

RAVING RICHARD RADIO REVIEW, FOR BROADCAST ON MARCH 10, 2010

1000 A.M., ALBUQUERQUE, AND 94.7 F.M., SANTA FE

AGAIN, GREETINGS TO YOU LOVERS OF LIVE THEATRE. THIS WEEK, I HAVE BOTH COMEDY AND OPERA TO PREVIEW: THE COMEDY IS NEIL SIMON'S CLASSIC PLAY, "PLAZA SUITE," THE STORY ABOUT THREE COUPLES ASSIGNED TO THE SAME SUITE AT A NEW YORK HOTEL, AND THEIR VISITS TURN OUT TO BE THE HEIGHT OF MERRIMENT, NEIL SIMONS' INIMITABLE STYLE.

IF YOU'VE NEVER SEEN "PLAZA SUITE," THIS PRODUCTION AT ALBUQUERQUE LITTLE THEATRE MAY BE YOUR LAST CHANCE HERE IN ALBUQUERQUE TIL ANOTHER THEATRE TAKES A TURN AT IT, AS THIS IS ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR PLAYS TO GET RERUN AFTER RERUN. IT PLAYS THIS FRIDAY AND SATURDAY EVENINGS AT 8, AND CONCLUDES WITH A MATINEE ON SUNDAY THE 13th AT 2:00. A.L.T. IS LOCATED AT 224 SAN PASQUALE, AND THEIR RESERVATION NUMBER IS 242-4750.

FOR LOVERS OF OPERA, GEORGE BIZET'S EVER-POPULAR "CARMEN" WILL BE STAGED MARCH 20, 23, 26, AND 28 BY OPERA SOUTHWEST, ALBUQUERQUE'S PROFESSIONAL OPERA COMPANY. FOR "CARMEN," ONE OF THE MOST DRAMATIC AND BELOVED OF ANY OPERA, OSW IS OFFERING AN INDUCEMENT FOR ANYONE WHOSE FIRST NAME IS CARMEN! SO ALL YOU CARMEN'S, WHEN ACCOMPANIED BY ANOTHER PERSON, AND YOU WANT TO ATTEND EITHER TUESDAY, MARCH 23, OR FRIDAY, MARCH 26, YOUR PAIR OF TICKETS WILL ONLY COST THE PRICE OF ONE TICKET!

IN ADDITION, FOR ANYONE NAMED CARMEN WHO WANTS TO ATTEND ALONE ON ONE OF THESE DATES, YOUR TICKET WILL BE HALF PRICE! THESE DETAILS ARE REPEATED ON OUR KKIM WEB, MYKKIM.COM; AND TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS CARMEN OFFER, CALL 505/243-0591, THE OSW BOX OFFICE.

FOR THOSE WHO ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND EITHER THE MARCH 23rd OR 26th PERFORMANCES, OR WHOSE NAME ISN'T CARMEN, PERFORMANCES ARE ALSO SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, MARCH 20, AND SUNDAY MARCH 28, WITH ALL PERFORMANCES AT THE KIMO THEATRE, FIFTH AND CENTRAL. CURTAIN TIMES ARE AS FOLLOWS: 7:30 P.M. FOR MARCH 20, 23, AND 26, AND 2:00 FOR THE MATINEE ON MARCH 28.

IN A NUTSHELL, "CARMEN" IS A STORY OF GYPSY LIFE IN SEVILLE AND THE NEARBY MOUNTAINS, AND A TRAGIC TALE OF A BEAUTIFUL SPANISH GYPSY NAMED CARMEN. IN OPENING SCENES, SHE FALLS IN LOVE WITH A SOLDIER, BUT SOON TIRES OF HIM IN FAVOR OF A DASHING TOREADOR. ALL THIS LEADS TO FIREWORKS, WITH BOTH CARMEN AND THE CORPORAL PAYING THE ULTIMATE PRICE FOR THEIR MISDOINGS. IN A WORD, MAGNIFICENT DESCRIBES EVERYTHING ABOUT THIS PRODUCTION--THE COLORFUL COSTUMES, STAGING, SUPERB ACTING, AND FAMILIAR MELODIES WITH FULL ORCHESTRA, SUNG BY PRIZE-WINNING NATIONAL OPERA STARS IN FRENCH, BUT WITH ENGLISH TRANSLATIONS ABOVE THE STAGE. THE ALBUQUERQUE BOY CHOIR IS ALSO FEATURED.

RESERVATIONS AND TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE KIMO. CALL 768-3544, OR TICKETMASTER, 883-7800, OR TICKETMASTER.COM, OR THE SOUTHWEST TICKET OFFICE AT 243-0591. REMEMBER, THERE'S AN INFORMATIVE TALK, FREE, SOME 45 MINUTES BEFORE OPENING CURTAIN.

THANKS FOR LISTENING TO MY COMMENTARIES ON LIVE THEATRE, HEARD HERE ON KKIM, 1000 A.M., CHRISTIAN RADIO FOR NEW MEXICO, AND SIMULCAST ON 94.7 F.M., SANTA FE--ALSO CARRIED ON OUR STATION'S WEB MYKKIM.COM.