

[dailypress.com/entertainment/dp-life\\_vastage\\_0121jan21,0,93368.story](http://dailypress.com/entertainment/dp-life_vastage_0121jan21,0,93368.story)

**dailypress.com**

## **Hornsby musical heads up Va Stage season**

[By David Nicholson](#)

247-4794

January 21, 2010

Virginia Stage Company's 2010-2011 season will include a new musical composed by Williamsburg musician Bruce Hornsby.

"SCKBSTD" - the title is a license plate abbreviation of "Sick Bastard," is a project Hornsby has been working on for several years that will premiere in January 2011. In addition to music and lyrics by the three-time Grammy winner, the project includes additional lyrics by his childhood friend, Chip DeMatteo, and a book by playwright Clay McLeod Chapman, who co-wrote the indie musical "Hostage Song."

Eight of the songs in "Levitate," Hornsby's latest recording released last fall, were written with the musical in mind. "SCKBSTD" is about how life in a small Virginia town changes when a mysterious stranger moves in and starts cruising the streets in his Dodge.

"To me, it's always just been about broadening my reach and moving into new areas," Hornsby told [Billboard.com](#) about writing for the theater. "So it's a fantastic situation to be able to do that, and to continue to pursue a wide-ranging musical life."

Virginia Stage Managing Director Keith Stava said the theater was approached by producers Mike Rafael and David Riemer, whose company Spiral Staircase is developing the musical. Rafael heard two of Hornsby's songs five years ago and felt they would be a good fit for a Broadway show. He contacted Hornsby's agent, and came to Williamsburg with Chapman to meet with Hornsby. [Broadwayworld.com](#) reports that Kathleen Marshall, a well-known Broadway director and choreographer, has become involved in the project, and an initial reading of the musical was held last June in New York.

Stava says the producers may find another regional theater to present the musical before attempting to bring it to Broadway.

"Virginia Stage Company's name will be attached to all future productions," says Stava. "We'll be spreading the news of the stage company around the country."

Here's a look at the rest of the stage company's 2010-2011 season lineup:

*"The Diary of Anne Frank,"* Sept. 21-Oct. 10. A new adaptation by Wendy Kesselman revisits the popular drama that came out of a handwritten journal by a young girl in hiding in Amsterdam during the Holocaust.

*"The New Pink, An Implausible Comedy,"* Oct. 26-Nov. 14. Penned by Stage Company Artistic Director Chris Hanna, this comedy looks at a crazy scheme concocted by a newly retired couple to recoup their savings lost in the recession.

*"Sick Bastard,"* Jan. 18-Feb. 6, 2011. Bruce Hornsby's new musical.

*"The Last 5 Years,"* Feb. 22-March 13. Written and composed by Jason Robert Brown, this modern musical follows the unraveling of a young couple's marriage, told from beginning to end by the guy and from the end back to the beginning by the girl.

*"Radio Golf,"* March 29-April 17. One of 10 plays by August Wilson exploring African-American life in the 20th century, "Radio Golf" looks at the secrets a Pittsburgh businessman contends with on his quest to become the city's first African-American mayor.

*"A Christmas Carol,"* Nov. 30-Dec. 24. An add-on to the subscription series, this Charles Dickens tale of Ebenezer Scrooge returns each year for the holiday season.

### **News to Use**

Subscriptions to the Virginia Stage Company's 2010-2011 season of five plays range from \$145-\$195. You can also purchase \$75 subscriptions for the Tuesday-Thursday preview performances held before the opening of each show.

Anytime passes ranging from \$156/\$168 for four passes to \$234/\$252 for six passes also are available. To subscribe, call the stage company box office at 627-1234 or visit [www.vastage.com](http://www.vastage.com).

Copyright © 2010, [Newport News, Va., Daily Press](#)