

# The Merlin Players Return Live and In Person!

## *Brighton Beach Memoirs*

Written by Neil Simon

October 22, 23, 28, 29, 30 - 7:30P  
 Sunday - October 24 - 2:00P  
 2021

Directed by Sam Temple

“Brighton Beach Memoirs” follows almost 15-year-old Eugene Jerome growing up in 1937. Dreaming of baseball and girls, Eugene must cope with the mundane existence of his family life in Yonkers with a formidable mother, overworked father, and worldly older brother Stanley. Throw into the mix his widowed Aunt Blanche, her two young (but rapidly aging) daughters, and you have a recipe for hilarity. One of Neil Simon’s best plays, it teems with humor and heartfelt family love.

## *The Boy Who Talked to Whales*

Written by Webster Smalley

February 18, 19, 24, 25, 26 - 7:30P  
 Sundays - February 20 & 27 - 2:00P  
 2022

Directed by Julianna Skluzacek  
 & Sam Temple

This is a charming dramatization for the entire family about a boy and a girl who save a friendly whale from whalers and bring about an international crisis. Jerry Johnson has secretly taught himself to talk to Ooka, a 50-foot whale that has fled from whalers into Puget Sound. With the help of Meg, a neighbor girl, he devises a plan to save Ooka from those who want to hurt or use her. More importantly, Jerry and Meg help Ooka combat the foreign whalers. The plan succeeds so well it causes a great international crisis, which the two children help the President of the United States resolve. This play is for the entire family.

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

## *La Cage Aux Folles*

Music & Lyrics by

Jerry Herman

Book by Harvey Fierstein

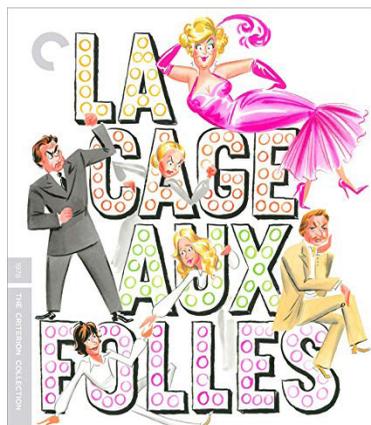
June 17, 18, 23, 24, 25 – 7:30P  
 Sunday – June 19 & 26 – 2:00P  
 2022

Directed by Julianna Skluzacek

Starring Michael Lambert and Eric Parrish, 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: 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 this musical.



## The Boy Who Talked to Whales



**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.**

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

\_\_\_\_\_ \$170 and up Two tickets to each production (total of 6 admissions), a \$78 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.)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$134 Two tickets to each production (total of 6 admissions), a \$42 tax deduction, AND membership in Friends of The Merlin Players Benefactor Group.

\_\_\_\_\_ \$77 One ticket to each play (total of 3 admissions), a \$31 tax deduction, AND membership in Friends of The Merlin Players Benefactor Group.

\_\_\_\_\_ \$46 Adult Season Ticket (total of 3 admissions).

\_\_\_\_\_ \$26 Youth Season Ticket (18 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: December 1, 2021

## A Note from the Artistic Director

Dear TMP audiences,

It was a long year for everyone. Theaters across the world were shuttered and dark. Many businesses were closed for public safety. Two of our shows for this season were planned for the past two years, “Brighton Beach Memoirs” and “La Cage Aux Folles.” We are delighted that we finally get to present these shows for you. Thankfully, licensing houses worked with us to move these shows; we did not lose any money.

You will love the humor of the shows we are bringing to you. They will uplift you and brighten your day. “Brighton Beach Memoirs” is a funny and heartfelt comedy. The cast of “La Cage Aux Folles” has been on hold for two years and is ready to present this delightful musical for you. Sam and I are excited to team up and bring you the enchanting story “The Boy Who Talked to Whales,” a tale for children of all ages, 5-95.

Thank you to our season ticket holders and deep gratitude to our benefactors and corporate sponsors, whose generosity keeps us on firm financial footing. Truly, we are healthy and strong because of all of our supporters. We are so excited to be in the Paradise Center for the Arts and to bring these shows to you. Thank you to Heidi Nelson and her wonderful staff. We all welcome you back to the theater and look forward to seeing all of your beautiful faces.

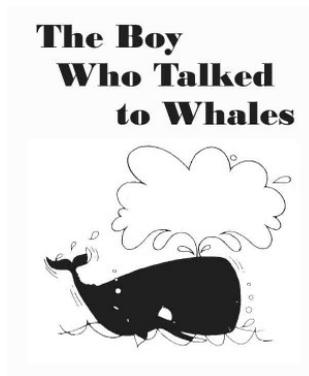
Fondly,

Julianna Skluzacek  
Artistic Director

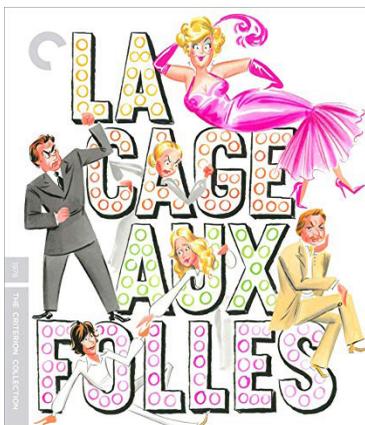
The Merlin Players are back!  
Thank you for staying with us.



“Brighton Beach Memoirs”  
Opening October 22, 2021



“The Boy Who Talked to Whales”  
Opening February 18, 2022



“La Cage Aux Folles” the Musical  
Opening June 17, 2022



*The magic  
continues!*

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

Return Service Requested

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