

CYM's «Spalenyj Theatr»!

“We’ve never laughed so hard in our life,” was all we could think after seeing the hilarious comedy of CYM’s “Spalenyj Theatre” in Hamilton, Ontario last year. The group of twenty-something year old actors who poke fun at everything from Ukrainian School to television commercials have a two hour comedy routine that keeps people coming back for more. Those who haven’t seen the Spalenyj Theatre will have a chance to see the troupe in action this Labor Day at the CYM resort in Ellenville New York (Saturday evening at 5:30pm). The show will delight Ukrainians of all ages., and rumor has it that Professor Marmalyga of “Tyazhko na Emigratsiyi” fame will make a special guest appearance, so this should prove to be a performance not to be missed!



The Spalenyj Theatre originated in 1990 under the direction of Oleh Kulas, a graduate of the Second City Training Center in Chicago, Illinois. The Ukrainian community in Chicago had long been without a comedy troupe, since the renowned “Tyazhko na Emigratsiyi” had folded a number of years earlier. Realizing the void, Mr. Kulas decided to create a Ukrainian comedy group of his own. The Spalenyj Theatre group performed at various local venues, including both the Chicago CYM branch and the area’s annual Debutante Ball. They gained much notoriety and success, but because more often than not getting all of the members in the same place at the same time proved to be a challenge, the troupe bid adieu to the community in 1993.



With the passing of time and with the appearance of a new, younger generation eager to embrace its heritage and community, “Spalenyj Theatre” resurfaced in 2005, under the direction of its original director, Oleh Kulas. Today the show incorporates improvisation into the majority of the group’s performances, as well as audience participation. Recent performances in Whippany, New Jersey; Minneapolis, Minnesota; and Hamilton, Ontario have brought Spalenyj Theatre widespread recognition among Ukrainians in North America. Current members of the troupe include Paul Abramiuk, Jaro Chylak, Mark Czerniuk, Olena Drozd, Andrew Glubisz, Natalia Kolody, Oleh Kulas, Kristin Matusiak, Irena Owerko and Bohdan Vasilik.



For more information about Spalenyj Theatre’s Labor Day performance, please contact the CYM in Ellenville at 845.647.7230 or via email at ellenville@cyam.org.

Zdvyh @ CYM – Ellenville – Saturday, September 5th at 5:30pm