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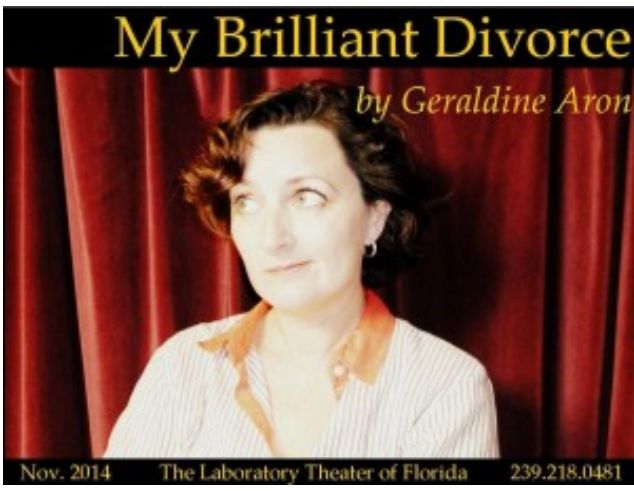
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My Brilliant Divorce

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My Brilliant Divorce opens at the Laboratory Theater of Florida on November 7, with an opening night reception starting at 7:15 p.m. Additional performances will be at 8 p.m. on November 8, 13, 14, 15, 20, 21 and 22 and at 2 p.m. on November 16. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. for evening performances. Tickets are \$12 for students and \$22 for adults at the door. The theater also



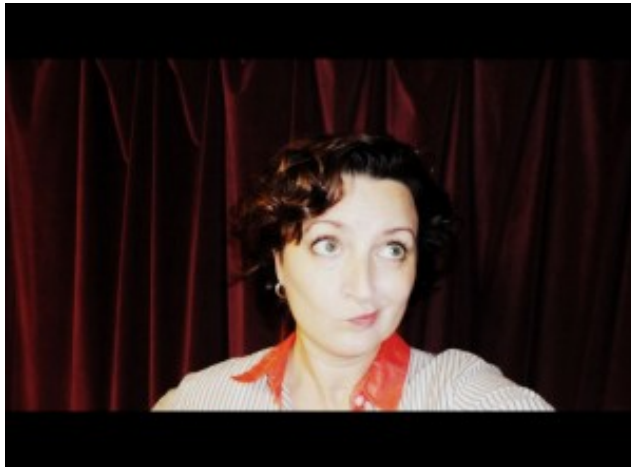
offers Thursday night discounts to seniors and military, at \$18.50 per ticket. Tickets are available from the theater's website, www.LaboratoryTheaterFlorida.com, or by calling [239.218.0481](tel:239.218.0481). The theater is located at 1634 Woodford Avenue and Second Street in the downtown Fort Myers River District.

In this section, you will find articles about the play, playwright, director and upcoming production of the show at the Laboratory Theater of Florida (posted in reverse date order).

'My Brilliant Divorce' director guilted Annette Trossbach into doing the play (11-07-14)



According to the old adage, turnabout is fair play. And that explains how it came to pass that director John McKerrow cast Annette Trossbach as Angela in *My Brilliant Divorce*, which opens tonight at Lab Theater in the [downtown Fort Myers River District](#).



“Seven years ago, Annette was directing a production of *Macbeth* at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center, and she lost the actor who was playing the lead two weeks before the opening,” McKerrow recounts, wincing at the very thought of Trossbach’s dire plight. Sixty percent of the lines in the Shakespeare standard belong to Macbeth and there was really no time to recast the part. I had



just directed *Macbeth* at Lely High School and I knew all the lines, so Annette asked me to do the play. I begged off and we hung up, but she called back twenty minutes later and really wouldn’t take no for an answer.”

When McKerrow began working on *My Brilliant Divorce*, he drew up a short list of actresses to audition, but none were available. Then it dawned on him that Trossbach would be perfect for the



role, but she declined when he asked her to do the play. “Besides her time-consuming duties as Lab Theater’s Artistic Director, a theater instructor and busy wife and mom, Annette insisted that Lab Theater is not a vehicle for her own ego.” But McKerrow would not take no for an answer either.

Reprising Danny Kaye’s character Phil Davis in the holiday classic *White Christmas*, who would



massage the right arm he injured during a battle at Monte Casino during World War II saving the life of Bing Crosby’s character, Bob Wallace, whenever he wanted to guilt Wallace into doing something, McKerrow reminded Trossbach how he’d once bailed her out and, well, the rest is history.

