



**CAST ANNOUNCED FOR BAYOU CITY CONCERT MUSICALS'
PRESENTATION OF
LEONARD BERNSTEIN'S MUSICAL
*ON THE TOWN***

Five performances September 10 through September 13, 2009

BAYOU CITY CONCERT MUSICALS presents Leonard Bernstein's effervescent, feel good, full of dance, musical *ON THE TOWN* in celebration of its 10 years of presenting concert musicals to Houston theater audiences. The show is rich with such classic hits as "New York, New York," "Lonely Town," "Some Other Time," and "I Can Cook Too." Opening at the Heinen Theatre, 3517 Austin at Holman in Midtown, the production plays Thursday, September 10, and runs through Sunday, September 13, for five performances only. Performance times for the staged concert version are Thursday at 7:30 p.m., Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

BCCM's concert production is directed by Paul Hope and Philip Lehl, with ballets choreographed by Krissy Richmond and musical numbers staged by Jenny Franco. Musical director is Art Yelton and conductor is Dominique Royem.

ON THE TOWN is the story of Gabey, Ozzie and Chip, three sailors on 24 hour shore leave in New York city during wartime 1944. *ON THE TOWN* is both hilarious and poignant. In search of the girl of their dreams, Gabey falls in love with a girl on a poster who has won the Miss Turnstiles Award. As the guys search for Miss Turnstiles to help Gabey, they go from adventure to misadventure, singing and dancing their way through the subways, nightclubs, and museums of New York,; finding a girl or two along the way until they all meet at Coney Island. *ON THE TOWN* is the most dance heavy production that Bayou City Concert Musicals has ever done. The show has five ballets that serve as an integral part of the plot, and this is where Leonard Bernstein's music absolutely soars.

The cast includes the following:

The Three Sailors:	Will Luton as Gabey, Kregg Alan Dailey as Ozzie, and Adam Gibbs as Chip
Their Three Girls:	Melissa Pritchett as Ivy (Miss Turnstiles), Susan Draper as Claire de Loone, and Tamara Siler as Hildy, the taxi driver
Madame Dilly:	Grace Givens
Judge Pitkin	Richard Calvert
Lucy Shmeeler:	Susan Koozin

The creators of *ON THE TOWN* read as a Who's Who of Broadway's best, with music by Leonard Bernstein, and book and lyrics by Betty Comden and Adolph Green. Choreography was by Jerome Robbins and George Abbott directed. Inspired by Bernstein's and Robbins' ballet "Fancy Free," it was expanded into a full length production and opened on Broadway in 1944.

Most people remember the 1949 film version of *ON THE TOWN* that catapulted Gene Kelly into super stardom. The movie bears almost no resemblance to the musical. Unfortunately much of the plot of the movie was revised, most of Bernstein's music was dispensed with as being too "classical," except for "New York, New York," and the film failed to capture the true spirit of the Broadway musical. Bernstein had his name removed from the film version.

A *City Center Encores!* staged concert revival was presented in 2008 as part of a citywide celebration of Leonard Bernstein's 90th birthday and received critical praise. In reviewing this production, New York Times Charles Isherwood wrote "The production is rich in dance....winning performances....but it is richest of all in music."

Bayou City Concert Musicals production this year benefits **The Tim Harris Memorial Fund of the Houston Professional Musicians Association**. The Tim Harris Fund supports Houston musicians who have suffered a catastrophic illness or injury.

Bayou City Concert Musicals is funded in part by a grant from the City of Houston through the Houston Arts Alliance.

Tickets are available now on line at bayoucityconcertmusicals.org or by calling 713-465-6484. Single tickets are priced at \$25 to \$35 and senior rates are \$20 to \$28. Student tickets are \$15.

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For press info
Sylvia Froman
713-952-3660 or 713-805-2083.

. ; Chip gets distracted from his search by a lusty cab driver; Ozzie ends up in a museum and knocks over a dinosaur, and Gabey falls in love with a poster of “Miss Turnstile,” and then actually finds Ivy standing on her head during a voice lesson at Carnegie Hall. Gabey makes plans to meet Ivy, but she disappears and the sailors go from nightclub to nightclub, their journey filled with dancing, singing and loving, punctuated by hilarious miscues and misdirection Chip gets distracted from his search by a lusty cab driver; Ozzie ends up in a museum and knocks over a dinosaur, and Gabey falls in love with a poster of “Miss Turnstile,” and then actually finds Ivy standing on her head during a voice lesson at Carnegie Hall. Gabey makes plans to meet Ivy, but she disappears and the sailors go from nightclub to nightclub, their journey filled with dancing, singing and loving, punctuated by hilarious miscues and misdirection, until they finally end up in Coney Island where Gabey finally finds Ivy again. Eventually, Chip, Ozzie and Gabey have to say goodbye and they are escorted back to their ship where a new group of sailors prepare for their own 24 hour leave.