

PRESS CONTACT: Nancy Richards - 917-873-6389

(cell)/nancy@northcoastrep.org

MEDIA PAGE: www.northcoastrep.org/press PHOTOS BY: Aaron Rumley

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, PLEASE:

WORLD PREMIERE OF SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE ADVENTURE OF THE GREAT NOME GOLD RUSH TREATS AUDIENCE TO A GIDDY JOURNEY AT NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE

Performances Beginning Wednesday, January 13, 2016

Opening Saturday, January 16, 2016, at 8 pm

Running Through Sunday, February 7, 2016

Solana Beach, CA, North Coast Repertory Theatre rings in the New Year with the World Premiere of a fun-filled whodunit, *SHERLOCK HOMES AND THE ADVENTURE OF THE GREAT NOME GOLD RUSH.* Written by Joseph Vass (*Words By Ira Gershwin*) and directed by David Ellenstein, the play takes Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson from London to Nome, Alaska, where the pair encounters Wyatt Earp, an assortment of wild and wooly characters, and an abundance of intrigue, mystery, deception and laugh-provoking shenanigans along the way. You're certain to agree that North Coast Rep has struck gold with this thoroughly original piece that incorporates music as well.

David Ellenstein directs Jason Maddy*, Nicholas Mongiardo-Cooper*, Richard Baird*, Jacquelyn Ritz*, Julian Diaz, Louis Lotorto*, Katie Karel*, John Tessmer, and Andrew Barnicle*. The staff includes Marty Burnett (Scenic Design), Matt Novotny (Lighting Design), Elisa Benzoni (Costume Design), Matt Lescault-Wood (Sound Design), Peter Herman (Hair & Wig Design), Andrea Gutierrez (Prop Design), Jessica Amador (Scenic Artisan), and Aaron Rumley* is the Stage Manager.

*The actor or stage manager appears through the courtesy of Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States.

SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE ADVENTURE OF THE GREAT NOME GOLD RUSH previews begin Wednesday, January 13. Opening Night on Saturday, January 16, at 8pm includes a post-show reception. There will be a special talkback on Friday, January 22, with the cast and artistic director. It will play Wednesdays at 7pm, Thursdays through Saturdays at 8pm, Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2pm with Sundays at 7pm, through February 7, 2016. (See Schedule below.) North Coast Repertory Theatre is located at 987 Lomas Santa Fe Drive, Solana Beach, CA 92075.

Tickets: Previews- \$39; Week Nights \$46; Sat. Eve. & Sun. Mat \$50; Sat. Mat. & Sun. Night \$43. Seniors, Students, Military receive \$3 off admission. Call 858-481-1055 or visit www.northcoastrep.org to purchase tickets.

For background information and photos, go to www.northcoastrep.org/press.

Please follow North Coast Repertory Theatre on social media as well on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/North-Coast-Rep

Twitter: https://twitter.com/NorthCoastRep

YouTube: http://www.youtube.com/user/Northcoastrepvideos

Busy director David Ellenstein and his talented cast are available for interviews by phone, in person, and in-studio. For more information and to arrange interviews or press tickets, please contact Nancy Richards at nancy@northcoastrep.org, or 917-873-6389 cell.

FACT SHEET

WHAT: NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE presents

SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE ADVENTURE OF THE GREAT NOME

GOLD RUSH

by Joseph Vass

Directed by David Ellenstein

CAST: Jason Maddy*, Nicholas Mongiardo-Cooper*, Richard Baird*, Jacquelyn

Ritz*, Julian Diaz, Louis Lotorto*, Katie Karel*, John Tessmer, Andrew

Barnicle*

WHERE: North Coast Repertory Theatre

987 Lomas Santa Fe Drive Solana Beach. CA 92075

SCHEDULE*: Previews: January 13 – January 15, 2016 at 8pm

Opens: January 16 at 8 pm Closes: February 7, 2016

Wed. @ 7pm, Thurs-Sat @ 8PM; Sat & Sun @ 2PM, Sun @7pm

Talkback with cast & director: Friday, January 22, 2016

PRICES: Previews \$39.00

Week Nights \$46.00 Sat. Matinees & Sunday Nights \$43.00 Sat. Nights & Sunday Matinees \$50.00

