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### ON STAGE

**Pilgrims,** thru Sept. 22, Storefront Theatre of Indianapolis, 717 Broad Ripple Ave.; [storefrontindy.com](http://storefrontindy.com)

**"Twelve Angry Men,"** through Sept. 29, Indiana Repertory Theatre, 140 W. Washington St., Indianapolis; [irtlive.com](http://irtlive.com)

**"Dirty Rotten Scoundrels,"** thru Sept. 29, Actors Theatre of Indiana, The Studio Theater, 4 Center Green, Carmel; [www.atistage.org](http://www.atistage.org)

**"Hairspray,"** through Oct. 6, Beef & Boards Dinner Theatre, 9301 N. Michigan Road; [www.beefandboards.com](http://www.beefandboards.com)

### OPENING

**"The Legend of Georgia McBride,"** Sept. 12-Oct. 6, Phoenix Theatre, 705 N. Illinois St., Indianapolis; [phoenixtheatre.org](http://phoenixtheatre.org)

**"Steel Magnolias,"** Sept. 13-28, Mud Creek Players, 9740 E. 86th St., Indianapolis; [mudcreekplayers.org](http://mudcreekplayers.org)

**"The Cocktail Hour,"** Sept. 19-29, Epilogue Players, 1849 N. Alabama St., Indy; [epilogueplayers.com](http://epilogueplayers.com)

**"Trap,"** Sept. 27-Oct. 6, Buck Creek Players, 11150 Southeastern Ave., Indy, [www.buckcreekplayers.com](http://www.buckcreekplayers.com).

**"Ragtime,"** Sept. 27-Oct. 13, Footlite Musicals, 1847 N. Alabama St., Indianapolis; [footlite.org](http://footlite.org)

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John Lyle Belden and Wendy Carson

# Theatre Bulletin

Indianapolis & Central Indiana FREE No. 0008 – September 12, 2019

## Phoenix opening stage and gallery

The Phoenix Theatre opens its season this weekend with **"The Legend of Georgia McBride,"** a play the New York Times called "stitch-in-your-side funny." A young small-town Elvis impersonator finds himself switching from The King to a Queen when his show is replaced by a drag act.

Opening night, Friday, will also feature the opening reception, from 5:30 to 8 p.m., for an exhibition by artist **Kyle Ragsdale.** His works have been seen in various places, including program covers for the Indiana Repertory Theatre. The Phoenix gallery extends from the lobby area, easy to find for patrons before a show and at intermissions. The exhibition runs through November 15.

## REVIEWS

*Edited; see full reviews online at [www.playswithjohnandwendy.com](http://www.playswithjohnandwendy.com)*

### Would be a crime to miss ATI's 'Scoundrels'

**"Dirty Rotten Scoundrels,"** the Broadway comedy musical based on the the 1988 film, opens the season for Actors Theatre of Indiana in The Studio Theater in the Center for the Performing Arts in downtown Carmel.

On the French Riviera, polished and posh local con man Lawrence (TJ Lancaster) meets Freddy (Tony Carter), a crude but effective fast-talker. They make a wager – first to fleece their next mark gets to stay; the other must leave. Enter the Soap Queen of Cincinnati, Christine Colgate (Deborah Mae Hill). The con is on!

The result is hilarious and thoroughly entertaining, as Lancaster, Carter, and Hill obviously have fun with their characters, especially through the show's frequent slapstick moments. The excellent cast also features Don Farrell, Judy Fitzgerald and Sabra Michelle. Get info and tickets at [thecenterpresents.org](http://thecenterpresents.org).

### IRT opens 'Angry'

The classic American drama, **"Twelve Angry Men,"** opens the 2019-2020 season at Indiana Repertory Theatre. Set in 1957, this play is both very much of its time, and timeless, as our jury is tasked with deciding the fate of a young man accused of murder. If the verdict is guilty, the death penalty will be applied. The men are all from different backgrounds, working class to rich, and different ethnicities.

When the foreman calls for a preliminary vote, all say "Guilty" — except for one. Why? He doesn't want a rush to judgement, he says, and besides, he has some questions. For the next hour-plus (the play is a single movie-length act) we hear the details of this murder mystery in nearly enough detail to give the audience a vote. A brilliant ensemble cast, under the direction of James Still, gives dimension to various archetypes, from thoughtful to impatient to bigoted.

Most people know, or can easily guess, the outcome of this drama. What is important, and makes this engrossingly entertaining, is how they get there.

Find our Fringe reviews at [playswithjohnandwendy.com/2019/08/28/indyfringe-2019-reviews/](http://playswithjohnandwendy.com/2019/08/28/indyfringe-2019-reviews/)