



September 13, 2017

Fall Arts Preview: Theater

by Simon Saltzman

Bucks County Playhouse

70 South Main Street, New Hope, Pennsylvania. 215-862-2121 or www.bcptheater.org.

The New Hope, Pennsylvania, theater is continuing its series of world premieres with notable performers — suggesting an eye for a New York move.

Now on stage is “Rock and Roll Man: The Alan Freed Story,” an original musical drama chronicling the story of the father of rock ‘n’ roll’ radio and FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover’s attempt to stop the spread of the unwholesome music. The cast features.

Tony nominated performer Alan Campbell plays Freed with Emmy nominee George Wendt — Norm from the hit TV show “Cheers!” — as Hoover. Through Sunday, October 1.

“The Rocky Horror Show” is becoming almost an annual Halloween season presentation that started in 2013 with a fresh version directed by Hunter Foster and choreographed by Lorin Latarro — for adult audiences only. Friday, October 13, through Sunday, October 29.

“The New World” is a world premiere musical with book by the creator of the popular “Altar Boyz” and is a topical look at immigration — seen through the lens of a Native American tribe encountering the arrival of unruly Puritans — just in time for Thanksgiving. Tuesday, November 7, through Sunday, November 26.

The world premiere of “Ebenezer Scrooge’s BIG Playhouse Christmas Show” follows. Based on Charles Dickens’ “A Christmas Carol,” the new work by writers Gordon Greenberg and Steve Rosen is being touted as “Five actors, three ladders, (and) lots of music and laughter.” Friday, December 8, through Sunday, December 31.

The new year brings two already established upbeat productions: “‘Til Death Do Us Part: Late Night Catechism” and “An Evening with Groucho” with Frank Ferrante recreating his New York to London to PBS performance of the major stage, film, radio, and TV comedy great, Groucho Marx. Wednesday, January 24, through Sunday, February 4, and Wednesday, February 14, through Sunday, February 25.