DISCOUNTS: Seniors, Students, Military \$3.00 off admission

BOX OFFICE (858) 481-1055 or www.northcoastrep.org

JANUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			13	14	15	16
			Preview	Preview	Preview	OPENING
			8pm	8pm	8pm	8pm
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
2pm & 7pm			7pm	8pm	8pm	2pm & 8pm
					Talkback	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
2pm & 7pm			7pm	8pm	8pm	2pm & 8pm
31	FEB 1	2	3	4	5	6
2pm & 7pm			7pm	8pm	8pm	2pm & 8pm
7						
2pm & 7pm						

BACKGROUND:

Season 34 continues with the U.S.Premiere of *Now You See It*, an outrageously funny farce by the French master Georges Feydeau, in a brilliant translation by British playwright Kenneth McLeish and directed by Bruce Turk. Scheduled for February 24 to March 20, 2016, the play presents a dizzying escapade fueled by jealousy bordering on paranoia, a philandering husband, hypnotism, a spurned lover and a scandalous discovery. Furiously fast and clever, this visual and verbal treat is guaranteed to tickle your funny bone. The West Coast Premiere, *Way Downriver; William Faulkner's 'Old Man,'* debuts April 13 to May 8, 2016. David Ellenstein directs. A flood of Biblical proportions on the mighty Mississippi provides the dramatic backdrop to this gripping,

edge-of-your seat adventure. Adapted from the William Faulkner short story, "Old Man," Way Downriver reveals an unlikely pair of souls who are bound together by the forces of nature, and who struggle to overcome their fears and prejudice in order to survive their harrowing experiences. You won't want to miss this exciting West Coast Premiere. *Hedda Gabler*, arguably one of the most complex and intriguing female characters ever written, will have its debut with a World Premiere adaptation created by the company at North Coast Rep, translated by Anne-Charlotte Harvey and directed by David Ellenstein. *Hedda Gabler* weaves a mesmerizing tale of a woman trapped in a loveless marriage and driven by a need for power and freedom. Discerning theatre lovers will not want to miss this freshly translated classic running from June 1 to June 26, 2016. Season 34 concludes with *Ain't Misbehavin'* playing from July 13 to August 7, 2016 and directed by Obie Award winner Yvette Freeman. Ain't Misbehavin' is a roof-raising musical tribute to the black musicians of the '20s and '30s. Based on the signature Fats Waller song, this rousing musical revue takes audiences back to the glory days of the Harlem Renaissance when the Cotton Club and Savoy Ballroom served as playgrounds for high society. You'll be tapping your feet as five performers take you on a journey, presenting an evening of rowdy, raunchy, and humorous songs.

About the North Coast Repertory Theatre

North Coast Repertory Theatre is a professional Equity theatre founded in 1982 by Olive and Tom Blakistone. Currently celebrating its 34th season, North Coast Rep has received critical acclaim from media and audiences alike, and has evolved into one of the area's leading performing arts organizations. North Coast Rep prides itself on employing the majority of its actors from Actors' Equity Association for its high quality, award-winning productions, and staging works by established and emerging playwrights. Throughout its history, North Coast Rep has created a platform where artist and audience thrive through the intimacy of live theatre, recognizing the power of theatre to challenge complacency, revitalize the imagination, nurture the unexpected, and embrace the variety and diversity in our lives.

BIOS:

JOSEPH VASS wrote the play Sherlock Holmes and the Adventure of the Great Nome Gold Rush as well as all of the music and song lyrics. Vass also created Words By Ira Gershwin and Gershwin the Klezmer, two hit musicals celebrating America's extraordinary songwriting brothers. Vass also wrote the book, music and lyrics for the stage musical Mishegass, produced by the Actors Theater of Minnesota. He composed, performed and recorded the dramatic music for stage productions like The Chosen and The Last Seder, as well as all the songs used in the score of the Canadian National Film Board film "I Was A Child of Holocaust Survivors." He is the guiding spirit behind Klezmerica, the contemporary Jewish music ensemble which has performed in all corners of the United States and at the International Klezmer Festival in Israel, and wrote all the original music and lyrics on all of the band's many recordings.

