

Published July 21st, 2010

Clive Worsley Reflects on Two Years at Town Hall Theater

By Sophie Braccini



Clive Worsley taking a break at Chow Photo Sophie Braccini

year's Art, by Yasmina Reza, was an excellent production with actors that delivered superior theater, but the box office results were disappointing.

That does not mean that Worsley will be content to play it safe next season. "We are proposing a Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde adaptation that is unique and very theatrical," says Worsley, "We will have Scrooge again because everyone likes it and we love to make people happy, then we will offer The Glass Menagerie, directed by Susannah Martin who also directed 'The Importance Of Being Earnest'; and finally, Twelfth Night."

There are many more programs and events that make THT a local treasure, which Worsley has been working on. "Last November, the director of the children's program resigned and I took it over," says Worsley, "We limited the number of kids so we could pay more attention to individual young actors, and we focused the teaching on skills and stage work." Worsley believes that theater should be part of the whole education; it teaches team work, appreciation of differences, self respect and builds confidence. "For me, working with children is part of serving the greater good," he adds.

Worsley also needs to raise much needed funds to "Stop the Leak." "We have to eliminate the debt that we contracted in the aftermath of the flood," says Worsley, "we need 1000 people to give \$100. This historical building is part of the heritage of Lafayette, it was built in 1914 and became a theater in 1944, it was used for town meeting and community dances. We want to keep it for the generations to come." For more information go to www.townhalltheatre.com

Before its fall season starts, THT will offer opportunities for summer entertainment, including a Comedy Series that THT will present with Crisis Hopkins. The kick-off sessions will see Crisis Hopkins hosting Johnny Steele and Richard Stockton as they present "Boomer Born" on July 23d. The next day, Crisis Hopkins will host SF-based comedy troupe PianoFight. On September 10th and 11th, comedian Will Durst will bring his internationally known political satire to Lafayette.

Reach the reporter at: sophie@lamorindaweekly.com

Copyright © Lamorinda Weekly, Moraga CA