

[Login](#) [Register](#) [e-Newsletters](#) [Contests](#) [Coupons](#) [Place an Ad](#) [Subscriber Services](#) 

WEATHER WATCH:

Milwaukee, WI

43°



high 45° | low 43°

[Detailed Forecast](#) | [7 Day](#) | [Doppler Radar](#)



[Home](#) [News](#) [Watchdog](#) [Opinion](#) [Sports](#) [Business](#) [Food & Dining](#) [Entertainment](#) [Features](#) [Photo/Video](#)

Monday, March 15, 2010 [Health and Fitness](#) [Home and Garden](#) [Religion](#) [Travel](#) [Personal Technology](#) [Weddings](#) [Arts and Books](#)

Arts and Books

[Home](#) » [Entertainment](#) » [Arts and Books](#)

2010-'11 THEATER SEASON

Other troupes' highlights add up



By *Jim Higgins* of the Journal Sentinel

Posted: **March 13, 2010** | (0) COMMENTS



[enlarge photo](#)

Skylight Opera Theatre artistic director Bill Theisen loves all of his planned shows for next season as if they were his own babies. But if it



Josh Schmidt

sounds as if he has a special glee for the 2010-'11 season finale, he doesn't have to apologize for it.

The Skylight will conclude next season with home guy Josh Schmidt's "Adding Machine: A Musical," his unusual yet triumphantly successful show based on Elmer Rice's play.

"Adding Machine" is one of the immediate standouts on the schedules announced for next season by local theater companies. (Browse the list on Page 6E; just remember, all shows are subject to change.)

Schmidt, [a 1999 graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee](#), worked extensively as a composer and sound designer for local theater companies, even while he was still a student, and long before his off-Broadway success with "Adding Machine," which The New York Times called "improbably brilliant."

Schmidt "really wrote this piece with the Skylight in mind," Theisen claimed, adding that the composer will be extensively involved with the local production in May and June 2011. "It walks that fine line between opera and musical, it is a very contemporary take.

"It makes complete sense in our mission statement, and what an added bonus that it is Josh."

Other key notes about the forthcoming season:

- Fans of Next Act Theatre's powerful, intimate dramas will see them in a new location in 2010-'11, when Next Act will perform at the Tenth Street Theatre, 628 N. 10th St. If the thought of Next Act moving keeps you up at night, be sure to check out its production of "A Sleeping Country," "Big Love" writer Melanie Marnich's quest comedy about chronic insomnia.
- Milwaukee Chamber Theatre will continue collaborating with local universities in a production of "The Lion in Winter" that will employ some Marquette University student actors and faculty designers. The Chamber opens its season with Matt Daniels portraying the greatest gentleman's

gentleman of all in "Jeeves Intervenes."

- Renaissance Theaterworks will team with Uprooted Theatre to perform [Lynn Nottage's](#) "Crumbs from the Table of Joy," a Great Migration story of a Deep South family that has moved to Brooklyn in the 1950s. Uprooted's [Marti Gobel](#) will be in the cast.
- The nice people behind In Tandem Theatre Company will turn scary with Simon Moore's adaptation of "Misery," Stephen King's novel about an injured writer held hostage by an obsessed fan.
- Several companies that have performed Christmas-themed shows at holiday time are planning something different, but still jolly, for this season. First Stage Children's Theater will perform [Stephen Schwartz's](#) "My Son Pinocchio," adapted from a Disney TV musical. The Skylight, reviving an old tradition, will stage Gilbert & Sullivan's "H.M.S. Pinafore."

Post a comment

We encourage your comments but will strive to remove discussion that contains personal attacks, racial slurs, profanity or other inappropriate material as outlined in our [guidelines](#). We post-moderate comments on most content, but may choose to pre-moderate some comments so please be patient if you don't see yours appear right way. We also ask for your help by reporting comments you think are inappropriate.

Please [login](#) or [register](#) to post a comment.