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“A Samuel Beckett for the Jon Stewart generation”

—Charles Isherwood, *The New York Times*

AMERICAN CONSERVATORY THEATER TO PRESENT *WILL ENO'S THE REALISTIC JONESES*

A.C.T.'s Geary Theater

March 9–April 3, 2016

SAN FRANCISCO (January 25, 2016)—*The Realistic Joneses*, Will Eno's brilliant new comedy, will play American Conservatory Theater's Geary Theater (415 Geary St., San Francisco) for a limited engagement **March 9–April 3, 2016**. In a small American town, two couples who live next door to each other share the same last name—and much more—in this comedy that had Broadway audiences and critics howling with delight. Soon after the Joneses meet each other, they discover that they are suffering from a similar malady, which leads to a surreal deterioration of language and communication. This results in a complex game of wits that makes ordinary conversation an extraordinary adventure. In Will Eno's inventive new play, what seems like a series of routine encounters between American neighbors becomes a captivating look at how impossible it is for words to fully capture feeling, and how miraculous it is for human beings to truly know each other. Press night will be held on Wednesday, March 16, 2016. **Single tickets** (ranging from \$25–\$105) are available at the A.C.T. Box Office at **415.749.2228** or online at www.act-sf.org. *Ticket prices are subject to change without notice.*

Says A.C.T. Artistic Director **Carey Perloff**: "The remarkably inventive Will Eno takes us inside the marriages of two women both married to men with a bizarre affliction that begins to rob them of language and of logic. Eno's wild imagination takes us inside these marriages in what is surely one of the most surprising family dramas ever. Under Loretta Greco's direction, it is certain to be a theatrical event unlike any other."

The cast of *The Realistic Joneses* includes **Rod Gnapp** (*Bob Jones*), **Rebecca Watson** (*Jennifer Jones*), **James Wagner** (*John Jones*) and **Allison Jean White** (*Pony Jones*).

The creative team for *The Realistic Joneses*, led by director **Loretta Greco**, includes **Robert Wierzel** (Lighting Designer), **Brandin Baron** (Costume Designer), **Andrew Boyce** (Set Designer), and **David Van Tieghem** (Sound Designer).

In association with *The Realistic Joneses*, A.C.T. will offer numerous **InterACT events**—many of which are presented free of charge—that will give patrons opportunities to get closer to the action while having an entire night out at the theater. Visit act-sf.org/interact to learn more about subscribing to these events throughout the season:

- **Bike to the Theater Night**
Wednesday, March 9, 7 p.m.
Providing a greener alternative to theater transportation, A.C.T. and the San Francisco Bike Coalition offer free valet bike parking, as well as a special discount on tickets, for these select performances.
- **Prologue:**
Tuesday, March 15, 5:30 p.m.
Before the curtain goes up, get a sneak peek at the artistic process at this fascinating preshow discussion with the director and artistic staff.
- **Theater on the Couch:**
Friday, March 18, following the 8 p.m. performance
Led by Dr. Mason Turner, chief of psychiatry at San Francisco's Kaiser Permanente Medical Center, this exciting postshow discussion series explores the minds, motives, and behavior of the characters and addresses audience questions.
- **Audience Exchanges:**
Sun., March 20, 2 p.m. | Tues., March 22, 7 p.m. | Wed., March 30, 2 p.m.
After the show, stick around for a lively Q&A session with the actors and artists who create the work onstage.
- **OUT with A.C.T.:**
Wednesday, March 23, following the 8 p.m. performance
The best LGBT night in town! Mingle with the cast and enjoy free drinks and treats at this popular after-party.
- **Wente Vineyards Wine Series:**
Tuesday, March 29, 7 p.m.
Before the show, raise a glass at this wine-tasting event featuring the Bay Area's hottest local winery.
- **PlayTime:**
Saturday, April 2, 12:45 p.m.
Before this matinee performance, get hands-on with the artists who make it happen at this interactive theater workshop.

