



## Late Summer Theatre Roundup

### Description

## Some worthwhile shows to quickly catch

By **Byron Toben**

As the summer days dwindle down to a precious few (autumn begins on September 22), we are reminded of the classic September Song in the 1939 musical Knickerbocker Holiday. Music by my favourite Kurt Weil, lyrics by Maxwell Anderson, it was sung on stage by Toronto born Walter Huston. (He was a leading man type before being immortalized in film as the crusty old gold explorer in The Treasure of The Sierra Madre, directed by his son John Huston).

[Click to hear Ella Fitzgerald](#) get you in the mood as we list the waning days of English theatre during the waning summer.

## Two Plays Now Ended at Lac Brome Theatre (but we hope for remounting)...



Moonlight And Magnolias cast

**Moonlight And Magnolias**, with an all star Montreal cast, dramatized the hectic days of preparing for the 1939 film *Gone With The Wind*, which to this day is the highest grossing film in Hollywood history, adjusted for inflation. I was not able to get out to Knowlton, but others confirm that you can't go wrong with Howard Rosenstein, Paula Costain, Jonathan Silver and Don Anderson in the cast, especially as directed by Ellen David.

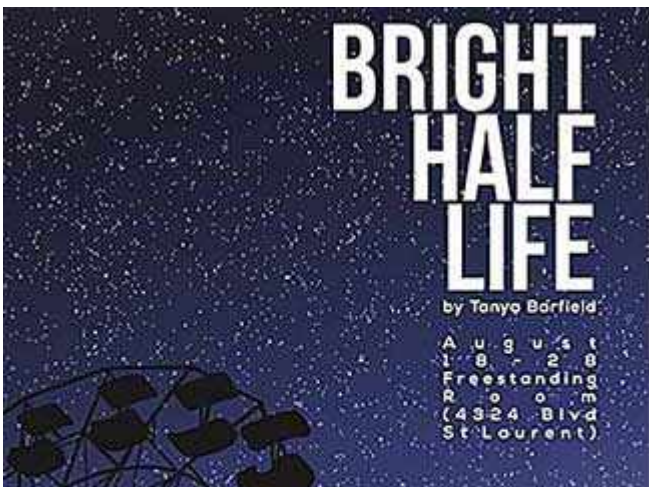
The same gang of four also appeared in **Better Late**, also highly regarded.

### Three Plays to End on August 28

**Private Lives** at Hudson Village Theatre. This classic by quip master Noel Coward is notable in having male actors playing the female roles and vice versa. Following the recent all woman triumph in Repercussion's Shakespeare in the Park Julius Caesar, this seems to be the start of something trendy.

I can't resist recalling Coward's quip, in moving to Switzerland from high tax Britain, "From my villa in Montreux, the view of the tax concessions is magnificent."

Contact Hudson Village Theatre at [HVTbox@Videotron.ca](mailto:HVTbox@Videotron.ca) or 450 458-5361, or visit [villagetheatre.ca](http://villagetheatre.ca)



-praised play in the USA by a Pulitzer nominated writer, Tanya Barfield. Produced by Brave New Productions and the newish Feminist group and Kelly O'Toole and ably directed by Amanda Goldberg.



forth in time, oft repetitively, over a 45-year relationship too jarring.

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Also, the text did not first establish the two characters as particularly likeable or even engrossing to a general audience before launching into their personal agonies over a same sex marriage and divorce, punctuated by job disparities and a Ferris wheel.

Contact [info@freestandingroom.com](mailto:info@freestandingroom.com) or 514 418-1848, or visit [freestandingroom.com](http://freestandingroom.com)

**Florida** at Harold Greenspon Auditorium in Cote St. Luc (5 performances, August 25, 27 and 28).

This is an original musical parody, orchestrated by the same group that produced the popular Hair Spray, later remounted at the Centaur, as well as most of the chorus in the Yiddish version of The Producers at the Segal Centre recently.

Claims to be inspired by the musical Chicago, this is your chance to brag you saw it before it ends up in New York... or at least Miami.

Contact [csldramaticsociety@gmail.com](mailto:csldramaticsociety@gmail.com) or 514 485-6800 ext. 2024, or visit [csldramaticsociety.com](http://csldramaticsociety.com)

*Feature image (Private Lives): © Michael Green*

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