

from the FOOTLIGHTS

MAY 2015

"Life shouldn't be all work and no plays."

<http://www.footlightsdc.org>

May 28: Dinner-Discussion of *A Tale of Two Cities*

Reserve now for Footlights' dinner-discussion on **Thursday, May 28** at Alfio's when we host Synetic Theater Founders **Paata** and **Irina Tsikurishvili**, along with our familiar guest, director **Serge Seiden**. Dorothy Marschak will moderate.

In a new collaboration, Serge will be directing a Synetic (talking!) production starring acclaimed actor Alex Mills in a play inside a play called *A Tale of Two Cities*. This is the story of a drag queen, who, finding a baby at his door, calms the child down by enacting the whole of Dickens' novel, playing all the characters himself! Winner of the 1989 Obie award, the *NY Times* described it as "Always fascinating, sometimes funny, and finally moving.."

We will meet at Alfio's, 4515 Willard Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD, on the ground floor of the Willoughby Apartments, a short walk from the north entrance of the Friendship Heights metro stop on the red line. Street parking is limited if you drive, but valet parking is free at Alfio's. Dinner is at 6:30; the discussion begins at 7:30 and ends at 9. (Note: if you know you must leave before 9, please be sure to sit near the door, so you can exit quietly!)

The all-inclusive cost for dinner and discussion is \$20. Dinner is a green salad, choice among six entrées, and spaghetti, green beans, bread and butter, ice cream, and tea or coffee. Alfio's salad bar may be substituted for the entrée if you wish. Cash or check – no credit cards, please. Wine, beer, and cocktails are available from the bar. You may come for the discussion only for just \$5.

Make reservations. Mary Ann Wren will take reservations for dinner-discussions in May and June. Contact her at wjwren@erols.com or 301-770-4572.

Reservations and cancellations will be accepted until noon of the day of the discussion. If you must cancel, please let Mary Ann know as soon as possible since the restaurant needs an accurate count. We may be charged for no-shows and would expect you to cover the cost of your meal.

Read the play. *A Tale of Two Cities*, based on the novel by Charles Dickens, and adapted by Everett Quinton, is available from Samuel French, Inc. at <http://www.samuelfrench.com/p/3819/tale-of-two-cities-a-quinton>. Or phone 1-866-598-8449 to order a copy.

June 14: See *A Tale of Two Cities* with Footlights. We'll see the play at Synetic Theater, 1800 S Bell Street, Arlington, Virginia, **2 p.m. Sunday, June 14**. Tickets are \$40. Send your check, payable to Footlights, to Robin Larkin, 5800 Nicholson Ln, Apt. L-07, Rockville, MD 20852.

June 15: Dinner-Discussion of Tennessee Williams' *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*

Big Daddy, Maggie the cat, Brick, brother Gooper and his five no-neck kids – they all sound as familiar as members of our own extended family. *Cat On a Hot Tin Roof* is one of the world's most performed plays, certainly one of the best **Tennessee Williams** ever wrote, and the first play the Keegan Theatre ever performed. To start their 18th season, and celebrate the major renovations to the Church Street theater, Keegan will once again stage this play, and we have invited co-founders **Mark** and **Susan Rhea** – they played the iconic roles of Brick and Maggie the last time Keegan mounted the classic and will co-direct this time – and members of the cast to join us on Monday, June 15 for our dinner-discussion. Mary Ann Wren will moderate.

Make reservations with Mary Ann Wren, wjwren@erols.com or 301-770-4572. We will meet at Alfio's.

May 16: See *The Letters* with Footlights. MetroStage, located at 1201 North Royal Street, Alexandria, Virginia, will produce John W. Lowell's *The Letters* – subject of Footlights' April dinner-discussion – from May 15 to June 14. Footlights will see it on **Saturday, May 16, 3 p.m.** Tickets are \$45, and include a postshow discussion with actress **Susan Lynskey**. Send your check, payable to Footlights, to Robin Larkin, 5800 Nicholson Ln, Apt. L-07, Rockville, MD 20852. Call 240-669-6300 or e-mail robinlarkin@comcast.net to let us know you will join us.

About Footlights

To learn more about Footlights, visit our website at

<http://www.footlightsdc.org>. To subscribe to our e-list, go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/footlightsdc/join>, or simply e-mail footlightsdc-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Calendar

- **Saturday, May 16**, 3 p.m. matinee production of *The Letters* by John W. Lowell at MetroStage, 1201 North Royal Street, Alexandria, Virginia. Tickets are \$45. Send your check, payable to Footlights, to Robin Larkin, 5800 Nicholson Ln, Apt. L-07, Rockville, MD 20852. Call 240-669-6300 or e-mail robinlarkin@comcast.net to let us know you will join us.
- **Thursday, May 28**, 6:30 p.m. dinner-discussion of *A Tale of Two Cities*, Charles Dickens classic as adapted by Everett Quinton. Guests: Syntetic Theater Founders **Paata** and **Irina Tsikurishvili**, and director **Serge Seiden**. At Alfio's, 4515 Willard Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD. Dinner including discussion is \$20; discussion only is \$5. Reserve with Mary Ann Wren, wjwren@erols.com or 301-770-4572.
- **Sunday, June 14**, 2 p.m. matinee production of *A Tale of Two Cities* at Syntetic Theater, 1800 S Bell Street, Arlington, Virginia. Tickets are \$40. Send your check, payable to Footlights, to Robin.
- **Monday, June 15**, 6:30 p.m. dinner-discussion of *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* by **Tennessee Williams**. Guests: Keegan Theater Founders **Mark** and **Susan Rhea**. At Alfio's. Reserve with Mary Ann Wren, wjwren@erols.com or 301-770-4572.

Robin Larkin for **FOOTLIGHTS**
5800 Nicholson Lane, Apt. L-07
Rockville, MD 20852