

# 'Noises Off'



Photos by Angela Henderson-Bentley/For The Herald-Dispatch

**ABOVE:** Alison Smith and James Holley are among the cast of the 5th Avenue Theatre Company's production of "Noises Off."

**LEFT:** James Holley, Mary Williams, Kate Morris and Michael Naglee are among the cast.

**BELOW LEFT:** Mike Murdock and Mary Williams

5th Avenue Theatre Company to present comedy Friday through Sunday at Jean Carlo Stephenson Auditorium

By ANGELA HENDERSON-BENTLEY  
For The Herald-Dispatch

**B**eginning this weekend, theater-goers will have the chance to see everything that can go wrong behind the scenes of a play. But that's exactly what they're supposed to see since it's all part of the fun.

The City of Huntington Foundation's 5th Avenue Theatre Company will present "Noises Off!" Friday, Sept. 9, through Sunday, Sept. 11, and Friday, Sept. 16, through Sunday, Sept. 18, in the Jean Carlo Stephenson Auditorium at Huntington City Hall, 824 5th Ave. Friday and Saturday performances



are at 8 p.m., with the Sunday performances at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for children. Tickets can be purchased at the door or in advance by calling (304) 696-5522. The play does con-

tain some adult language. "Noises" is a comedy which follows a group of actors performing the play, "Nothing's On!" Forgotten lines and entrances, complete emotional breakdowns and a love tri-

angle behind the scenes lead to a very interesting performance.

"I lovingly refer to it as a carnival of farce, because that's exactly what it is," said Stephanie Kay Sands, the play's director. "It is a play within a play. It is the absolute ultimate play for theater people because it showcases how actors are on and off stage and all the dramas that happen.

"It kind of lets the audience in on all of the shenanigans that happen in order to get a production up and running," Sands said. "And it's nothing but non-stop laughs. It's great."

The cast includes several veterans of Tri-State theater, including Mary Williams, Greg Kiser, Kate Morris, Michael Naglee, Leann Haines, James Holley, Alison Smith, J. Roger Hagley and Mike Murdock.

"It's actually been quite interesting," Sands said. "It

sort of has turned into 'Noises Off' backstage as well as onstage. We've got the one actor obsessed with props and the other actor has to ask why we're doing everything. But it's been great."

The cast has been very important behind-the-scenes as well as they worked together to build the set. "They actually came in on their own free time and everyone here has been wonderful," Sands said. "They chip in, they help with props, they help with costumes. There's not a single person who hasn't pitched in."

The set is a pretty complicated one as it rotates to show both the set and backstage of the play within the play. "It's a little bit of a game of Tetris during the intermission, but it works," Sands said. "There is a method to the madness."

The set features seven

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## Noises

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doors, one window and two sets of stairs. "I think it's the best thing that's been on the stage," Sands said. "It's really cool. And it's really pretty

much a rat race thing. I'm really proud of the actors for knowing how all this works."

Sands is excited for an audience to finally see what the cast and crew have been working on for the past six months. "This is going to be the end-all, be-all show of shows," Sands said.