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PacRep Theatre and Hayward Lumber present David Ives' *The School For Lies* at Carmel's Outdoor Forest Theater

CARMEL, CA (September 19, 2022) , Pacific Repertory Theatre continues its 2022 Forest Theater season with David Ives' *The School For Lies*, playing September 29 through October 16 at the enchanted **Outdoor Forest Theater in Carmel**. PacRep's Forest Theater season is sponsored by **Hayward Lumber**, with additional support from the **Arts Council for Monterey County**.

A new comedy by award-winning playwright David Ives (*All In The Timing*, *Venus in Fur*), *The School for Lies* is an outrageously funny (and just a little nasty) spin on Molière's classic *The Misanthrope*. This outrageous 'translaptation' tells the story of Frank, a ruthlessly brutal critic of modern society and his collision with the equally acerbic young Parisienne hostess Célimène. Picking up on Molière's biting comedy on hypocrisy, Ives manages to lash out at 'contemporary' society with bite and a devastating humorous bile, complete with hefty borrowings from 'Shakespeare, reality TV, hip-hop stylings, and everything in between'. A raucous explosion of wordplay that skewers the 'Me' of modern times.

Keith Pinto stars as Frank, a Parisian noble who has only just returned to the city with an undeniable disgust for the upper class's two-faced manners. Frank starts off sassy yet overcome with misanthropy. Things take a turn when Frank meets Célimène (Jennifer LeBlanc), whose sharp wit has kept would-be suitors at bay. Then his friend, Philinte (Loki Miller) decides to pull a prank, tricking Frank and Célimène into each believing the other loves them. Or, at least, can get them out of serious legal trouble if seduced, in Célimène's case.

Then, Eliante (River Navaille), Célimène's younger cousin and the object of Philinte's affections, instead chases after Frank. Eliante at times seems to be a pure character until she threatens to kill Frank if he doesn't have sex with her on the floor of her cousin's drawing room. From there, the play piles on layer after layer of misunderstood intentions, a couple of mistaken identities, and plenty of slander. The steady flow of Ives' verse is hilarious and dazzling. It is so easy to get lost trying to guess the next rhyme and then get blindsided by yet another sharp and filthy joke. Célimène's three suitors (James Brady as Clitander, Nick Mandracchia as Acaste and Howard Burnham as Oronte) are the butts of most of it.

PacRep cofounder and perennial favorite Julie Hughett portrays Arsinoe – a bitter woman who is unpleasant, and thus unable to attract men, who masks her frustration with extreme manners and piety. She is openly critical of Célimène out of jealousy, as she herself seeks the love of Alceste. Meanwhile, comic favorite D. Scott McQuiston plays the dual roles of Basque, who is Alceste's jittery, bumbling manservant, and whose comic subservience to Alceste is a major element of the farcical nature of the show, out of nervousness in trying to tell Alceste everything, and Dubois, Célimène's servant, who consistently tries to serve canapés to the guests but always ends up having his tray upended.

PacRep and Hayward Lumber present "The School For Lies", continued

The School For Lies has discounted Previews on Thursday, September 29, at 7:30 pm and Friday, September 30, at 7:30 pm, and continues Thursdays through Sundays at 7:30 pm (with a "Sweet Thursday 2-for-1" general admission offer), through October 16. All performances are at the Outdoor Forest Theater located at the corner of Mountain View Avenue and Santa Rita Street in Carmel.

COVID Information

Proof of vaccination is not required, and masks remain optional. For information on PacRep's COVID procedures regarding performances at the Outdoor Forest Theater, patrons are requested to go to:

<https://www.pacrep.org/covid-safety-information>

Ticket Information – Single tickets are on sale now

General admission single ticket prices range from \$8 to \$41 with discounts available for seniors over 65, students, children, teachers, and active military. PacRep's Box Office hours are Tuesday through Saturday, from 11 am to 4 pm. The Box Office is located at the Indoor Forest Theater, at the corner of Santa Rita Street and Mountain View Avenue in downtown Carmel. Proceeds from this event benefit the non-profit programs of Pacific Repertory Theatre, including its School of Dramatic Arts. (831) 622-0100 or www.pacrep.org for further information.

2022 Season TicketPACS

2022 continues PacRep's popular Season Ticket program – with its Season TicketPACS, offering substantial savings (up to 20%) and complete flexibility to choose titles and dates, and even allows for repeat performances! PacRep is supported by ticket sales, individual donations, special events, and grants from The David and Lucile Packard Foundation, The Monterey Peninsula Foundation, The Berkshire Foundation, The Shubert Foundation, The S.T.A.R. Foundation, The Nancy Buck Ransom Foundation, The Chapman Foundation, and the Harden Foundation, and The Arts Council for Monterey County, among many others.

The School For Lies Performance Schedule

Thursday, September 29, 7:30 pm (Discount Preview)

Friday, September 30, 7:30 pm (Discount Preview)

Saturday, October 1, 7:30 pm (Opening)

Sunday, October 2, 7:30 pm

Thursday, October 6, 7:30 pm ("Sweet Thursday" 2 for 1 General Admission)

Friday, October 7, 7:30 pm

Saturday, October 8, 7:30 pm

Sunday, October 9, 7:30 pm

Thursday, October 13, 7:30 pm ("Sweet Thursday" 2 for 1 General Admission)

Friday, October 14, 7:30 pm

Saturday, October 15, 7:30 pm

Sunday, October 16, 7:30 pm (Closing)

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