

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Sally Struthers as Mother Superior - Sister Mary Regina
and Adrian Zmed as Father Virgil Manly Trott

VALLEY MUSICAL THEATRE

proudly presents

Sally Struthers

starring in

NUNCRACKERS,

The Nunsense Christmas Musical

With Adrian Zmed

AT EL PORTAL THEATRE

in North Hollywood

15 PERFORMANCES ONLY

November 19 - December 3, 2006

Previews Nov. 17, 18

Valley Musical Theatre (VMT), Ronn Goswick, Executive Director, presents Sally Struthers and Adrian Zmed in the holiday musical comedy NUNCRACKERS, THE

NUNSENSE CHRISTMAS MUSICAL, written by Dan Goggin, directed and choreographed by Kay Cole with Steven Applegate as Musical Director.

NUNCRACKERS previews on November 17 and 18 and continues with a gala opening on Sunday, November 19 at 5 p.m. at the historic El Portal Theatre in North Hollywood. The production continues until Dec. 3. Tickets are available at 1-818-508-4200, 1-866-811-4111, or at www.elportaltheatre.com.

NUNCRACKERS features Sally Struthers as Sister Mary Regina, Mount Saint Helen's Reverend Mother.

Sally started her acting career with classes at Pasadena Playhouse, then worked as a singer, dancer and commercial actress before the breaks began arriving in rapid succession in 1970. By the end of that year, she had been seen on TV as a comedy-ensemble player on The Smothers Brothers Comedy Hour and a chorus girl (in fact, the only chorus girl) on The Tim Conway Comedy Hour; she'd played a small but attention-grabbing role in the Jack Nicholson film Five Easy Pieces; and she'd provided the voice for Pebbles Flintstone on the animated Pebbles and Bamm Bamm Show. Oh, before we forget: also in 1970, Struthers was cast as Gloria Bunker Stivic on the groundbreaking TV sitcom All in the Family.

During her seven-season stint as Gloria, she shared a 1972 "Best Supporting Actress" Emmy with The Mary Tyler Moore Show's Valerie Harper. She also took time out to deliver an image-busting performance as the wife of kidnap victim Jack Dodson in Sam Peckinpah's The Getaway (1972), and starred in several made for TV movies.

After starring in a female version of Neil Simon's The Odd Couple on Broadway, Sally accepted the role of klutzy divorcee Marsha McMurray Shrimpton in the 1986 syndicated sitcom 9 to 5. She also began appearing as the TV spokesperson for a charitable organization serving malnourished Third-World children. Her voice has been heard on such series as Talespin and Dinosaurs, and she's toured with the hit Broadway musicals Grease and Annie.

Sally just completed Still Standing and is currently featured on television favorite Gilmore Girls (as the nosey neighbor).

Adrian Zmed brings his nearly tall, dark good looks and three decades of television acting experience to the stage to star as the tipsy Father Virgil Manly Trott, a priest who has too much fun. Zmed gained fame in the TV series T.J. Hooker with William Shatner and has gone on to dozens of other shows including Caroline in the City, Alfred Hitchcock Presents, and Silk Stalkings, and several films, including Grease 2 and Star Wars.

The remaining cast features Annalisa Erickson as Sister Mary Hubert, Heidi Godt as Sister Robert Anne, Shanon Mari Mills as Sister Mary Paul, and Lindsay Jordan, Scott Rain, Anza Seller and B.J. Wallace as the Mount Saint Helen's Students.

The Show

In Nuncrackers, many of the nuns from the original production of Nunsense return to help with the first TV show to be broadcast from the basement of the convent. Sister Robert Anne has dashed hopes of having just one night as a Broadway singing star, Sister Hubert, Reverend Mother's side kick, has her own past dreams to deal with, and Sister Amnesia started her pre-nun career as a Grand Ole Opry singer. It's quite a mix. A live camera and two monitors are used to create an actual TV studio feeling for the audience. The most talented students of the school also join the show.

While Sister Mary Leo is supposed to be presenting the Nutcracker ballet, calamity ensues. Classic carols are twisted Nunsense-style, such as Twelve Days Prior to Christmas, Santa Ain't Comin' to Our House, and We Three Kings of Orient Are Us. And best of all, the audience participates in a "Secret Santa."

NUNCRACKERS, THE NUNSENSE CHRISTMAS MUSICAL, was originally produced as a DVD in 2001 starring Rue McClanahan and John Ritter and written and directed by Dan Goggin. All of the 7 sequels of **Nunsense** were written by Goggin, a musical-comedy composer, lyricist and author. Goggin was schooled by Marywood Dominican Sisters and each character in **NUNSENSE** (1993) is based on a nun that he knew from school.

NUNCRACKERS will be the final show of the 2006 Season for Valley Musical Theatre. A new and exciting 2007 Season will be announced in mid-November.

NUNCRACKERS is a fun-for-the-whole-family holiday musical. The production opens for a limited run of 15 performances and 2 previews November 17 and 18th at 8 p.m., followed by a Gala Celebrity/Press Opening on Sunday, November 19th at 5 p.m. El Portal Theatre is located at 5269 Lankershim Blvd. in North Hollywood. For tickets and information call 818-508-4200 or Theatermania at 866-811-4111.

CALENDAR

NUNCRACKERS, THE NUNSENSE CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

Executive Director	RONN GOSWICK
Director/Choreographer	KAY COLE
Musical Director	STEVEN APPEGATE
Scenic Designer	BRETT BANAKIS
Lighting Designer	STEVEN YOUNG
Costume Designer	THOMAS G. MARQUEZ
Sound Designer	PHILLIP G. ALLEN
Technical Director	BRIAN STAUBACH

CAST:

Sister Mary Regina	SALLY STRUTHERS
Father Virgil Manly Trott	ADRIAN ZMED
Sister Mary Hubert	ANNALISA ERICKSON
Sister Robert Anne	HEIDI GODT
Sister Mary Paul	SHANON MARI MILLS
Mount Saint Helen's Students:	
LINDSAY JORDAN	
SCOTT RAIN	
ANZA SELLER	
B.J. WALLACE	

PERFORMANCES:

Previews November 17 at 8 p.m.

Gala Press/Celebrity Openings:

Saturday, November 18 at 8 p.m. (preview)

Sunday, November 19 at 5 p.m.

Performances for week 1:

Tues., Wed., Fri, Sat. at 8 p.m.

Sat. Nov. 25 and Sunday Nov. 26 at 2 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 26 at 7 p.m.

Please Note: There will be no performance on Nov. 23 -Thanksgiving Day

Performances continue week 2

Wed., Nov. 29 at 8 p.m.

Thurs., Nov. 30 at 8 p.m.

Fri., Dec. 1 at 8 p.m.

Sat. Dec. 2 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Closing performances are Sun., Dec. 3 at 2 and 7 p.m.

PRICES:

Previews: All Seats \$30

Tues., Wed., Thurs. \$32.50/ \$40.00

Fri., Sat. at 8 p.m. and Sun. at 2 p.m. \$37.50/ \$45
Sat. at 2 p.m. and Sun. at 7 p.m. \$32.50/\$40

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WHERE:

El Portal Theatre – Mainstage
5269 Lankershim Blvd., North Hollywood
The corner of Lankershim and Weddington

PARKING:

Complimentary on the corner of Weddington and Bakman
One block from theatre

TICKET INFORMATION: Call 818-508-4200 for information and reservations, or
<http://www.elportaltheatre.com> OR THEATERMANIA at 866-811-4111.

PRESS CONTACTS:

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