JASON MADDY* (Sherlock Holmes) was previously seen here at North Coast Repertory Theatre in *Fallen Angels* and is thrilled to be back in Solana Beach. Other San Diego Theatre credits include roles at: San Diego Repertory Theatre, The Old Globe Theatre, Cygnet Theatre, San Diego Repertory Theatre, Moonlight Stage Productions, Ion Theatre Company, Welk Resort Theatre, San Diego Musical Theater, Premiere Productions, Intrepid Theatre Company and Lamb's Players Theatre. Regional Credits include: The Utah Shakespearean Festival, Illinois Shakespeare Festival and Kingsmen Shakespeare Festival. Favorite Roles include Ken in *RED*, Luis in *Angels in America* and Iago in *Othello*. Jason holds an MFA from the University of Illinois Urban-Champaign and is the current Drama Teacher at Valhalla High School in El Cajon.

NICHOLAS MONGIARDO-COOPER* (Dr. John Watson) – Off Broadway: Rothschild and Sons, Lonesome Traveler, Julius Caesar. NY: SubUrbia, The Female Terrorists Project, Iolanthe, Slavs!, and Three Days of Rain. Regional: Our Lady of 121st St., Ferdinand the Bull, Behind the Gates, Slaughterhouse Five (Action!) Lucky Duck, The Borrowers, The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane (SCR), A Midsummer Night's Dream (SBCCLO), Words By at North Coast Rep (SDTCC Nom.), Side Show (La Jolla) and Side By Side By Sondheim (North Coast Rep). Film: "Goodbye Canarsie," "Viko," "F.U.B.A.R.," "0s & 1s," "County Line," "Diamond Bar," "Signal," "Potter's Field," "Hollywood Sex Wars." Graduate of LaGuardia H.S. BFA: NYU. Proud AEA member since 2003. www.nicholasmongiardocooper.com

RICHARD BAIRD* (Wyatt Earp / Edmond Pike) – Mr. Baird is the founding Artistic Director of New Fortune Theatre Company, where he played the title role of *Henry V* (San Diego Critics Circle Award) and McCann in *The Birthday Party*. Regional credits include: *Disgraced* and *Romeo and Juliet* (Arizona Theatre Company), *A Doll's House* (The Old Globe); *Cyrano de Bergerac* and *The Madness of King George* (Chicago Shakespeare Theater); Oregon Shakespeare Festival; Shakespeare Santa Cruz; *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Portland Center Stage); *Betrayal*, *The Dumb Waiter*, *This*, *The School for Lies*, *Arcadia* and *Ghosts* (North Coast Repertory Theatre); *Cyrano de Bergerac* (AriZoni Best Actor) (Southwest Shakespeare Company), Kingsmen Shakespeare and Poor Players.

JACQUELYN RITZ* (Josephine Marcus Earp / Mrs. Hudson) North Coast Rep: *The Fox on the Fairway, Chapter Two, Fallen Angels*, and *Man with a Load of Mischief*. Locally, Intrepid Shakespeare's *Midsummer Night's Dream*, and directing for the SD Fringe Festival 2014 and 2015. Regional credits include Stephen Sondheim's *Bounce* at the Kennedy Center (directed by Harold Prince), as well as work with the Goodman Theatre, NorthLight, Royal George, The Apollo, Drury Lane, Marriott Lincolnshire, Milwaukee Repertory, Colorado Shakespeare Festival, Asolo Center, and many others. She studied Chekhov (Moscow Art Theatre) and holds an MFA in Acting (Asolo Conservatory). She is a member of AEA and SAG/AFTRA. www.JacquelynRitz.com

JULIAN DIAZ (Reginald Ingram/Henry Simpson) is thrilled to return to North Coast Rep where he was last seen as Georgie in *King O' the Moon*. Recent theatre credits include:

Picasso at the Lapin Agile (Torrance Theatre Co.), Big Love (The Complex), Short Play Fest (The Underground Theatre), A Midsummer Night's Dream and Antony and Cleopatra (Shakespeare by the Sea). TV credits include: "Days of Our Lives" and Rock the Vote's # CareLikeCrazy campaign. He is also a creator and star of the web series "Your Server is Not Out to Get You," an official selection of the LA and Austin webfests. (www.julianrdiaz.com)

