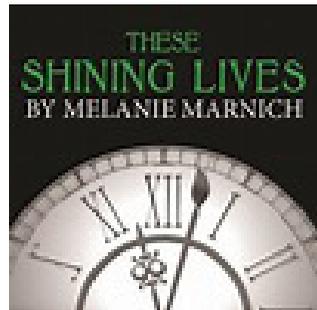
## *Leading Ladies*

Written by Ken Ludwig

Oct. 25, 26, Nov. 1, 2, 7:30P  
Sundays - Oct. 27 & Nov. 3 - 2:00P

Directed by Julianna Skluzacek

In this hilarious comedy by the author of “Lend Me A Tenor,” two actors, Jack and Leo, find themselves so down on their luck that they are performing on the Moose Lodge circuit in Pennsylvania. They hear that an old lady in York is about to leave her fortune to her two long lost nephews. They resolve to pass themselves off as her beloved relatives and get the cash. The trouble happens when they find out that the relatives aren’t nephews, but nieces! In a “Some Like It Hot” moment, they decide to dress like women to claim the money. Romantic entanglements abound and chaos ensues.



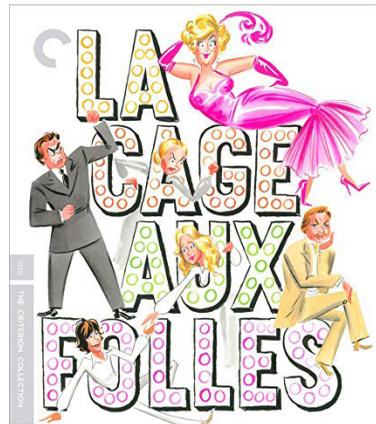
## *These Shining Lives*

Written by Melanie Marnich

February 21,22, 27, 28 29 - 7:30P  
Sunday - February 23 - 2:00P

Directed by Julianna Skluzacek

“These Shining Lives” is based on actual events and inspired by the actions of real women in the 1920s. It tells the largely forgotten story of the “Radium Girls.” Catherine Donohue and her coworkers worked in factories painting glow in the dark watch dials, only to later be diagnosed with severe radiation poisoning. This play chronicles the strength and determination of these women considered expendable in their day. The play is not a tragedy but a triumphant celebration of these women’s battles to win against a company that lied to them. Come cheer these heroines on.



The Musical Version of the Hit Movie “The Bird Cage”

## *La Cage Aux Folles*

Music & Lyrics by

Jerry Herman

Book by Harvey Fierstein

June 12, 13, 18, 19, 20 - 7:30P  
Sunday - June 14 & 21 - 2:00P

Directed by Julianna Skluzacek

This musical comedy won Tony Awards in 1984 and for its revival in 2010. It’s the hilarious story of Georges and Albin, two men partnered for better or worse. It all comes apart when Albin’s son announces his impending marriage to the daughter of a bigoted politician. Further complications include the family business which is a nightclub for female impersonators. Georges agrees to masquerade as “normal” to meet the girl’s parents but Albin has other plans. It all ends up in a wild romp. The hit movie comedy “The Bird Cage” was based on the musical.

## TMP Season Ticket Is Flexible! Use for any show

\_\_\_\_\_ \$154 and up Two tickets to each production (total of 6 admissions), a \$72 or more tax deduction, AND membership in the elite HIGH FLIGHT Benefactor Group. (All Friends and High Flight members will be listed in each program.)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$124 Two tickets to each production (total of 6 admissions), a \$42 tax deduction, AND membership in Friends of The Merlin Players Benefactor Group.

\_\_\_\_\_ \$72 One ticket to each play (total of 3 admissions), a \$31 tax deduction, AND membership in Friends of The Merlin Players Benefactor Group.

\_\_\_\_\_ \$41 Adult Season Ticket (total of 3 admissions).

\_\_\_\_\_ \$26 Child Season Ticket (12 years old and under)  
One ticket to each play (total of 3 admissions).

\_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

(May also list business)

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Tel. Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

(We don’t share your e-mail. It’s so we can remind you to order your tickets.)

PLEASE TEAR OUT & RETURN COMPLETED FORM.  
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: THE MERLIN PLAYERS,  
133 E. PHELPS ST., OWATONNA, MN 55060. Your show coupons will be mailed to you.

FINAL PURCHASE DATE: November 20, 2019

**No handling fees for season ticket holders.** As a season ticket holder you will not be charged a fee for on-line or over-the-phone ticket orders. This is another money saving benefit for you. As usual you may order your tickets one week before they go on sale to the general public.

## A Note from the Artistic Director

Dear TMP audiences,

Can you believe it's been 25 years since we produced our first show "Driving Miss Daisy" in the Newhall Auditorium at Shattuck-St. Mary's School? Twelve years ago we presented the first play, "A Christmas Carol," at the Paradise Center for the Arts in the Bahl Family Auditorium. From the very beginning of the Paradise project, we worked hard with the Faribault Arts Center to make that dream come true. I look back on all of the dear friends I've made through The Merlin Players. To our founding Board of Directors I say thank you for daring to take the leap and to my current Board I am so grateful for your hard work as well. Over the years, we have had people have moved away, and we have watched as our high school interns have gone on to successful lives. We have lost some dear friends. To Lois Vranesh, Craig Berg, Daniel Freeman, and George Langemo, your contributions to TMP were, and remain, invaluable. You are still dearly missed. Please consider joining us for our 25th season. We will work hard to continue to bring you high quality theater experiences filled with laughter, power and love. Look for our 25th Anniversary show in March, 2020 when we will bring together performers of songs and scenes from past shows. See you at the theater.

Fondly,

Julianna Skluzacek  
Artistic Director



## 25 Seasons of Well Told Stories



*The magic  
continues!*

The Merlin Players  
133 E. Phelps St.  
Owatonna, MN 55060

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