



Season 17 2019-2020

CYGNETTHEATRE

From the Directors

We did a survey last season and asked our audiences what Cygnet meant to them. One phrase was continuously repeated: at Cygnet we feel welcomed. When we started planning the season we asked ourselves - How can we continue to establish Cygnet as a place with radical access and a strong sense of community? How far can we push our audiences in terms of form and content? This season is one that we picked from the heart, without any specific formula, and has something for everyone—plays that bring joy, provoke wonder, reshape the spirit, and spark debate. The works are all uniquely theatrical, pushing our expectations of what live storytelling can be. Character and plot-driven stories rather than issue-driven. We have programmed a season of stories that range from a black community struggling with change in 1969 Pittsburg, to a couple falling in and out of love, backward and forward in time. We have shows to rock you, move you, and provoke you. It's Cygnet after all, the reason we're all proud to be a part of something that impacts human beings on such a profound level. We also welcome you to dive deeper into the works and connect more with your Cygnet family through our amazing educational and social opportunities, including behind-the-scenes designer showcases, pre-show mixers, and talk backs. We look forward to seeing you here!



Cygnature Events

Explore and Engage

Our Cygnature Event Series is a fun, informative and engaging way to enhance your theatre experience during each production. Meet our creative team...and other theatergoers!

Designer Showcase

Go behind-the-scenes of each production as the director, cast and crew talk about the process of creating the show.

Friday Forum

Chat with the cast and director following the performance on the first Friday after opening.

Out Night

An evening for our theatre loving friends in the LGBTQIA+ community. Enjoy happy hour and mix and mingle before the show. Everyone is welcome!

Stage Chat

Learn more about each show during these Pre and Post show talks with Cygnet's Associate Artistic Director.

Theatre on Tap

Join us for a pre-show mixer and complimentary craft beer tasting from our local brewery partners.

Wine Night

Join us for a pre-show mixer and wine event.

Did you know?

Cygnet Theatre is a not-for-profit organization. Tickets and fees cover only 55% of Cygnet's expenses. Your gifts support our award-winning productions and provide arts education programs.

Rock of Ages

July 2 – August 25, 2019

Book by Chris D'Arienzo

Arrangements and Orchestrations by Ethan Popp

Directed by Sean Murray

Music Direction by Patrick Marion

Choreography by Katie Banville

Hit Musical Comedy

Journey back to the sexy 1980s era of big: big bands, big egos, big guitar solos and big hair! Aqua Net, Lycra and liquor flow freely on the legendary Sunset Strip rock music scene. Amidst the madness, aspiring rock star Drew longs to become the next big thing in music, and longs for fresh-off-the-bus newcomer Sherrie, a Kansas kid with stars in her eyes. This musical comedy lovingly nudges the fashion of the 1980s and features some of the best rock hits from the time, with music from Styx, Journey, Bon Jovi, Whitesnake and many more.

“ROCK OF AGES IS THE POWER-BALLAD DECADE IN ALL ITS GLORY, TRICKED OUT WITH BIG PERMS, BIGGER DREAMS, AND THE KIND OF OPERATIC ECSTASY YOU READ ABOUT ONLY IN BATHROOM STALLS.”

ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY



The Virgin Trial

September 11 – October 6, 2019

By Kate Hennig

Directed by Rob Lutfy

Racy Political Thriller



The age of treason.

In this edge-of-your-seat thriller, the young princess Elizabeth navigates a labyrinth of political and sexual intrigue in the Tudor court that threatens her freedom – and even her life. After the death of both her parents, 15-year-old Elizabeth I must defend herself against cutting accusations of plotting to kill her brother, the king, and having an illicit affair with her stepfather. Don't miss this eagerly awaited companion piece to the runaway hit *The Last Wife*.

“THE VIRGIN TRIAL WEAVES COMPLEX TALE OF INNOCENCE AND GUILT.”

THE CALGARY HERALD

Ingenious Modern Musical

The Last Five Years

October 23 – November 17, 2019

Book, Music and Lyrics by Jason Robert Brown

Directed by Rob Lutfy

Music Direction by Patrick Marion

Written by Tony Award-winning composer Jason Robert Brown (*Parade*), *The Last Five Years* is an emotionally powerful and intimate musical about two New Yorkers in their twenties who fall in and out of love over half a decade. Made up mostly of solo turns, with beautiful music and alternately humorous and heartfelt lyrics, it is only in the middle of the show that Jamie and Cathy come together as Jamie proposes and the two are wed.

**“BITTERSWEET AND
NEARLY PERFECT.”**

VARIETY



The end. The beginning. The music in between.

Favorite Holiday Musical

A Christmas Carol

November 27 – December 29, 2019

Adaptation & Lyrics by Sean Murray

Original Score by Billy Thompson

Directed by Sean Murray

Musical Direction by Patrick Marion

Cygnets' holiday smash hit is back for its fifth season! Bring the family back to enjoy the holiday classic adapted from Charles Dickens' timeless tale of hope and redemption. This re-imagined production features an original music score, creative stagecraft and puppetry, and live sound effects. Step into a Victorian Christmas card for a unique storytelling experience that is sure to delight the entire family!

