



Lucky Guy Director's Vision

By Warren Carlyle

Above, l to r: Author/Composer Willard Beckham and Director Warren Carlyle at the first day of *Lucky Guy* rehearsals.

What is your vision for *Lucky Guy*?

Lucky Guy is a musical comedy set in Nashville that is a fun, fantastical love story. It also has an amazing score chock full of great songs by composer Willard Beckham.

My vision for the show is one of romance and fun. All of the characters are larger than life and inhabit a colorful, ever-changing world of haystacks, recording studios, car lots, TV shows, and trailer homes with 28 rooms. Every moment in the script is packed with opportunities for fun. Yet underneath all of this is a beautiful, simple love story about a country boy with good values and an honest heart who changes the lives of everyone he meets. In the course of the evening he changes our lives, too. As an audience we will all get to laugh a little, love a little, and feel a little better when we leave the theatre than we did when we came in.

Why do you think Goodspeed audiences will enjoy the show?

Goodspeed audiences are some of the most sophisticated in the country and are used to a very high level of entertainment. They will appreciate bringing the entire family to this musical since there is nothing controversial or dark about the show: no sex, drugs, or rock and roll. It will be a wonderful night in the theater, with a stellar cast, great story, and memorable songs.

Why did you choose to mount it at The Norma Terris Theatre?

The Norma Terris Theatre is known in our industry as a safe haven for artists to create new musicals. The staff and producing team at Goodspeed work as a well-oiled machine with everyone committed to making the show the best it can be. The space is very appealing because the audience is close to the stage and their reactions are keenly felt by the actors. Such interaction is very important in developing a new comedy. Goodspeed facilities are amongst the best in the country with rehearsal rooms close by and shops for building the sets and costumes on site.

While at Goodspeed, the company is away from New York City which allows them to concentrate on the show without any distractions. Goodspeed is also close enough to New York for producers and investors to travel here to see the show and hopefully become a part of its future.

In short, there is a community spirit and a humanity in the way artists are treated at Goodspeed that is second to none. I am thrilled to return to my Goodspeed family for the third time.