The truth is that Trossbach is the ideal choice for the one-woman show.



“All one person shows are terribly difficult,” McKerrow explains. “But in this one, Annette portrays 20 different people. The challenge is for her to make each one different for the audience through facial expressions and ticks, posture, body language and accents. Annette was born in Germany and educated in England and her international background has proven invaluable. Plus, she’s someone the audience will enjoy watching for two hours.”

In addition, *My Brilliant Divorce* is guaranteed to resonate. Everyone has either been divorced, contemplated divorce or had a close friend or family member who has gone through



one. In this production, Angela must find a way to recover her self-esteem and *joie de vivre* after being thrown over for a saucy, sultry much younger woman. “Although the life she knew has ended, life itself continues to go on all around – with or without her,” observes McKerrow.

Like all divorcees, among the myriad challenges facing Angela is having to find a way to deal with her ex and all the new people who populate her post-divorce new world. But for Trossbach, the challenge is to find a way to get into all their heads and give voice to all their thoughts, concerns and agendas – which are often antithetical to Angela’s.

As you might surmise, humor is a huge ingredient in Angela’s brilliant cure for her commonly uncommon divorce.

See above for dates, times and ticket information.

Lab Theater to perform Geraldine Aron hit 'My Brilliant Divorce' (11-13-14)



My Brilliant Divorce opens at the Laboratory Theater of Florida on November 7. It's a delightful comedy about a woman named Angela who has been jilted by her husband for a sultry 25-year-old woman from Buenos Aires. In the aftermath of her break up, Angela shares her humor, loneliness, and insight into the absurdities of her post-divorce life. There are laughs and tears, and ups and



downs, as Angela adjusts to her new life and discovers wonderful things about herself, emerging stronger than ever! This charming piece resonates with humor, sarcasm, poignancy and kindness – even if you've never been divorced yourself.

The play was written by Geraldine Aron, who was born in Galway but spent most of her adult life in Zambia, Zimbabwe and South Africa. She now divides her time between Cape Town and London.



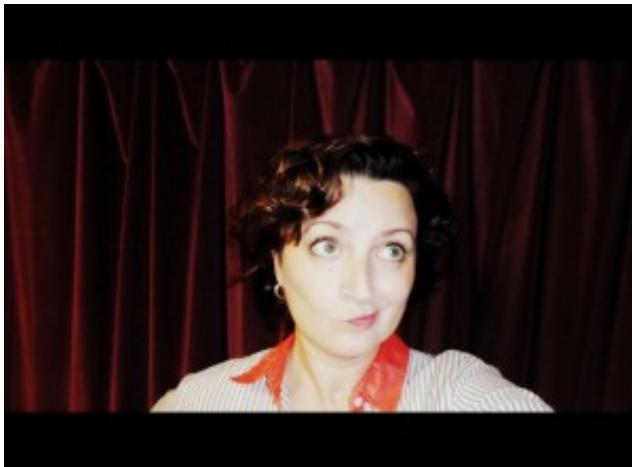
Aron is the author of 12 plays produced for television and radio, and *Toscanini*, a screenplay directed by Franco Zeffirelli. Plays not listed in the Irish Playography include *Mr.*

McConkey's Suitcase, *Zombie*, *Mickey Kannis Caught My Eye* and *Joggers*. Her hugely acclaimed one-woman show, *My Brilliant Divorce*, has been performed all over the world and was nominated for an Olivier Award in 2004. She is also the past winner of two Edinburgh Fringe Firsts, for *Bar and Ger* and *A Galway Girl*, respectively.

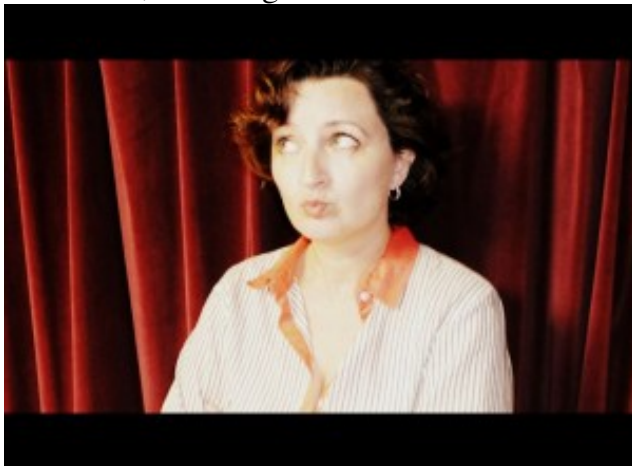


The play stars Lab Theater Artistic Director Annette Trossbach and is directed by John McKerrow, of *Shakespeare In Paradise*. The show opens this Friday night (November 7).

