

E4 · VARIETY · STAR TRIBUNE · TUESDAY, MAY 6, 2014

artcetera

Keillor play to open at History Theatre

"Radio Man" will lead off a 2014-15 slate that includes the story of rock pioneer Augie Garcia.

By GRAYDON ROYCE
graydon.royce@startribune.com

Garrison Keillor makes his debut as a playwright to open History Theatre's season in the fall. The 2014-15 lineup also includes a reprise of "The Buddy Holly Story" and a new work that plays with that same period of rock 'n' roll.



Keillor, who has written in most every form known to humankind, unveils "**Radio Man**" (Sept. 27-Oct. 26). The line between fiction and reality is thin in this play about a radio host (played by Pearce Bunting) who presides over a broadcast show that includes music, sketches, characters and the imagination of a young boy. It will be directed by artistic director Ron Peluso.

Nicholas Freeman returns

winter. Holmgren, a Presbyterian pastor and occasional Star Tribune columnist, writes about her experiences breaking into the heavily male ranks of pastors in the mid-1970s. Summer Hagen, seen frequently at the Guthrie, will portray Holmgren (Feb. 7-March 1, 2015).

Eric "Pogi" Sumangil, best known as an actor, stretches his writing muscles with "**The Debutante's Ball**," March 21-April 12. It's a coming-of-age play based on the annual presentation of debutantes and escorts in Minnesota's Filipino-American community. Sumangil, a former debutante escort himself, follows the experience of six teens preparing for the event. Randy Reyes directs this collaboration with Mu Performing Arts.

Next May, History Theatre brings a world premiere by playwright/actor Joe Minjares that celebrates the "godfather of Minnesota rock 'n' roll." Augie Garcia played guitar with a quintet that rose to fame from the flats of St. Paul's West Side. He's most remembered for opening a 1956 Elvis Presley concert with such rou-