

"All Night Strut" Swings Into Town

MILFORD - All a-glow with more than 30 jukebox favorites, *The All Night Strut*, a sizzling song-and-dance tribute to the music of the big band era, will swing into town for only 13 performances, July 9 to 19, on the Summer Stage at the American Stage Festival.

From the funky jive of Harlem to the sophisticated elegance of El Morocco to the romance of the Stage Door Canteen, *The All Night Strut* features scores of hit tunes, including "Chattanooga Choo-choo," "In The Mood," "A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square," "Lullaby of Broadway," "Tuxedo Junction," "As

Time Goes By," "Java Jive," "Fascinating Rhythm," and "Ain't Misbehavin'."

Furthermore, *The All Night Strut* marks the return to Milford of New York director and choreographer Jim Weaver, who broke box office attendance records at the Festival in 1996 with his critically-acclaimed production of *Ain't Misbehavin'*.

With four Broadway performers, Weaver and Hollis scenic artist Charles F. Morgan, designer of the sparkling piano set for *Ain't Misbehavin'*, will join hands again, this time to recreate the titillating world of bebop and swing in the 1930s and '40s.

Jim Rice (ASF's *Ain't Misbehavin'* and *Forever Plaid*) will direct the music.

"Babe-ree-bopping pizzazz, high steppin' swing and slithering jive. It's sensational!" says The Boston Globe of *The All Night Strut*. The Detroit Free Press concurs: "Red, hot and crackling...stimulating and irresistible!"

The All Night Strut also features several humorous songs of the era including "Minnie the Moocher," "Rosie the Riveter," and "Praise the Lord and Pass the Ammunition," as well as hot dance numbers like "Beat Me, Daddy, Eight to the Bar" and

"It Don't Mean A Thing If It Ain't Got That Swing."

A guest director at some of America's most prestigious theatres, such as New York's Lincoln Center and The Cleveland Playhouse, Weaver's credits include award-winning productions of *Dreamgirls*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, and *Some Porter Please*.

A production of the American Stage Festival, a professional, not-for-profit theatre, *The All Night Strut* is sponsored in part by radio stations WZID - WFEA and New Hampshire Public Radio.

Performances will be at 8 PM Tuesdays through Saturdays and at 7:30 PM on Sunday evenings.

Matinees will be at 2 PM on Wednesdays and Sundays.

With air-conditioning and free parking, the 500-seat Summer Stage is located on Route 13 North on the banks of the Souhegan River and just off the historic Milford oval — only 8 miles from Nashua (Route 101A) and 15 miles from Manchester (Route 101).

Tickets range from \$14 to \$26 depending on the day of performance. Senior and student discounts will also be available for all shows. Limited \$10 RUSH tickets will be available to all performances.

For tickets or information, call the American Stage Festival at (603) 673-7515.