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'Lone Eagle' play tells story of aviator Charles Lindbergh

Karen Despain

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The extraordinary character of Charles A. Lindbergh will come to life in a presentation of the famed aviator by actor Steve Carroll next weekend on the Prescott Center for the Arts main stage.

Lindbergh rose from virtual obscurity into the worldwide public eye when he flew his Spirit of St. Louis aircraft nonstop from New York to Paris in May 1927. He was the first in history to accomplish such a feat and won the Orteig Foundation's \$25,000 prize.

In 1998, Carroll was inspired by a friend, who was doing a one-man show on Benedict Arnold, a historical figure from his home state. He encouraged Carroll to do the same, and the name Charles Lindbergh came up.

The friend said, "Hell, you even look like him."

That was all Carroll needed to begin his research on the life of Lindbergh.

By 2002, Carroll had completed the script for his "Charles Lindbergh: The Lone Eagle" production and presented it to the Lindbergh Foundation on the 75th anniversary of the flight of the Spirit of St. Louis to Paris. Carroll said Lindbergh's youngest daughter, Reeve, was present at the celebration in Garden City, N.Y., and "loved" Carroll's portrayal of her father's life. "She gave it her blessing," Carroll said, and he has since presented the play all over the country.

Carroll's Prescott performance will be at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 8 and at 2 p.m. Nov. 9. Tickets are \$22 for adults and \$15 for students. Call the PCA box office at 445-3286 or log onto tickets@pca-az.net.

