



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, contact:

Scooter MacMillan, marketing director

Springer Opera House

706-256-0955

smacmillan@springeroperahouse.org

Springer shows that Simon says laugh And people do, so much that he's most successful playwright ever

The Springer is producing the most popular comedy by the world's most popular playwright.

On May 1, Neil Simon's "The Odd Couple" opens at the State Theatre of Georgia for a three-week run.

Simon is the world's most successful playwright and has won more Academy and Tony award nominations than any other writer. Simon is the only person to have had four Broadway productions running simultaneously.

"The Odd Couple" is based upon the experiences of his older brother who, after his divorce, shared an apartment with another divorced man.

The names of the main characters, Felix and Oscar, bring smiles to the faces of people the world over. The two divorced men — one a slob, the other a neat-nik — argue over the cleanliness of their bachelor pad. Soon, the patterns of their failed marriages begin to reappear — with hilarious results.

The wildly successful comedy spawned two movies, three TV series and numerous Broadway revivals.

The Springer's version of "The Odd Couple" will feature a cast of returning favorites and a couple of newcomers.

Robert Briscoe Evans will make his Springer debut in the role of Oscar. He lives in Los Angeles where he's appeared in numerous plays and in such movies as "What Women Want" and "The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas;" in such TV shows as "Who's The Boss?," "Malcolm in the Middle," "Ally McBeal," "Becker" and "General Hospital;" and in numerous national commercials.

Chris Graham returns to the Springer to play Felix, the compulsively neat roommate. He's appeared in "Hamlet" (Hamlet), "The Glass Menagerie" (Tom) and "Picasso at the Lapin Agile" (Picasso). Chris acted professionally all over the United States before settling in Columbus to raise a family.

Rounding out the cast are Rick Adams (Murray), Adam Archer (Speed), Jim Pharr (Vinnie), EJ Cameron (Roy), Helen Varner (Cecily Pigeon) and Susannah Smith (Gwendolyn Pigeon).

“The Odd Couple” runs at 7:30 p.m., Thursdays-Saturdays, May 1-3, 8-10 and 15-17, and at 2:30 p.m., Sunday, May 11.

 **THE STATE THEATRE OF GEORGIA** 
Springer Opera House Arts Association • 103 Tenth Street • Columbus, GA 31901
(706) 324-5714 • fax (706) 324-4461 • www.springeroperahouse.org