FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Media Contact: Kevin Kopjak, Charles Zukow Associates | 415.296.0677 | kevink@charleszukow.com
Press photos and kits: http://act-sf.org/home/about/press_room.html

AMERICAN CONSERVATORY THEATER TRAVELS TO 1940S ITALY
WITH A VIVID NEW TRANSLATION OF EDUARDO DE FILIPPO’S
POIGNANT ITALIAN COMEDY, NAPOLI!

Starring A.C.T. favorite Marco Barricelli and Stratford Festival star Seana McKenna, Napoli! explores the themes of morality, civility and the state of society!

• FEBRUARY 12 – MARCH 9, 2014 •

SAN FRANCISCO (December 20, 2013) – Continuing its 2013-14 season, American Conservatory Theater (A.C.T.) travels to 1940s Italy with A.C.T. favorite Marco Barricelli (former Artistic Director of Shakespeare Santa Cruz; Vigil at A.C.T.) and Canada’s Stratford Festival star Seana McKenna (Phèdre at A.C.T.), who return to lead the cast of Napoli!, Beatrice Basso and Linda Alper’s vivid new translation of Eduardo De Filippo’s poignant Italian comedy. During the chaotic days of World War II in Naples, an enterprising woman sets up a small-time black market business in the middle of her home to keep her family afloat. She prospers, but maybe a bit too much—compelling her husband to ask hard questions about morality, civility, and the state of their society. In a war-torn culture in which coffee is like liquid gold, De Filippo’s masterful blend of humor and pathos tells the story of an unforgettable and wildly entertaining family determined to make a living even if it means profiteering.

Directed by A.C.T. Associate Artistic Director Mark Rucker, this production culminates the Year of Italian Culture in the United States. Napoli! runs February 12–March 9, 2014 at A.C.T.’s Geary Theater (415 Geary Street, San Francisco). Press night is Wednesday, February 19, 2014. Tickets ($20 -$120) are on sale now and may be purchased online at act-sf.org or by calling 415.749.2228.

Says Carey Perloff, Artistic Director of A.C.T.: “We are always eager to bring the magnificent Marco Barricelli back to the Geary stage, and Napoli! provides a wonderful opportunity to pair him with the equally inimitable Seana McKenna. A play filled with the rich bittersweet comedy of postwar Italy, Napoli! introduces a gallery of indelible characters each trying to find a way to survive a ravaged economy and fulfill their dreams. As we contemplate the issue of income inequality in contemporary America, it is fascinating to watch what lengths a
family will go to to make a living, even if it means profiteering off one’s neighbors and selling illegal goods. I think Napoli! is a play that is going to truly surprise and delight San Francisco audiences!”

The cast for Major Barbara includes Marco Barricelli as Gennaro; Seana McKenna as Amalia; Nick Gabriel as Amedeo; Blair Busbee as Maria Rosaria; Dion Mucciacito as Errico Settebellizze; York Walker as Pascalino; Mike Ryan as Peppe “the Jack”; Anthony Fusco as Riccardo Spasiano; Sharon Lockwood as Adelaide; Lisa Kitchens as Assunta; Gabriel Marin as Miezo Prevete; Gregory Wallace as Ciappa; Aaron Moreland as Federico; Lateefah Holder as Donna Peppenella; Danielle Frimer as Teresa; Kemiyondo Coutinho as Margherita; Asher Goodman as The Guard/The Wine Man; and Dillon Heape as Doctor.

The creative team for Napoli! includes scenic designer Erik Flatmo (4000 Miles, Scapin at A.C.T.), costume designer Lydia Tanji (Dead Metaphor, Marcus; or the Secret of Sweet at A.C.T.); lighting designer Robert Wierzel (Arcadia at A.C.T.; Fela! on Broadway) and sound designer Will McCandless (4000 Miles, Higher at A.C.T.).

A.C.T. will offer numerous InterACT events—many of which are presented free of charge—in association with Napoli! that will give patrons opportunities to get closer to the action while making a whole night out of their evening at the theater:

- **Bike to the Theater Night:** Wednesday, February 12, at 8 p.m.
  Providing a greener alternative to theater transportation, A.C.T. and the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition offer free valet bike parking, as well as a special discount on tickets, for this select performance.

- **Audience Prologue:** Tuesday, February 18, at 5:30 p.m.
  Before the curtain goes up, get behind the artistic process at this fascinating preshow discussion with the director and artistic staff. Can't make it to the event? We'll be streaming it live online!

- **Theater on the Couch:** Friday, February 21, at 8 p.m.
  Following the show, discuss the minds, motives, and behaviors of the characters with Dr. Mason Turner, chief of psychiatry at San Francisco’s Kaiser Permanente Medical Center.

- **Audience Exchanges:** Tue., Feb. 25, at 7 p.m. | Sun., Mar. 2, at 2 p.m. | Wed., Mar. 5, at 2 p.m.
  Learn firsthand what goes into the making of great theater. After the show, stick around for a lively Q&A session with the actors, designers and artists who develop the work onstage.

