

'Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune' opens at Lab Theater November 8



Loretta Seibert stars as Frankie in new Lab Theater production. (Courtesy of Laboratory Theater of Florida)



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Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune is a romantic comedy that celebrates love between two unlikely souls. The show opens on Friday, November 8.

Frankie and Johnny portrays two lonely, middle-aged people whose first date ends between the sheets. Johnny is sure he and Frankie are meant to be together. Frankie though is far less certain. But as the play unfolds, they begin to take careful steps towards the possible start of a real and meaningful relationship.

Director Brenda Kensler says, "I love this play because I fell in love with the idea that your life can change after one Saturday

night. My life changed after a kiss on the cheek. As a good friend once said, 'Sometimes you just have to fall off the bridge backwards and hope that this time it works'."

The play stars veteran Lab Theater actor Tim Gunderman as Johnny. Tim has been seen as the attorney El-Fayoumy in *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot*, as Iago in *Othello*, and as the antagonist Raul in *Extremities*.

Loretta Seibert stars as Frankie. Loretta has been seen in Lab Theater's *The Laramie Project*.

"This is such an honest and heartwarming show," says artistic director Annette Trossbach. "It's funny and delightful, beautiful in its gritty reality. It's definitely one to see with someone you love." Variety says, "Terrence McNally has...a hit...in FRANKIE AND JOHNNY IN THE CLAIR DE LUNE. A romantic two-hander with character depth and an abundance of laughs..." Originally an off-Broadway play starring Kathy Bates and F. Murray Abraham, *Frankie and Johnny* was made into a movie in 1991, starring Michelle Pfeiffer and Al Pacino.

Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune premieres on November 8, 2013 at 8 p.m. Doors open at 7:15 p.m. for the opening night reception. Other performances are on November 9, 14, 15, 16, 17, 21, 22, 23. Tickets are between \$12 and \$22 and are available for purchase at the door or online at laboratorytheaterflorida.com. Season tickets are also available on the website.

The Laboratory Theater of Florida is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that is dedicated to the promotion of the performing arts through live performance, education, community outreach, experimentation and the development of ensemble work. The company features ensemble productions, produces classic works, takes artistic risks and features and challenges local performers of various skill levels. Stay up to date with its news and events on Facebook and Twitter @LabTheaterFL. For more information, call 239-218-0481. The theater is located at 1634 Woodford Ave. Fort Myers, 33901.