



Sketches

March 2007 Newsletter

Good News! – the Broadway Babes are Back



Almost a quarter of a century ago Gloria Wood, Jan Harris, and Sita Milchev (see the photo left of those days) performed “Broadway Cabaret” at the Gualala Community Center to a sold out audience and great acclaim. The trio of venerable divas is delighted to reunite and bring another fabulous revue to Gualala Arts Local Eyes series, “Broadway Babes are Back,” for three performances, March 9, 10, and 11. The program includes numbers from over two dozen Broadway, and Off-Broadway, shows from beloved “oldies” to current hits. Coleman Hall will be transformed into a luxurious Vegas-style lounge with non-reserved, cabaret-style seating. The Jacob Foyer will open early on each performance date so that show goers can enjoy Culinary Arts Guild’s popular tapas plates along with fine wines, microbrews, and the acclaimed martini bar.

On Friday and Saturday evenings the house will open at 6:30 p.m. and the divas take the stage at 7 p.m. Sunday’s matinee opens the house at 3:30 p.m., and the performance starts at 4 p.m. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 the day of each performance available at Gualala Arts Center office and The Dolphin. MC/VI accepted. Advance purchase is highly recommended! An extra \$5 allows show-goers into the room one-half hour before door-open times to reserve chairs. Artists are donating 100% of proceeds to Gualala Arts.

The Broadway Babes have had extensive experience in professional venues. Sita Milchev sang with the San Francisco Opera Chorus, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, and the Philadelphia Symphony and has given performances with the New York Philharmonic Orchestra. She has sung the National Anthem at many conventions and before the games of the New York Mets, New York Yankees, and San Francisco Giants. Sita has also been a member of Ernest Bloch Bells during the past 25 years, and sung in GAC’s “Nine Lessons and Carols” on Christmas Eve for the past 15 years. She is currently singing in the South Coast Jazz Choir. She also enjoys being an integral part of Gualala Arts in the Culinary Arts Guild and on the Steering Committee of the Festival of Trees. Sita is also a new Board Director on the Redwood Coast Chamber of Commerce. Her granddaughter Davina Rose Allen played the role of Colin in the most recent production of “The Secret Garden.”

Gloria Wood performed four years with the San Francisco Opera Company and five more with the San Francisco Symphony, before she migrated north to fulfill her dream of living on the coast. Some residents may remember the performances Gloria did at that time with her then-husband, the late Dale Wood. They co-directed the White Water Wailers choral group, and she and Dale gave many cabaret concerts, as well as co-directing the annual Christmas Carol Sing at The Sea Ranch. Gloria also directed the Coast Choir for Santa Rosa Junior College and taught music for Horicon School. Currently, Gloria teaches voice to many Bay Area singers and actors. Gloria has been a faculty member of both the Marin Theatre Company and Vector Theatre Conservatory. The show she wrote, “It Starts When We’re Kids,” ran for over ten months in Marin.

Jan Harris has worked in theaters from Marin to Los Angeles to Oregon, including American Conservatory Theater’s apprentice program, the Ashland Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Pasadena Playhouse, Circle Star Theater, San Francisco’s Lamplighters touring company, Mill Valley Center for the Performing Arts, The Mountain Play, College of Marin Theater Arts Department and Ross Valley Players. Jan’s “day jobs” include Executive Director of the Redwood Coast Chamber of Commerce, being a minister and wedding/event coordinator with Celebration Connection, and a partner with husband Wayne in the canoe and kayak livery, Adventure Rents.



Don Krieger, Sita Milchev, Gloria Woods, and Jan Harris