

PRESS RELEASE

# The Studio Theatre

THE STUDIO THEATRE. THE STUDIO 2NDSTAGE. THE STUDIO THEATRE ACTING CONSERVATORY. 1501 FOURTEENTH STREET, NW, WASHINGTON, DC 20005. WASHINGTON DC

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## PRESS RELEASE

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## THE STUDIO THEATRE DELIGHTED TO PRESENT GEORGE S. KAUFMAN AND HOWARD TEICHMANN'S HILARIOUS FARCE, *THE SOLID GOLD CADILLAC!*

### FOLLOWS *ADDING MACHINE: A MUSICAL IN THE MONEY PLAYS!*

"The characters are fun to watch, the one-liners elicit chuckles and guffaws."  
– Centerstage Chicago

### **The Solid Gold Cadillac**

by George S. Kaufman and Howard Teichmann

directed by Paul Mullins

starring Nancy Robinette

featuring Michael Goodwin, David Sabin, James Slaughter, Paul Nolan & Leo Erickson

opening December 2

in The Metheny Theatre

The Studio Theatre will bring the laughs in a sparkling new production of George S. Kaufman and Howard Teichmann's *The Solid Gold Cadillac*. This lost American classic percolates with startling contemporary resonance. First performed on Broadway in 1953 and later captured in the 1956 hit film starring Judy Holliday, *The Solid Gold Cadillac* follows the trials and travails of Mrs. Laura Partridge, a minor stockholder in a major corporation. In this Cinderella story, big business meets its match when Mrs. Partridge takes on the big, bad board of directors, armed with a simple question: why does the Chairman of the Board get paid so much money? Mrs. Partridge's question ultimately brings the executives to their knees. A true David and Goliath story, *The Solid Gold Cadillac* underscores the power of the individual in the face of corporate corruption. Paul Mullins, director of The Studio Theatre runaway hit *Fat Pig*, will direct and Washington DC favorite Nancy Robinette will star as the plucky and determined Mrs. Partridge.

Written jointly by George S. Kaufman and radio/television writer Howard Teichmann, *The Solid Gold Cadillac* skewers everything from big business and the media to government scandal and the theatre. "Great collaborator" and comic genius George S. Kaufman is responsible for some of the greatest twentieth-century comedies such as *You Can't Take it With You*, *Of Thee I Sing* and *The Man Who Came to Dinner*. In a recent article, *The New York Times* said of Kaufman's enduring popularity, "setting aside the always vexing idea of greatness, Kaufman's writing retains its energy and force today because, aside from its clear virtues as expertly wrought comedy, much of it seems to prefigure, predict and lampoon cultural developments that have gained force in the decades since the years of his influence."

Though over half a century has passed since *The Solid Gold Cadillac* premiered on Broadway, its razor-sharp satire of American business could not be timelier. With corporate corruption making headlines daily, this hilarious farce is the perfect play to produce in 2009. *The Solid Gold Cadillac* is a missing gem in the canon of American comedy. As a part of The Studio Theatre's *The Money Plays*, it provides uproarious comic relief in a series of plays targeted at the failings of the current economic situation.

The Solid Gold Cadillac is part of the 2009-2010 Season of The Money Plays. This series is generously underwritten by **Jaylee Mead**, with additional underwriting from **Joan and David Maxwell**, and **Steve and Linda Skalet**. Additional support was received from **Henry von Eichel**, **Gerald and Laura Rosberg** and **Jerry and Patti Sowalsky**.

— MORE —

**Starring:** Nancy Robinette (Mrs. Laura Partridge)  
**With:** Michael Goodwin (Edward L. McKeever), David Sabin (T. John Blessington), James Slaughter (Alfred Metcalfe), Paul Nolan (Clifford Snell), Leo Erickson (Warren Gillie), Laura Dunlop (Amelia Shotgraven), Russell Jonas (Mark Jenkins), Chelsey Christensen (Miss L'Arriere), Daniel Kenner (Ensemble), Daniel Flint (Ensemble), Michael Hammond (Ensemble), Declan Cashman (Ensemble).

