

A message from OS Bass Ben Platt:

A very interesting opportunity just came and found me. A neighbor of mine, Albert Ahronhein, a professional music arranger and Broadway director, is working on a play called "Explicit Vows" to be presented at the off-Broadway "Flea" theater. It is a one man show about a middle aged man about to be married and reviewing his entire life and how he got to this point. The show will end with a chorus, all male, that will fill the stage completely, singing "Hard Times come Again No More," the Stephen Foster melody dated 1854.

Jeff Menaker, the producer, asked my help in putting together such a chorus. His goal would be to have about 20-25 voices such that not everybody would have to be at every performance. All further information will be found on the attachment.

This sounds to me like a fun project, certainly completely different from the usual oratorio performances I've been in. I would be very happy if you would join me onstage in support of this project. Please check your calendar and let me know if you can attend. If you know of any other singers that might be interested, please forward this email to them.

Best personal regards,
Ben Platt
bbplatt@earthlink.net

Jeff's email follows

Hi Ben:

Thank you so much for your interest in our project! Here is the production calendar. I'll also include the summary of the play from the press release. I'm very excited about the potential of this happening.

All the best,
Jeff

Performances:

Monday, June 9 @ 9:30 p.m. Dress Rehearsal
Tuesday, June 10 @ 9:30 p.m. Dress Rehearsal
Wednesday, June 11 @ 9:30 p.m. Invited Dress Rehearsal
Thursday, June 12 @ 9:30 p.m.
Friday, June 13 @ 9:30 p.m.
Saturday, June 14 @ 9:30 p.m.

Monday, June 16 @ 9:30 p.m.
Thursday, June 19 @ 9:30 p.m. Invited Rehearsal
Friday, June 20 @ 11:30 p.m.
Saturday, June 21 @ 1:30 p.m.
Sunday, June 22 @ 3:30 p.m. Invited Rehearsal

Monday, June 23 @ 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, June 26 @ 7:30 p.m.
Friday, June 27 @ 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, June 28 @ 3:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, June 29 @ 3:30 p.m. Invited Rehearsal

Thursday, July 10 @ 7:30 p.m.
Friday, July 11 @ 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, July 12 @ 3:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, July 13 @ 3:30 p.m.

"EXPLICIT VOWS" takes a wry yet affectionate look at marriage, dating and romance from a distinctly male perspective as it traces the story of one man and the lifetime of roadblocks encountered on his way to the altar. The play opens with a middle-aged, soon-to-be groom, nervously sweating out the final few minutes before his wedding ceremony. While he waits, the Man reflects on the varied -- and often funny -- experiences he's had with women over the course of his life. Guided at times by the spirit of Noel Coward (whose song "I'll Follow My Secret Heart" serves as a mantra), the Man's journey takes some unexpected turns: a strange experience with a grossly overweight prostitute; a bad period spent in a mental institution; the accidental meeting of his fiancée Molly; and a fateful trip to Tennessee where he falls in love with a woman who threatens his newfound bliss.