

## **CHIP DEFFAA’S “THE SEVEN LITTLE FOYS”-- THE ONLY HIT “FAMILY MUSICAL” TO EMERGE FROM THE FRINGE FESTIVAL!**

Written/directed by award-winning playwright/director Chip Deffaa, **“THE SEVEN LITTLE FOYS”** is the only hit “family musical” to emerge in recent years from the New York International Fringe Festival—the biggest theater festival in North America. **“THE SEVEN LITTLE FOYS”** was originally a success as a motion picture and then later also as a TV special. And now Chip Deffaa has brought to the stage this heart-warming story of a song-and-dance family. Critics have been raving about this show.

**“The Seven Little Foys Provide Seven Little Joys,”** write Barbara and Scott Siegel in “The Siegel Column” (TalkinBroadway.com). “It’s an unexpected pleasure to discover a retro musical at The Fringe. Chip Deffaa’s loving ode to a simpler form of musical comedy, built around the story of Vaudeville star Eddie Foy and his seven children, is a **delightful charmer...Chip Deffaa has done a wonderful job of writing and directing this piece, keeping it well-paced and, most important, keeping its sentimentality honest and true.**” And Joe Franklin (Bloomberg Radio, WBBR-AM) raved: **“I have rarely been so riveted to a stage.... This is what show business is really all about.”**

Rob Lester writes on EdgeNewYork.com: **““The Seven Little Foys’ is an old-fashioned charmer....Leave it to Chip Deffaa, a lover of old-time show biz quality, to tell this story with affection and musical numbers that will leave you smiling. There’s a lot of heart in the show itself. This valentine to show business and family values is a pleasure to recommend... Writer-director-arranger Chip Deffaa has written some very pleasing and attractive numbers. (Bravo!) The choreography is excellent...in this top-notch family show...”**

**“I went to see 'The Seven Little Foys' at the Fringe Festival because I remembered fondly the movie with Bob Hope. What I experienced was something far more creative, far more entertaining, far more original, and far better-acted than the movie was... Chip Deffaa wrote original music and also included songs of the period—a perfect mix. I hope this play goes beyond the Fringe. I hope it goes uptown and is able to be seen by more people, who'll enjoy it and learn from it...”** David G. Meyers, WGBB-AM

**“Magnificent! I loved every moment of it... The direction was superb, and the additional songs by Chip Deffaa were delightful. The show deserves to move to Broadway.”**  
**--Robert Dahdah, playwright/director (“Curly McDimple,” “Dames at Sea”)**

On NYTheatre.com, David Fuller declares: **“Writer-arranger-director Chip Deffaa has concocted a charming homage... This is sweet nostalgia.** The music is mostly early 20th century American, but also includes original tunes that echo the period and are written by Deffaa himself. **The musical bits are geared to bring a smile to your face and a warm fuzzy feeling to your heart...This is a feel-good musical in the best sense of that adjective.”**

## Seven Little Foys by Chip Deffaa -- REVIEWS and COMMENTS 2

Bettina Paley writes, on BroadwayAfterDark.com, **“Garnering kudos as the ‘Fringe Festival's’ contribution to family fare, ‘The Seven Little Foys’ takes a contemporary look at the family act that quickly became a national institution in the early 1900's.”**

**TIME OUT-NEW YORK** notes: **“The audience loved it, singing along and at times moved to tears... The first act is mostly a vaudeville revue, with lots of old-timey favorites; in the second act, Deffaa adds original numbers, charmingly and lovingly choreographed. (Where did he find seven kids under 20 who can tap-dance so well?) If you’re a fan of old Broadway, you’ll get a kick out of ‘The Seven Little Foys.’”**

**“‘The Seven Little Foys’ brings back the good old days of great musicals....” --Barry Z,**  
"BarryZShow.com"

And on Stage-Space.biz, Rob Adams writes: **“My hunch is that ‘The Seven Little Foys’--Chip Deffaa's ebullient new musical, now getting its New York premiere in the Fringe Festival--will get lots of productions. It is a family musical that works for both adults and young people... By the time the Seven Little Foys perform the big show-stopping numbers--Deffaa's own ‘Struttin’ and ‘Someday’--the kids are dancing with panache. Those buoyant, showmanly new numbers--high points of the evening--are utterly winning... The storyline comes to a climax at Christmas-time. While this is a show will work any time, some regional theaters...will no doubt find this a perfect new Christmas vehicle...‘The Seven Little Foys’ should have a bright future.”**

### **AND HERE ARE SOME REVIEWERS’ COMMENTS ON THE CAST ALBUM OF “THE SEVEN LITTLE FOYS”....**

**“This mostly cheery, perky collection of nifty nostalgia is most welcome: the sentimental time-travel trip to a bygone innocent time is entertaining and loveable. Wearing its corny heart proudly, brimming with energy and unpretentious bubbling joy, the project is sweet and swell, fully embracing the style.... The new songs by Chip Deffaa, who also revised and tweaked some of the oldies, are delicious. It's always dangerous (some would venture to say foolhardy) to add new bits to the mix of the authentic, no matter how successful the pastiche is. But Deffaa, who does his homework and immerses himself happily in the era and its sensibilities, is the right man for the job, and his work makes for highlights rather than also-ran wannabes.” -- Rob Lester, TalkinBroadway.com**

And **John Hoglund** noted in TheaterScene.net: **“Chip Deffaa's 'The Seven Little Foys' is a bustling musical all about vaudevillian Eddie Foy and his Irish family of seven kids... Deffaa has affectionately captured the heart of an era... A heartfelt piece capturing the warmth of a kindly family that sticks together through the good and the bad... The cast displays period accuracy with ample affection all lavished on these songs. Repeatedly, they bare their souls adorned with affection for each other... More charm than a litter of kittens lapping up spilled milk... a must-have album.”**

Seven Little Foys by Chip Deffaa -- REVIEWS and COMMENTS 3

**A BIT ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT....**

Deffaa has won the ASCAP/Deems Taylor Award, the NJ Press Assoc. Award, and the IRNE Award. Deffaa's show, "GEORGE M. COHAN TONIGHT!," which earned raves Off-Broadway ("Brash, cocky, and endlessly euphoric," declared The New York Times), has won audiences from NYC to London. As one British reviewer noted (MusicalTheatreMatters.org.uk): "This is a great show that reminds us what a positive noise America once made when it was first finding its voice."

Deffaa's other shows include "ONE NIGHT WITH FANNY BRICE," "YANKEE DOODLE DANDY," "THE FANNY BRICE STORY," "IRVING BERLIN'S AMERICA," "THEATER BOYS."

For more information visit: <http://www.leicesterbaytheatricals.com/?p=1503>

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