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**Linton, Derocker, Mitchell and Williams Will Explore *The Thing About Joe* Dec. 2**

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By *Adam Hetrick*  
01 Dec 2008



Ashley Linton

The BMI–Lehman Engel Musical Theatre Workshop’s Tuneful Tuesdays reading series will present *The Thing About Joe* Dec. 2.

Featuring book and lyrics by Matthew Hardy and a score by Emmy Award winner Randy Klein, *The Thing About Joe* will be presented at 4 PM at the Jerry Orbach Theater in the Snapple Theater Center.

The cast will comprise Ashley Fox Linton (*Wicked*, *Les Misérables*), Melinda Derocker (*The King and I*), Trey Mitchell (*Wonderful Town*), Kevin B. McGlynn (*All Shook Up*; *Kiss Me, Kate*), Aurelia Williams (*All Shook Up*), David Shih (*Honor*, *Stockholm*) and Chris Shenkle. Richard Sabellico directs.

The musical, according to press notes, "tells the story of Joe Christiansen from Preston, Idaho, who rebels against his pill-pushing psychiatrist mother and journeys to New York to pursue his dream. His dream? To become a great Maitre d' like his father, who was killed in a freak flaming Bananas Foster accident."

Admission is \$10. Reservations can be made by phoning (212) 989-6706, or by e-mailing [MusicalMondays@aol.com](mailto:MusicalMondays@aol.com). The Jerry Orbach Theater is located within the Snapple Theater Center at 210 West 50th Street at Broadway.

\*

Founded by Lehman Engel in 1961, the BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theatre Workshop, funded by the BMI foundation at no cost to its participants, was created in order to nurture the craft of musical theatre by providing new writers with a testing ground for their work under the guidance of experienced professionals within the industry.

Notable alumni and members include Maury Yeston (*Titanic*, *Grand Hotel*, *Nine*), Alan Menken (*Little Shop of Horrors*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *The Little Mermaid*), Jeff Marx and Robert Lopez (*Avenue Q*), Edward Kleban (*A Chorus*

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