



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Lydia Baxter
Public Relations Associate
(941) 366 – 9017 ext. 338
Lbaxter@floridastudiotheatre.org
DATE: November 7, 2018

FST CELEBRATES A CENTURY OF FEMALE SINGER-SONGWRTIERS IN FST ORIGINAL MUSICAL REVUE

(Sarasota, FL)- Florida Studio Theatre (FST) proudly presents *Guitar Girls*, a tribute to some of the greatest female singer-songwriters of the past century. Featuring such hits as “Coal Miner’s Daughter,” “Jolene,” “Big Yellow Taxi,” and “I Will Always Love You,” this FST original music revue follows the careers, personal journeys, and impact of female music icons from Loretta Lynn and Dolly Parton to Joni Mitchell and the Dixie Chicks.

Guitar Girls by Richard Hopkins, Rebecca Hopkins, and Catherine Randazzo, with arrangements by Jim Prosser, opens November 28 in FST’s Goldstein Cabaret. The production is part of a three show subscription package, which also includes *Unchained Melodies*, a celebration of male harmony groups from the 50s and 60s and *The Wonder Years: The Music of the Baby Boomers*. Subscriptions for all three Cabarets are now available for as little as \$49 at (941) 366-9000 or floridastudiotheatre.org.

Bringing these homegrown and heartfelt songs to life are cast members Joe Casey, Cat Greenfield (FST debut), Tamra Hayden (FST debut), Jannie Jones, and Anna Stefanic (FST debut). Casey and Jones return after last year’s record-smashing Cabaret *Blue Suede Shoes*. Jones also recently starred in Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe’s production of *Raisin*. Greenfield has performed in *Woody Guthrie’s American Song* at Palm Beach Dramaworks and *Ring of Fire* at Cortland Repertory Theatre and Oregon Cabaret Theatre. Stefanic is a NYC-based actor/musician who has performed in *I And You* (Kitchen Theatre Company), *Beneath The Gavel* (Bated Breath, 54 Below), and *The Last Bar At The End Of The World* (Urban Stages).

“We are focusing on the journey of American female singer-songwriters,” shared Catherine Randazzo, FST Associate Artist and show Director. “Every song had a reason to be written and many told tales about the artists’ own humble upbringings.” Loretta Lynn’s “Coal Miner’s Daughter” and Dolly Parton’s “Coat of Many Colors,” for example, both tell of the women’s first-hand experiences growing up in poverty. “The show tells the stories of how music made them into the stars we know and love today, and in turn, how they made music,” continued Randazzo. “There are stories of love, family, divorce, the circle of life, and some to even choke you up or make you laugh.”

-MORE-

Guitar Girls begins on November 28 and plays through March 31 in FST's Goldstein Cabaret. Subscriptions for all three Winter Cabaret shows can be purchased for as little as \$49 at (941) 366-9000 or at floridastudiotheatre.org.

ABOUT FLORIDA STUDIO THEATRE

Known as Sarasota's Contemporary Theatre, Florida Studio Theatre was founded in 1973 by Artist, Jon Spelman. Starting out as a small touring company, FST traveled to places such as migrant camps and prisons. The company eventually settled down into a permanent home, acquiring the former Woman's Club building – now renamed the Keating Theatre. In the years that followed, Florida Studio Theatre established itself as a major force in American Theatre, presenting contemporary theatre in its five theatre venues: the Keating Theatre, the Goldstein Cabaret, the renovated Gompertz Theatre, the John C. Court Cabaret and Bowne's Lab Theatre.

Even with its growth, Florida Studio Theatre remains firmly committed to making the arts accessible and affordable to a broad-based audience. Under Producing Artistic Director and CEO, Richard Hopkins, FST develops theatre that speaks to our living, evolving, and dynamically changing world. As FST grows and expands, it continues to provide audiences with challenging, contemporary drama and innovative programs.

###