'My Brilliant Divorce' opens at Lab Theater on November 7 (10-27-14)



My Brilliant Divorce opens at the Laboratory Theater of Florida on November 7. It's a delightful comedy about a woman named Angela who has been jilted by her husband for a sultry 25-year-old woman from Buenos Aires. In the aftermath of her break up, Angela shares her humor, loneliness, and insight into the absurdities of her post-divorce life. There are laughs and tears, and ups and



downs, as Angela adjusts to her new life and discovers wonderful things about herself, emerging stronger than ever! This charming piece resonates with humor,

sarcasm, poignancy and kindness – even if you’ve never been divorced yourself.

Nominated for the Laurence Olivier Award, *My Brilliant Divorce* is “devastatingly honest ... hugely



empathetic and amusing ... packed with detail,”

asserts the

Sunday Express (London).

“*My Brilliant Divorce* is a fast-moving play with many subtle layers and nuances of emotion, sarcasm, and humor,” states Hamptons.com. “The truly wonderful dialogue is heartwarming, funny, and filled with relatable touches that bring each point home whether you’ve been through a divorce or not.”



Artistic director Annette Trossbach stars in this fast-moving one-woman production, in which she plays 20 other characters in addition to Angela, including Angela’s posh friend Sylvie, sleazy boss Mr. Glute, and ex-Army trainer Jake. A teacher of physical theater, Trossbach is delighted to play the role. “There is a wealth of characters with various physical ticks,” Annette shares. “It is so much fun to be flamboyantly flouncing one minute and small and twitchy the next. As an audience member, you never know what crazy person is going to appear next.”



Trossbach was trained at East 15 Acting School in London, where she double-majored in acting and directing. Some of her favorite roles have been Lady Anne in *Richard III*, Yelena in Chekhov's *The Wood Demon*, Blanche DuBois in *A Streetcar Named Desire*, and Netta in *Cavalcade*. She founded The Laboratory Theater of Florida in 2008.

The production is directed by John McKerrow, of Shakespeare In Paradise.



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, please call [239-218-0481](tel:239-218-0481)

Lab Theater's own Annette Trossbach to star in 'My Brilliant Divorce' opening November 7 (10-11-14)



Next up at the Laboratory Theater of Florida is Geraldine Aron's *My Brilliant Divorce*, which is appropriately sponsored by The Association of Family Law Professionals. Lab Theater founder and Artistic Director Annette Trossbach will star in this delightful one-woman comedy about the humor, loneliness, and absurdities of life after divorce. The humor, sarcasm, poignancy and kindness that ripples through this one-woman show is sure to resonate with anyone who's ever divorced, contemplated divorce or known anyone who's divorced. [Tickets](#)

About Annette Trossbach (10-11-14)



Annette Trossbach is the founder and artistic director of the Laboratory Theater of Florida and the Gulf Coast Shakespeare Festival. Annette was classically trained at the innovative East 15 Drama School in London, U.K. She has worked with Margaret Walker (*Oh What a Lovely War*), Mike Loades, Alasdair Ramsey and Tony Scannell, and has been teaching theater and acting skills for



more than 20 years. At Laboratory Theater of Florida, she and her company continue the East 15 focus to teach core theatrical skills such as character development, stagecraft, combat, textual analysis, voice and physicality to new actors of all ages. Last season, she directed *Miss Witherspoon* and *Glengarry Glen Ross*. Some of her favorite acting roles have been Sylvie in *Intimate Exchanges*, Yelena in *The Wood Demon*, and Netta in *Cavalcade*. Annette received the Gulfshore Business “40 Under 40” Award in 2010 for the most innovative and influential business leader in our region.

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About the Author



Tom Hall is both an amateur artist and aspiring novelist who writes art quest thrillers. He is in the final stages of completing his debut novel titled "Art Detective," a story that fictionalizes the discovery of the fabled billion-dollar Impressionist collection of Parisian art dealer Josse Bernheim-Jeune, thought by many to have perished during World War II when the collection's hiding place, Castle de Rastignac in southern France, was destroyed by the Wehrmacht in reprisal for attacks made by members of the Resistance operating in the area. A former tax attorney, Tom holds a bachelor's degree as well as both a juris doctorate and masters of laws in taxation from the University of Florida. Tom lives in Estero, Florida with his fiancée, Connie, and their four cats.