



W O W!

January 8, 2011

One great shot in the arm for America !!

The new 1942 Musical ...

ALL HANDS ON DECK!

Time for all Americans to receive a "jolt sized" reminder of a time when our sense of country was second to none.

This outstanding effort premiered its road test in the charming - theatrically oriented - town of Perrysburg, Ohio enroute to Broadway. The audiences afforded the cast the longest standing ovation this writer has ever witnessed --- In short - this show brought down the house!

ALL HANDS ON DECK is on target with said mission. Jody Madaras, a proven Broadway star, whose sense of patriotism and penchant for retro 1940's has turned ALL HANDS ON DECK! into the most promising touch of Americanism since the enemy struck Pearl Harbor at 0755 many Sundays ago. Jody Madaras is one dynamic musical comedy man. At times, Jody reminds one of Jack Benny and Bob Hope; at other times he shows the caliber of Joel Grey, Gene Kelly, George M. Cohan and James Cagney in their prime.

Stand-by to smile, laugh, shout as well as perhaps shed a tear or two; when this musical hits all the things that are good about the U S of A. Portraying America's determination to recover after Pearl Harbor vis a vis an inventory of our best music. If you are a patriotic American; this is winner is a must see.

A gifted orchestra under the direction of Eric Dickey played 42 of the most famous tunes of the early 1940's. There was never a moment when the audience was bored ... the show never lost momentum. (Even the best of Broadway plays suffer a lack of momentum) Why? Because no contemporary musical has a song inventory remotely close to the time-tested songs Madaras has orchestrated into one non-stop smile.

His Four stars were flawless. Quincy Marr, Emily Knox and Ashley McKay joined Jody "on deck" and the remarkable chemistry was a joy to behold. You were lost in the past. The 1942 newspaper kids, pre-show, set the tone with their Irish/Brooklyn accents selling 1942 Pearl Harbor papers to the guests for two bits. There was an eleven year-old newsboy named Michael who almost stole the show.

Carrie Sanderson and Joanne Weaver, directors of the board, reported some ticket buyers came from great distances and attended each and every sold-out performance.

Why? As one theater guest said upon exiting: "They do not make them that way anymore!" This rocketing espousal of unabashed Americana has legs. Americans will be to attending again and again much like the success 42nd street has enjoyed on its long Broadway runs.

Most Broadway style shows have their ups and downs and I am a severe critic of such however -- ALL HANDS ON DECK has none of these problems.

Anchors Aweigh Jody Madaras & ALL HANDS ON DECK!

P.T. Brent

A Marine Veteran & journalist - UPI, Honolulu Star Advertiser, & Mid Week