Oct. 18, 2010

RLT Real Live Theater
116 S. Second St.
Rogers, AR 72756
www.rogerslittletheater.org, 479.631.8988

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RLT PRESENTS 'THE ODD COUPLE' BY NEIL SIMON

ROGERS, Ark. — RLT will perform one of playwright Neil Simon's most popular comedies, "The Odd Couple," Nov. 5-7, 11-14 at the Victory Theater, 116 South Second in downtown Rogers.

Simon's unforgettable play was a hit on Broadway and later became a long-running television series. "It's enduring popularity in community theater repertoire is a tribute to Simon's comic genius," said Kaye Cotton, director of the play presented by Rogers Little Theater.

"The Odd Couple" revolves around the neat and fussy Felix Unger and the sloppy Oscar Madison who become a pair of mismatched roommates following the breakup of both their marriages. The two are played by RLT seasoned actors Rick Pierson and Jim Olmstead.

In addition to their hilarious scenes, the audience is treated to a couple of disastrously funny poker evenings, and an even more calamitous dinner part which begins as an amorous adventure and ends in culinary disaster.

"One of Simon's greatest strengths is his ability to create scenes that showcase the supporting actors' comedic talents as well as the leading actors' scenes," Cotton said.

The show's poker players are Michael Kaufman, Russell Pennington, Jason Collins and John Ford. Rounding out the seasoned cast are real-life sisters, Casey Cotton and Kristen Begneaud, as the "Coo-Coo" Pigeon Sisters.

The play begins with the boys assembled for cards in the apartment of one of the divorced fellows, and if the mess is any indication it's no wonder that his wife left him. Late to arrive is the other fellow who, they learn, had just been separated from his wife. Since he is very meticulous and tense, they fear he might commit suicide, and so go about locking all the windows. When he arrives, he is scarcely allowed to go to the bathroom alone. As life would have it, the slob bachelor and the meticulous fellow decide to bunk together with hilarious results. The patterns of their own disastrous marriages begin to reappear in this arrangement; and so this too must end.

"The Odd Couple" is one of three plays during RLT's 25th Anniversary Season. Season sponsors are Northwest Arkansas Media and CitiScapes Magazine; while MainStage Series Sponsors are Beall Barclay, KNWA and KUAF 91.3 FM NPR.

This season's impressive slate of six Main Stage productions includes *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat. Arsenic and Old Lace, Driving Miss Daisy and The Sound of Music.*

Performances are at 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. The theater opens an hour and a half before show time. Dinner Theater is $42, and balcony seating is $15 or 9.50 for students/children.

To make reservations go to www.rogerslittletheater.org, contact the RLT Box Office at 631.8988, or visit the theater at 116 S. Second St.

About RLT

For 25 years, Rogers Little Theater has been Real Live Theater where Real Lives are Transformed. Beginning as a small community theater group putting on theatrical performances wherever their productions were welcome, the nonprofit organization known as RLT now finds its home at the beautifully renovated Victory Theater, 116 South Second Street, in historic downtown Rogers, where it annually presents six MainStage dinner theater musicals or plays, four 2ndStage Diversity Unites plays, youth programming and other special events and presentations.

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