

NEW HARMONY THEATER

SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED



NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release
April 22, 1988

The New Harmony Theater under new management by the University of Southern Indiana has announced a schedule of five plays for the 1988 summer-fall season, including a closing performance of James Leonard's "The Diviners" that will be moved to USI Theater as that group's fall production.

The schedule was announced Friday by Dr. James R. Blevins, chairman of the USI Division of Humanities. He said each production will be presented at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday in Murphy Auditorium in New Harmony. "The Diviners" production at USI Theater will have one added performance on Thursday night. The season will include:

June 10-12, 17-19, 24-26, July 1-3 -- "Mass Appeal" by Bill C. Davis. Dr. Blevins will direct this play about the conflict between an older priest and a young seminarian, a combination of humor and deep-seated humanity. The cast will be Dr. Douglas Hubbell, USI Theater director, and William Hairston, a USI student.

July 8-10, 15-17, 22-24, 29-31 -- "Talley's Folly" by Lanford Wilson. This is a Pulitzer Prize winner set in Lebanon, Missouri, in 1944. This charming and touching play reveals the love affair of a small-town Missouri girl and her worldly-wise Jewish suitor.

August 5-7, 12-14, 19-21, 26-28 -- "The Wake of Jamey Foster" by Beth Henley. This Southern comedy is by the author of "Crimes of the Heart."

September 2-4, 9-11, 16-18, 23-25 -- "Luv" by Murray Schisgal. This is one of Broadway's brightest comedy hits. It is a spoof on avant garde drama as well as on love and marriage.

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October 7-9, 14-16, then to USI Theater for October 27-30 performances -- "The Diviners" by James Leonard. The setting and characters should be familiar to the audience since this tender drama is set in southern Indiana in the 1930s.

Auditions for "Talley's Folly," "The Wake of Jamey Foster," and "Luv" will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday and Friday, May 5-6, at USI Theater and are open to the public. All actors will be paid. "The Diviners" will be a USI Theater production and will be cast in August at the beginning of the 1988-89 academic year.

The "Talley's Folly" cast consists of one woman in her early 30s and a man in his early 40s. "Jamey Foster" includes three women and two men in their late 20s or early 30s, a 17-year-old girl, and a man in his early 50s. The two men and one woman in "Luv" are in their mid-30s.

These three plays will be directed by Brian Sajko, who is joining the USI Theater faculty in June after receiving his Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota. Dr. Hubbell will design the sets, Randy Smith will design lighting, and Amy Renolds will be stage manager.