



# **WISHFUL DRINKING**

April 10-22, 2012

Victoria Theatre

## **ABOUT WISHFUL DRINKING**

The daughter of Eddie Fisher and Debbie Reynolds, Carrie Fisher became a cultural icon in her own right at the age of 19, when she starred as Princess Leia in the *Star Wars* trilogy. In *WISHFUL DRINKING*, she tells the true and intoxicating tale of her life as a Hollywood legend - with all the wry wit she poured into such bestsellers as *Postcards from the Edge* - in an uproarious and sobering look at her "Hollywood hangover."

*WISHFUL DRINKING* premiered in 2006, in Los Angeles, and has since completed sell-out runs in theatres across the U.S., culminating in a wildly successful engagement at Broadway's Studio 54 this year, winning the prestigious 2010 Outer Critics' Circle Award. The show received rave reviews on Broadway. In *The New York Times*, critic Ben Brantley described it as, "An extremely funny full-frontal confession. You're going to like it. A LOT." Michael Kuchwara, of the Associated Press, called it, "A hilarious journey through a world of celebrity, chock-full of funny, fascinating talents." And *TimeOut New York* declared *WISHFUL DRINKING* to be, "dirty, delightful and hilarious!"

## **ABOUT CARRIE FISHER**

An actress, screenwriter and bestselling author (*Postcards from the Edge*, *The Best Awful*, and *Wishful Drinking*), Carrie Fisher is the daughter of the late singer Eddie Fisher and actress Debbie Reynolds, known as "America's Sweethearts" in the late 1950s. She became a cultural icon at age 19 after starring as Princess Leia in the first *Star Wars* trilogy in the 1970s. Despite growing up with "Hollywood royalty" and experiencing early fame of her own, Fisher's life had its challenges, as she reveals in this uproarious and sobering account. Combining wry wit and raw facts, *WISHFUL DRINKING* reveals her own hilarious slant on the not-so-glittering side of being a celebrity. It's a show where she's circling the drain singing.

From stardom to divorce, re-marriage to the death of a close friend, addiction to mental illness, Fisher recounts her peaks and valleys with unflinching candor and biting humor, referring to celebrity as just "obscurity biding its time."

In *WISHFUL DRINKING*, Fisher details her complicated yet eclectic extended family tree in Hollywood Inbreeding 101, employing a blackboard and wooden pointer. Her father Eddie Fisher's very public affair with Elizabeth Taylor ended what had been perceived and celebrated as a "storybook marriage," and she and her brother Todd later watched both her mother's and father's "once white-hot bright star of celebrity slowly dim, cool and fade." In 1973, at her mother's urging, the 17-year-old Fisher enrolled at the Central School of Speech and Drama in London; two years later, her life changed forever when she donned a white dress as Princess Leia in George Lucas' *Star Wars*.

Besides making her a star, the movie has resulted in Fisher's image being merchandised as part of the *Star Wars* franchise for the past 30 years. Among the items she has adorned are dolls, shampoo, soap, Mrs. Potato Head, and a PEZ dispenser. Fisher hilariously notes that among his many possessions, Lucas owns her likeness, "so every time I look in the mirror, I have to send him a couple of bucks."

Aside from the strain from the high visibility of starring in one of the most beloved trilogies of all time, Fisher continued to face more than her share of challenges. With extraordinary candor, she discusses her subsequent bipolar diagnosis and the life-changing decision to have electric shock therapy (ECT).

In addition to the first *Star Wars* trilogy, Carrie Fisher's numerous films include 1975's *Shampoo*, her feature film debut, and later movies such as *Hannah and Her Sisters*, *When Harry Met Sally*, *The Blues Brothers*, *Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery* and *The 'Burbs*. Among her TV appearances are "30 Rock," "Family Guy" and the HBO series "Sex and the City" and "Entourage."

Fisher is also a screenwriter and bestselling author. Her novels, *Postcards from the Edge*, *Surrender the Pink*, *Delusions of Grandma* and *The Best Awful*, were all critically acclaimed, with *Postcards from the Edge* being adapted for an Oscar<sup>®</sup>-nominated film of the same name starring Meryl Streep and Shirley MacLaine. Her memoir *Wishful Drinking*, taken from the stage show, was published in 2008 by Simon & Schuster, which will also publish Fisher's novel *Shockaholic* in 2011.

## **AWARDS**

### **2010 Outer Critics' Circle Award**

- 2010 Drama Desk Award Outstanding Solo Performance (Nominee)

## **AUDIENCE INFORMATION**

Show contains adult language, situations and mature themes involving alcohol and drugs. Not recommended for children under 17.