

The Carpetbag Theatre, Inc. presents

Home Grown

at the Garden

Home Grown at the Garden

Where: Knoxville Botanical Gardens and Arboretum

2743 Wimpole Avenue

Knoxville, TN 37914

865-862-8717

When: Swopera August 12 and 15, 2010

Between A Ballad and A Blues August 19 and 22, 2010

Loup Garou August 26, 2010

Kelle Jolly and The Will Boyd Project August 29, 2010

Time: All shows Start at 7:00 pm

Expanding on the Carpetbag Theatre's 40th Homecoming Celebration at the Knoxville Botanical Gardens and Arboretum, the Carpetbag Theatre is presenting the 2010 Home Grown at the Garden Series. The Presentations Starting on August 12, 2010 will consist of touring works, local artists, and original works of the Carpetbag Theatre.

On August 12 and 15, 2010 the Carpetbag Theatre will present Swopera. **SWOPERA** is a spoken-word opera that addresses familial history, internal epiphany, and collective responsibility through a fusion of music that ranges from Be-Bop to Hip-Hop.

On August 19 and 22 the Carpetbag Theatre will present Between a Ballad and A Blues. **Between a Ballad and a Blues** chronicles the life and work of African-American-Appalachian renaissance man Howard "Louie Blueie" Armstrong and his musical partners, Carl Martin and Ted Bogan. Together they formed one of the most famous string-band groups in the history of American music. As a group and solo artists, Martin Bogan and Armstrong toured the globe sharing string band music with the world, planting the seed for other American music forms including Country and Blues. The play centers around the character of Howard Armstrong who narrates the tale which is highlighted with stories and songs from both Bogan and Martin. The play spans Howard's lengthy seven decade musical career.

On August 26, 2010, the Carpetbag Theatre will present Loup Garou. Loup Garou is deeply rooted in the realities of southeast Louisiana, responding to one of the most urgent environmental threats in the world. It is a new environmental performance that uses rigorous physicality, poetry, Cajun music, and visual installation to investigate the deep interconnectedness between land and culture in Louisiana. Part performance, part ritual, part howl to the world about southeast Louisiana's plight, Loup Garou sings a song of love and hope for our precarious homeland.

On August 29, 2010, the Carpetbag Theatre will present Kelle Jolly and The Will Boyd Project. While primarily known for their respective jazz performances and songwriting, newlywed musicians, Kelle Jolly and Will Boyd, can work their magic in a variety of music styles. She is an accomplished professional vocalist, songwriter, and music educator. While her style is sometimes evocative of Sarah Vaughan or Olitta Adams, Ms. Jolly's infectious stage presence and unique style demonstrates a hybrid of sensitive song styling with conservative bursts of

courageous musical creativity. She can surprise with anything from passionate ethno-rhythmic scat singing to whistle tones to comedy. She manages to execute a variety of styles with great aplomb without ever being precious. Boyd, an erudite multi-wind instrumentalist, is also an in-demand performer. A regular member of the Knoxville Jazz Orchestra, Will has also performed with the Streamliners, the Temptations and the Spinners. He is also a frequent accompanist with Grammy nominee, Donald Brown. When Jolly and Boyd perform together, his cool style nicely balances Ms. Jolly effervescence. The guy is a Zen master of woodwinds, and, together with Jolly, they encompass a wide array of musical knowledge ranging from traditional jazz standards, old school rhythm and blues, spirituals, acoustic Christmas carols, and pop music.

The Carpetbag Theatre, Inc. (CBT), founded in 1969 and chartered in 1970, is a professional, multigenerational ensemble company dedicated to the production of new works. Our mission is to give artistic voice to the issues and dreams of people who have been silenced by racism, classism, sexism, ageism, homophobia and other forms of oppression. CBT serves communities by returning their stories to them with honesty, dignity, and concern for the aesthetic of that particular community, helping culturally specific communities to re-define how they organize.

The company works in partnership with other community artists, activists, cultural workers, storytellers, leaders and people who are simply concerned, creating original works through collaboration in a style based in storytelling and song.

For more information please contact Executive/Artistic Director Linda Parris-Bailey at 865-544-0447, lindapb1@aol.com.