

# CBS MEMORANDUM

**Tom Hatten Review**  
**KNX Radio**  
**July 30, 1992**

The last of three Equity Waiver shows in the Southland I'd like to mention this week is *Rocket to the Moon* which, though it sounds like a Jules Verne title, is actually Clifford Odets, certainly better-remembered for *Golden Boy* and *Waiting for Lefty*. *Rocket to the Moon* was a 1938 Group Theatre production and is now rarely performed, but it's getting a first-class revival in the charming Company of CharActors Theatre in Studio City, right above Jerry's Deli, for you Valleyites.

The plot is actually not that far removed from Odets' later big hit, *The Country Girl*: modern marital problems, in this case, a New York dentist, honest and hard-working, with a shrewish wife and a pretty, free-thinking new receptionist. The time is the Depression, the '30s, of course, and Odets, always known for his pithy dialogue, which actors love to tackle, is in top form here.

The cast is solid. Director Peter Ellenstein says it was Odets' personal favorite of all his works. It's Ellenstein's, too, which triggered this rare revival by the Los Angeles Repertory Company, founded in 1966.

*Rocket to the Moon* still works when it's done well, and it most assuredly is here. The show runs Thursdays through Sundays, through August 30th. Tom Hatten, KNX 1070.