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THEATREWORKS PRESENTS: You Can’t Take It With You

Mom’s at the typewriter knocking out another terrible play, and her daughter is practicing ballet (her teacher says she stinks). The son is in the basement making fireworks, and grandpa is out checking out another commencement ceremony. The pet snakes are sleeping quietly. Meet the Sycamores, America’s most eccentric, yet most endearing, family. Their pursuits of happiness have entertained us ever since they first appeared on stage in 1936, and they appear as fresh as ever in You Can’t Take It With You at THEATREWORKS this holiday season. The classic comedy by George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart will be staged December 6-23 at the Dusty Loo Bon Vivant Theater at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs. It’s holiday escapism of the highest and most hilarious order.

The Sycamore family might be an unusual one, but their appeal is universal, delighting liberals and libertarians alike. The Sycamores are a unique bunch, definitely batty in fact, but they are also highly functional—in their home never is heard a discouraging word. Never, that is, until the IRS man shows up wanting to collect 24 years of back income tax. Then some very stiff and snobbish guests arrive the evening before they were invited. More people show up: a drunk actress, the ballet teacher, some government agents, and a Grand Duchess. Everyone’s welcome at the Sycamore house, which is many things for many people: a sanctuary, a laboratory, a dance studio, a print shop, an arsenal, and a house of reptiles. It leaves all who visit it helpless with laughter and joy.

THEATREWORKS has canvassed the entire state to assemble a cast who can deliver this happy mayhem with grace and style. Louis Schaefer plays Grandpa, the head of the household who believes you shouldn’t do anything you don’t enjoy, including paying taxes. Jamie Ann Romero (Boeing, Boeing) is Alice, his granddaughter, the only normal and possibly sane member of the family. Gabriella Cavallero is her mother, Penny, a would-be playwright thanks to a typewriter that was mistakenly delivered to the house a few years ago. Tom Paradise (Love’s Labor’s Lost) is her husband, Paul making fireworks in the basement. Missy Moore is the other daughter, Essie, the ballerina married to a dedicated xylophonist played by Sammie Joe Kinnett (Love’s Labor’s Lost). Sean Scrutchins is Tony, Alice’s fiancé, a sensible and sweet young man. Bruce Carter plays Mr. Kirby, his father, a stiff-necked tycoon on Wall Street, and Barbara Summerville is his long suffering wife. Ashley Crockett is a tipsy actress, Logan Ernstthal a commanding dance teacher, and Jane Fromme (The Glass Menagerie) is the Grand Duchess Olga Katrina. The snakes play themselves. No children will be damaged by fireworks explosions.
David Barber is designing a set that will welcome THEATREWORKS audiences right into the Sycamore home. Jane Spencer lights things up, William Burns adds sound, and Sarah Shaver creates the costumes. Geoffrey Kent directs, following his successes with *The Grapes of Wrath* and *The Thirty-Nine Steps*.

As a special holiday bonus, a group of singers from the Velvet Hills Show Chorus will entertain in four-part harmony before every performance. This talented and dynamic group of women singers will take audiences into the period of the play with sweetness and style.

**LOCATION** | Dusty Loo Bon Vivant Theater  
Parking is free

**SHOW DATES & TIMES** | December 6 – 23, 2012  
• Wednesdays - Saturdays at 7:30 p.m.  
• Saturday matinees at 2:00 p.m.  
• Sundays at 4:00 p.m.

**TICKETS** | Reservations are strongly advised  
• Reserved: $35  
• Children under 16: $15 (Children under 5 years old will not be admitted)

**SPECIAL EVENTS:**

**OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION** Thursday, December 6  
Free snacks for all after the show!

**FIRST FRIDAY TALKBACK** Friday, December 7  
The director and actors will come back out on stage after the performance to talk about the production and answer YOUR questions!

**FIRST SATURDAY GALA** Saturday, December 8  
Free drinks and snacks for EVERYONE to celebrate opening weekend!

**PROLOGUE LECTURE** Sunday, December 9 at 2:00 pm  
Our Colorado Springs funnyman Robert Rais, will guide you through an improvisational theatre workshop and a discussion on the science of what makes things funny.

For reservations or information, visit theatreworkscs.org or call the box office at (719) 255-3232.