- **OUT with A.C.T.:** Wednesday, February 26, at 8 p.m.
  The best LGBT night in town! Mingle with the cast and enjoy free drinks and treats at this popular after party. Visit www.act-sf.org/out for information about how to subscribe to OUT nights (and other InterACT events) throughout the season.

- **Symposium:** Saturday, March 1, at 2 p.m.
  You’re invited to join us after the show for a lively discussion! A.C.T. invites you to join us in the theater immediately following your performance for a discussion and Q&A with a local expert. The discussion will be moderated by A.C.T. dramaturg Michael Paller. Can't make it to the event? We'll be streaming it live online!
• **Wine Series:** Tuesday, March 4 at 7:00 p.m.  
Before the show, raise a glass at this wine tasting event featuring unique wines from The Barrel Room, a popular wine bar located in Union Square.

• **PlayTime:** Saturday, March 8, at 12:30 p.m.  
Before this matinee performance, get hands-on with theater with the artists who make it happen at this interactive workshop.

A.C.T.’s production of Napoli! is made possible by executive producers Frannie Fleishhacker and Chris and Leslie Johnson; producers Lloyd and Janet Cluff; Jerome L. and Thao N. Dodson; Bert and LeAnne Steinberg; Toby and Sally Rosenblatt; Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem; and associate producers Romana and John Bracco; Gayle and Steve Brugler; Edward and Della Dobranski; Mrs. Michael Dollinger; Daniela Fagoili; Barbara and Jon Phillips, with additional support by Inspiration Vineyards and Hafner Vineyard.

A.C.T. would like to acknowledge its 2013–14 company sponsors Frannie Fleishhacker; Priscilla and Keith Geeslin; Mr. and Mrs. Gordon P. Getty; Mr. and Mrs. John Goldman; Ambassador James C. Hormel and Michael P. Nguyen; Fred M. Levin and Nancy Livingston, The Shenson Foundation; Burt and Deedee McMurtry; Arthur and Toni Rembe Rock; Patti and Rusty Rueff; Ms. Kathleen Scutchfield; Mary and Steven Swig; Jeff and Laurie Ubben.

A.C.T. subscribers enjoy incredible savings, unparalleled access, exclusive benefits, and personalized customer service. Subscriptions can be ordered via the A.C.T. subscriptions office by calling 415.749.2250 or online at www.act-sf.org/subscribe. Subscribers save as much as 33% off single-ticket prices. Full-time students, educators, and administrators with valid ID save up to 50% off select packages. Senior discounts are available for certain series. A.C.T.’s competitive subscriber benefits include free ticket exchanges up to the day of scheduled tickets, priority seating, ticket insurance, access to convenient prepaid parking one block away from the theater, and discounts for neighborhood restaurants. To order a subscription, visit www.act-sf.org/subscribe or call 415.749.2250.

#  #  #
FACT SHEET

WHAT:  
*Napoli!*

During the chaotic days of World War II in Naples, an enterprising woman sets up a small-time black market business to keep her family afloat. She prospers, but maybe a bit too much—compelling her husband to ask hard questions about morality, civility, and the state of their society. De Filippo’s masterful blend of humor and pathos tells the story of an unforgettable and wildly entertaining family determined to survive at any cost.

WHO:  
Directed by Mark Rucker

Creative Team: Erik Flatmo (scenic designer), Lydia Tanji (costume designer), Robert Wierzel (lighting designer), Will McCandless (sound designer)

Featuring: Marco Barricelli, Seana McKenna, Nick Gabriel, Blair Busbee, Dion Mucciacito, York Walker, Mike Ryan, Anthony Fusco, Sharon Lockwood, Lisa Kitchens, Gabe Marin, Gregory Wallace, Aaron Moreland, Lateefah Holder, Danielle Frimer, Kemiyoondo Coutinh, Asher Grodman, Dillon Heape.

WHERE:  
A.C.T.’s Geary Theater, 415 Geary Street, San Francisco, CA 94108

WHEN:  
February 12 – March 9, 2014  
Press Night: Wednesday, February 19, 2014

InterACT Events

Bike to the Theater Night.................................2/12 (8 p.m.)

Audience Prologue ................................................2/18 (5:30 p.m.)

Theater on the Couch.............................................2/21 (8 p.m.)

Audience Exchanges.............................................2/25 (7 p.m.), 3/2 (2 p.m.), 3/5 (2 p.m.)

OUT with A.C.T...................................................2/26 (8 p.m.)

Symposium..........................................................3/1 (2 p.m.)

Wine Series.........................................................3/4 (5:30 p.m.)

PlayTime..............................................................3/8 (12:30 p.m.)

TICKETS:  
Tickets ($20 -$120) are on sale now and may be purchased online at act-sf.org or by calling 415.749.2228.

PHOTOS:  
act-sf.org/press

TIX & INFO:  
415.749.2228 | act-sf.org

PRESS CONTACT: Kevin Kopjak, Charles Zukow Associates, 415.296.0677 or kevink@charleszukow.com