**Director and Designers:** Paul Mullins (Director), Jim Kronzer (Set Designer), Michael Phillippi (Lighting Designer), Alex Jaeger (Costume Designer) and Eric Trester (Sound and Projection Designer).

### **THE SOLID GOLD CADILLAC INFORMATION**

**Where:** The Metheny Theatre

**Dates:** December 2, 2009 - January 10, 2010

**Performances:** Wednesday-Saturday: 8:00pm, Sundays 7:00pm

Matinees: Saturday and Sunday 2:00pm

Select Tuesdays: December 15, 22, 29, January 5

**Ticket Prices:** \$42-\$63

**Press Opening:** Sunday, December 6

### **THE STUDIO THEATRE INFORMATION:**

**“Most of the best plays I saw last season were either presented Off Broadway or by such regional companies as... Washington’s Studio Theatre. That’s the new reality of drama in America.”**

— Terry Teachout, *Wall Street Journal*

The Studio Theatre is Washington’s premiere venue for contemporary theatre, and is **“where local audiences will find today’s edgiest playwrights...a place for innovation,”** according to *Variety*. The Studio Theatre’s mission is to produce the best in contemporary theatre. Its restless, innovative spirit makes it a leader both in Washington DC, and in the nation.

Artist-founded and artist-driven, The Studio Theatre demands the highest quality production values, bringing audiences provocative writing along with unparalleled artistry in performance, directing and design. Founded in 1978, The Studio Theatre is led by the driving force of Joy Zinoman, Founding Artistic Director, whose recent work has been called **“riveting,” “beautifully orchestrated”** and **“inspired”** by *The Washington Post*; along with Keith Alan Baker, Managing Director/Artistic Director, 2ndStage; Serge Seiden, Associate Producing Artistic Director; and Morey B. Epstein, Executive Director of Institutional Development. The Studio 2ndStage creates edgy, explosive, extreme and electrifying productions that complement The Studio Theatre’s season. *The Washington Post* proclaimed that 2ndStage **“has long been a playground for... directors and actors (and naturally, some of its riskier experiments)”** and that a **“convention-defying approach informs many 2ndStage offerings.”** The Studio Theatre provides opportunities for developing theatre artists as year-long apprentices. The Studio Theatre Acting Conservatory offers rigorous professional theatre training in close partnership with the working artists at The Studio Theatre. Now in its 35<sup>th</sup> year, it has been called **“the area’s premiere professional training facility for actors and directors”** by *Variety*. The Conservatory has trained over 8,000 actors and directors, now performing on Broadway, Off Broadway and in theatre and film across the country. The Studio Theatre is deeply invested in the community and in neighborhood revitalization.

### **DISCOUNTS**

**Student, senior citizen (62+) and military discount:** \$5.00 off (except Saturday evenings).

**Student Rush:** \$19 tickets for full-time students are available one-half hour before curtain on a seating available basis (except Saturday evenings).

**Groups:** for parties of 10 or more. Call the Group Sales Manager at 202-232-7267.

**Pay What You Can:** December 5, 2:00pm.

**Studio District Night:** Wednesday, December 2, 8:00pm. Tickets \$10 for residents of the Studio District, with proof of address.

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Accessibility:** All performances are fully accessible to accommodate patrons with special needs. FM listening assistive system available. Call for schedule of sign-interpreted performances. Accessible seats available by reservation. Call the Box Office at 202-332-3300 or V/TTY 202-667-8436.

**Location:** 1501 14<sup>th</sup> Street, NW (Northeast corner of 14th and P Streets).

**Parking:** Please call the Box Office for parking information.

**Metro Stops:** Red Line: Dupont Circle, Orange/Blue Lines: McPherson Square, and Green Line U Street/Cardozo.

**Contact Information:** Tickets: 202-332-3300 V/TTY: 202-667-8436 Fax: 202-332-1187  
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