



advancing theatre, enlivening culture

## THE 2008-2009 30<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY SEASON!

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### SUMMER 2008

***The music. The laughter. The heartbreak. The hairspray.  
The return of...***

#### **ALWAYS... PATSY CLINE**

By Ted Swindley

In honor of our 30th anniversary, we're reviving the single most requested production in our history—Stages' own beloved *Always...Patsy Cline*. Penned by Stages' Founding Artistic Director Ted Swindley, this international hit musical had its world premiere at Stages in 1988 and has been winning hearts ever since. Based on a true story, this tribute to the legendary country music singer and her friendship with devoted Houston fan Louise Seger is rich with down-home country humor and includes 27 of Cline's unforgettable hit songs. Stages favorite Susan O. Koozin returns in the role of Louise!

**July 9 - August 31, 2008**

### FALL 2008

#### **UNBEATABLE: A New Musical**

Book by Eric Coble, Music and Lyrics by Todd Schroeder & Kevin Fisher

#### **World Premiere!**

*A co-production with Phoenix Theatre  
Produced in partnership with Pink Ribbons Project*

Tracy Boyd is a high-powered, type-A workaholic whose speed and efficiency give her superhero status—until she ignores a lump in her breast for almost a year. In the trial of her life, Tracy finally confronts her greatest fear: living. Based on the journals of a real-life breast cancer survivor, *Unbeatable* celebrates hope, laughter and the courage to live every moment.

**September 5 - 28, 2008**

*Previews September 3 & 4*

## **WALLFLOWER**

By Deborah Stein

### **World Premiere!**

Frustrated by current conditions in America, geeky teenage Milena posts an angry video on the internet—and accidentally ignites a real revolution. As the movement gains steam, Milena learns just how powerful a single voice can be, and realizes that in the faceless age of the internet, no one is what they seem. Inventive, provocative and political, this fierce comedy explores the phenomenon of the YouTube/MySpace generation and the technology that continues to shape our world.

**October 17 - November 2, 2008**

*Previews October 15 & 16*

## **HOLIDAY 2008**

### **PANTO CINDERELLA: An Outrageous Family Musical**

Book and Lyrics by Kate Hawley, Music by Gregg Coffin

This holiday season Stages introduces Houston audiences to the beloved British tradition of Pantomime with this rousing new version of one of the world's favorite stories. The storytelling style that gave rise to American Vaudeville breathes new life into the familiar tale of humble Cinderella, her fairy godmother, her awkward prince, and her hideous (and hilarious!) stepsisters. Packed with sharp wit, wild fun and original music, this unusual twist on a magnificent classic is as entertaining for grownups as it is for kids.

**December 5 - 21, 2008**

*Previews December 3 & 4*

## **SPRING 2009**

### **TAKING FLIGHT**

By Adriana Sevan

Just weeks before serving as a bridesmaid in her best friend Rhonda's wedding, Adriana Sevan instead becomes Rhonda's bedside companion after Rhonda is horrifically injured on 9/11. For the next year Adriana devotes herself to aiding Rhonda's painful recovery—and risks losing herself in the process. In this unforgettable one-woman show, Adriana recounts her true-life experience with compelling honesty, earthy humor and vivid theatricality.

**January 16 - February 1, 2009**

*Previews January 14 & 15*

### **RABBIT HOLE**

By David Lindsay-Abaire

### **Winner of the 2007 Pulitzer Prize!**

After an unimaginable death in the family, Becca and Howie begin to pick up the pieces of their lives with the help (and sometimes hindrance) of Becca's sister and mother. A story of life after loss, *Rabbit Hole* delves into the world of grief, the complexity of forgiveness, and the paradox of finding a new

"normal." David Lindsay-Abaire's simple, honest language and graceful wit make this unforgettable play a theatre lover's dream come true.

**February 27 - March 15, 2009**

*Previews February 25 & 26*

## **GREY GARDENS**

Book by Doug Wright, Music by Scott Frankel, Lyrics by Michael Corie

### **Winner of 3 Tony Awards**

Meet Jackie O's most outrageous relatives in this hit Broadway musical! Once among the brightest names in the pre-Camelot social register, Edith Bouvier Beale and her adult daughter "Little" Edie became East Hampton's most notorious recluses. Through a series of tabloid articles, and the documentary that soon followed, America discovered the eccentric mother and daughter living in their crumbling mansion among ruined heirlooms, mountains of garbage, and 52 cats. Accompanied by a wildly acclaimed score, Grey Gardens recounts their alternately hilarious and heartbreaking story.

**April 17 - May 17, 2009**

*Previews April 15 & 16*

*All plays and dates are subject to change.*