"IT'S NOT CHRISTMAS WITHOUT A CHRISTMAS CAROL AND THIS IS THE BEST ONE AROUND."

SDGLN.COM



Southern California Premiere

The Great Leap

January 22 – February 16, 2020

By Lauren Yee

Directed by Rob Lutfy

Sharp-witted New Drama

When an American basketball team travels to Beijing for an exhibition game in 1989, the drama goes deeper than the strain between countries. For two men with a past and one teen with a future, the game is a chance to claim personal victories on and off the court. Tensions rise right up to the final buzzer as a pivotal moment in history collides with the action in the arena. Driven by rapid-fire dialogue, this perceptive new play explores the cultural and political risks of raising your voice and standing your ground.

“THIS IMAGINATIVE VAULT OVER THE DECADES...ASSERTS A QUIET, BEAUTIFULLY UNEXPECTED POWER”

DENVER POST



Flamboyant Musical Fun

La Cage Aux Folles

March 11 – May 3, 2020

Book by Harvey Fierstein

Lyrics and Music by Jerry Herman

Directed by Sean Murray

Music Direction by Terry O'Donnell

Choreography by Luke Harvey Jacobs

After twenty years of un-wedded bliss Georges and Albin, two men partnered for better-or-worse, get a bit of both when Georges' son (fathered during a one-night fling) announces his impending marriage to the daughter of a bigoted, right-wing politician. Further complicating the situation is the “family business”; Albin and Georges run a drag nightclub in St. Tropez, where Albin is the star performer Zaza. Georges reluctantly agrees to masquerade as “normal” when he meets the family of the bride-to-be. But Albin has other plans, with hilarious results.

**“A GLITTERING, FAST
STEPPING EXTRAVAGANZA.”**

NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

Uncaged. Engaged.



Two Trains Running

May 20 – June 14, 2020

By August Wilson

Directed by Delicia Turner Sonnenberg

Powerfully Resonant Drama

It's 1969 and the Civil Rights Movement is sending tremors through Pittsburgh's Hill District. At the center of the community is Memphis Lee's diner, slated to be demolished — a casualty of the city's renovation project. Confronted with a rapidly changing world, Memphis and his regular customers struggle to maintain their solidarity and sense of pride. From Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright August Wilson comes this masterpiece about everyday lives in the shadow of great events, and of unsung citizens who are anything but ordinary. This will bring Cygnet to a total of six of the ten Century Cycle plays produced.

"WILSON'S MOST ADVENTUROUS AND HONEST ATTEMPT TO REVEAL THE INTIMATE HEART OF HISTORY"

THE NEW YORK TIMES



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**Always the lowest price
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Subscription benefits

Unlimited \$25/\$35 pricing on additional tickets, anytime

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Save 25% on Concessions with your Cygneture Subscriber card

VIP Invitations to special Cygnet events and talk-backs

Unlimited Free Exchanges up to 24 hours before curtain time

Two Subscription options

Full Season Package

See all 7 plays in the 2019-2020 Season for one low price and guarantee Tier 1 pricing for the entire season. Good for any seat, any night. In addition to all the great subscription benefits, subscribe to the full season and receive one additional ticket to use for any Season 17 production. **Seven shows for only \$215! (\$180 for Previews)**

Create Your Own Package

Curate your own theatre experience. Choose four or more productions in the 2019-2020 Season at TIER 1 pricing and receive all the subscriber benefits. **Package prices start at just \$110 and vary based on shows selected.**

Single Tickets

**The shows you want:
Flexible and affordable.**

A new way to buy

Single ticket prices are now based on demand. All seats start at \$25 for plays and \$35 for musicals. As dates get closer and seats become limited, prices may increase. For the best possible prices, we suggest purchasing as far in advance as possible.

Price increase is based on the tiered structure below:

Tier 1

\$25 for a play
\$35 for a musical
(\$20/\$30 for previews)

Tier 2

\$35 for a play
\$45 for a musical
(\$25/\$35 for previews)

Tier 3

\$45 for a play
\$55 for a musical
(\$30/\$40 for previews)

Tier 4

\$55 for a play
\$65 for a musical
(\$35/\$45 for previews)

Be the first to know when single tickets go on sale or when a price increase is about to take effect by signing up for our e-blasts!
Sign Up: Cygnettheatre.com/e-blast

How to Buy or Subscribe?

Phone 619.337.1525

Online cygnettheatre.org/subscribe

In Person 4040 Twiggs St. San Diego, CA 92110

Bring a group! Get early access to tickets and lock in low prices.
Contact Virginia@CygnetTheatre.com
619-574-0059 x124

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UP CLOSE. FAR REACHING.