



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 10/28/87
---PHOTOS AVAILABLE---

The Back Alley Theatre
15231 Burbank Boulevard
Van Nuys, California
91411-3590

SAND MOUNTAIN RETURNS FOR HOLIDAY ENGAGEMENT

818 780-2240

The Back Alley's remarkable production of SAND MOUNTAIN---two quintessentially American one-acts--- returns for a special holiday engagement on December 3rd. The production will feature the original cast.

Producing Directors
Laura Zucker
Allan Miller

The plays are charming self-contained stories based on the folklore of the southern Appalachian Mountain people. The first, Sand Mountain Matchmaking, shows the comic and endearing courtship rituals of four men trying to wed an "aging" (20 year old) widow.

The second, Why the Lord Come to Sand Mountain, is a fable about Jesus as a young man and his companion St. Peter visiting a poor mountain couple on a stormy Christmas Eve. The production was called "one of the finest ensemble performances seen recently in L.A." by Drama Magazine.

SAND MOUNTAIN is only the second production ever to play a return engagement at the Back Alley. The first, ARE YOU NOW OR HAVE YOU EVER BEEN, is still being performed by the theatre on a state-wide tour.

SAND MOUNTAIN received wonderful critical attention when it received its west coast premiere last year at the Back Alley. The production ran for four months and was listed as a Critic's Choice in both the L.A. Times and the Daily News.

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Dan Sullivan of the L.A. Times said, "'Romulus Linney's SAND MOUNTAIN satisfies the hunger for a new Christmas story without being merely a Christmas story. It would play well in any month, and it deserves to run for several. The scene is a mountain cabin late at night, with the fire blazing, and the rain drumming on the roof...a jug is passed around and people are telling stories...'"

Tom Jacobs of the Daily News said, "...far from traditional Christmas fare...does include a telling of the nativity story. But it's surely the most offbeat, and funniest, rendition most of us are ever likely to hear."

Drama-Logue singled SAND MOUNTAIN out for three awards: writing, direction and performance.

SAND MOUNTAIN is directed by John Schuck and features Gary Bisig as the Lord, Edward Blackoff, Cynthia Carle as the young widow, Basil Hoffman as St. Peter, Patricia Huston as the Old Sang Picker, and Jeff Tyler, with Bo Sharon and Jimmy Hartman alternating in the role of Fourteen Children.

SAND MOUNTAIN will play for 28 performances only through January 10th. Performance schedule is Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 8 pm, Sunday at 2 pm and 7 pm. Tickets are \$13.50 for Thursdays and both shows Sundays, \$15.50 Fridays and \$17.50 Saturdays.

There will be no performances Thursday, December 24th or Thursday, December 31st. "Talkback," discussions featuring professional storytellers, will follow all other Thursday performances.

The Back Alley Theatre is located in Van Nuys at 15231 Burbank Blvd. (east of the San Diego Freeway). Box office hours are 10 am - 6 pm Monday - Wednesday, 10 am - 8 pm Thursday - Sunday. Tickets may be purchased over the phone with Visa, Mastercharge or American Express Cards by calling (818) 780-2240.