A.C.T.'s production of *The Realistic Joneses* is made possible by executive producers **Christopher and Leslie Johnson** and **Jeri Lynn and Jeffrey W. Johnson**; producers **Clay Foundation-West** and **Donald J. and Toni Ratner Miller**; and associate producers **Mrs. Michael Dollinger, Kent Harvey, Jennifer S. Lindsay, Drs. Michael and Jane Marmor, and Dr. Martin and Elizabeth Terplan**. *The Realistic Joneses* is sponsored by **Bank of America**.

A.C.T. would also like to acknowledge its 2015–16 company sponsors **Frannie Fleishhacker; Priscilla and Keith Geeslin; Jeri Lynn and Jeffrey W. Johnson; Fred M. Levin and Nancy Livingston, The Shenson Foundation; Burt and Deedee McMurtry; Barbara Ravizza and John S. Osterweis; Arthur Rock and Toni Rembe, and Hilary Valentine and Don Listwin**, as well as season partners **Wells Fargo** and **PG&E**.

A.C.T.'s 2015–16 season concludes with a brand new, fully-staged production of Jason Robert Brown's powerful and intimate musical, *The Last Five Years* (May 11–June 5, 2016). In addition, after highly praised runs in New York, London, and Edinburgh, the award-winning solo musical, *The Lion* (April 19–May 1, 2016), will play a strictly limited engagement at **A.C.T.'s Strand Theater**. A.C.T. favorite and Academy Award nominee, **David Strathairn**, will return to A.C.T. for a special three-week engagement of Joseph Dougherty's *Chester Bailey* (May 25–June 12, 2016) at A.C.T.'s Strand Theater.

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FACT SHEET FOR *THE REALISTIC JONESES*

WHAT:

In a small American town, two couples who live next door to each other share the same last name—and much more—in this comedy that had Broadway audiences and critics howling with delight. Soon after the Joneses meet each other, they discover that they are suffering from a similar malady, which leads to a surreal deterioration of language and communication. This results in a complex game of wits that makes ordinary conversation an extraordinary adventure. In Will Eno's inventive new play, what seems like a series of routine encounters between American neighbors becomes a captivating look at how impossible it is for words to fully capture feeling, and how miraculous it is for human beings to truly know each other.

WHO:

Written by: **Will Eno**

Directed by: **Loretta Greco**

CAST:

Rod Gnapp (*Bob Jones*), **Rebecca Watson** (*Jennifer Jones*), **James Wagner** (*John Jones*), and **Allison Jean White** (*Pony Jones*)

CREATIVE TEAM:

Robert Wierzel (Lighting Designer), **Brandin Baron** (Costume Designer), **Andrew Boyce** (Set Designer), and **David Van Tieghem** (Sound Designer)

WHERE:

A.C.T.'s Geary Theater (415 Geary St., San Francisco)

WHEN:

March 9–April 3, 2016

Press Night: Wednesday, March 16, 2016

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE:

Tuesdays–Saturdays at 8 p.m. (performance on Tuesday, March 22 at 7 p.m.)

Wednesdays and Saturdays at 2 p.m.

Sundays at 2 (performances on Sunday, March 13 at 7 p.m.)

InterACT Events

Bike to the Theater Night: March 9 (7 p.m.)

Audience Prologue: March 15 (5:30 p.m.)

Theater on the Couch: March 18 (8 p.m.)

Audience Exchanges: March 20 (2 p.m.), March 22 (7 p.m.), March 30 (2 p.m.)

OUT with A.C.T.: March 23 (8 p.m.)

Wine Series: March 29 (7 p.m.)

PlayTime: April 2 (12:45 p.m.)

TICKETS:

\$25–\$105

Ticket prices are subject to change without notice

PHOTOS:

http://act-sf.org/home/about/press_room.html

TIX & INFO:

415.749.2228 | act-sf.org

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