

**April 23, 2010**

## **The Durango Melodrama is Back at the Henry Strater Theatre**



DURANGO, Colo. – On June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010 the Durango Melodrama will return to the Henry Strater Theatre in historic Downtown Durango. While being a part of summers in Durango for the past 48 years, the Melodrama introduces “Ole Fashioned” entertainment through Ragtime piano tunes featured in the Henry Strater’s Victorian style theatre. Formerly known as the Diamond Circle Theatre, the space has been extensively renovated, now housing top of the line stage lighting and surround sound.

This summer’s Melodrama will be featuring the George M. Cohan classic, “The Tavern”, followed by a traditional Vaudeville routine, which is always a fun display of humor and wit. “Melodrama is a wonderful combination of superb acting and dramatic overtones that use accentuated movements and music to emphasize the drama of the scene”, says Rod Barker, Owner and CEO of the Strater Hotel and the Henry Strater Theatre. “‘The Tavern’ has played here (at the Henry Strater Theatre) before, including the very first play in 1962. It is a wonderfully uncomplicated play featuring some very complicated characters”.

“The Tavern” takes place in a lonely tavern on a wild and stormy night. The cast of characters includes a mysterious vagabond, a woman, and the State Governor and his family. Several persons are suspected of a crime and the mysterious vagabond takes infinite delight in observing developments as they take place about him. As always, participation from the crowd is welcomed! Hisses, Cheers and Ahhh’s are all a part of the dynamic nuances of traditional Melodrama.

The Durango Melodrama at the Henry Strater Theatre will begin nightly shows on June 11<sup>th</sup> through August 21<sup>st</sup>. Each show will start at 7:45pm, Tuesday through Sunday. Reservations can be made online, by phone, or at the Henry Strater Theatre box office. Ticket prices start at \$18. Dinner and a show packages are also available, featuring a three course meal at the Mahogany Grille.

The Henry Strater Theatre is open throughout the year, featuring concerts, comedy acts, and other theatrical shows. For more information go to [www.henrystratertheatre.com](http://www.henrystratertheatre.com) or call the box office at 970.375.7160.