LOUIS LOTORTO* (Ace Dolan/Charles Valliere) returns to North Coast Rep having appeared in two Neil Simon classics here: last season's *Chapter Two* as Leo and the previous season's *The Odd Couple* as Felix. A native of Seattle, Louis has worked professionally in regional theatre for over 25 years. Credits include the Ahmanson's *An Enemy of the People* (w/ Sir Ian McKellen), A Noise Within (Ovation Award Nomination for Camille in *A Flea In Her Ear*), ACT, The Shakespeare Theatre Company, Oregon and California Shakespeare Festivals, Portland Center Stage, Berkeley Rep, San Jose Rep and most recently South Coast Repertory Theatre, playing Alfie in *One Man, Two Guvnors*. www.louislotorto.com

KATIE KAREL* (Charlotte Valcour Amason) is beyond happy to be in beautiful California, making her North Coast Rep debut with this wonderful show. Selected credits: Lucky Duck (New Victory Theatre, NYC), Always...Patsy Cline (Okoboji Summer Theatre), You Can't Take It With You, The Addams Family, Hairspray (New Theatre), Sunday In The Park With George, Evita, Sweeney Todd, 1776 (Musical Theatre Heritage), Into The Woods (Kc Rep), Women Playing Hamlet, By The Way Meet Vera Stark, Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson, Bare (Unicorn Theatre). Love to the cast & crew, David, and North Coast Rep. What's she up to next? Visit www.katiekarel.com to find out.

JOHN TESSMER (Arthur H. Noyes) This is John's 15th show at North Coast Rep, including Theatre School and Professional Theatre for Family productions: *Romeo & Juliet, The Tin Soldier, A Christmas Carol* (2007-09), *The Tempest*, and *Henry IV, Part One; Twelfth Night, Love's Labour's Lost, Charlotte's Web, Diary of Anne Frank, Sleeping Beauty*, and *The Miracle Worker*. Locally: Diversionary, Intrepid, Lamb's, Mo'olelo, New Fortune, New Village Arts, Playwrights Project, SD Int'l Fringe Festival, and more. Regionally: Colorado Shakespeare Festival (6 seasons), Eugene O'Neill Foundation, Idaho Rep, Laguna Playhouse, Monomoy Theatre, Western Stage. B.A., Yale; M.F.A., University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. John is the Producing Artistic Director of the La Jolla Theatre Ensemble.

ANDREW BARNICLE* (Alexander McKenzie) has acted Off-Broadway, and in regional theatres across the country and in numerous television and film productions. He has directed over 75 plays and was the artistic director of the Laguna Playhouse for 19 years. He has also been the associate artistic director at North Coast Rep, where he has directed 11 plays, including the recent *The Odd Couple* and *Gunmetal Blues*. He recently appeared at North Coast Rep as General Sickles in *Faded Glory*.

DAVID ELLENSTEIN (Director) Born into a theatrical family, David has worked in theatres across the country. Before joining North Coast Rep in 2003 he served as Artistic Director for the Los Angeles Repertory Company and the Arizona Jewish Theatre Company (AJTC). A veteran of over 250 theatrical productions, directorial favorites include: North Coast Rep - Freud's Last Session, Side by Side By Sondheim, Words By Ira Gershwin, Faded Glory (World Premiere), Mandate Memories (World Premiere), Becoming Cuba (World Premiere), Time Stands Still, Words by: Ira Gershwin and the Great American Songbook (World Premiere), Two by Pinter: The Lover and The Dumb Waiter, HENRY IV Part 1, Heroes, My Name is Asher Lev, The Drawer Boy, Becky's New Car, Ghosts, The Tempest, Talley's Folly, Over the Tavern. Old Wicked Songs, The Dresser, Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris, Madagascar, A Shayna Maidel, The Honky Tonk Angels, Rashomon, A Moon for the Misbegotten; Tuesdays With Morrie; Collected Stories; Halpern and Johnson; Romeo and Juliet; Amy's View; Einstein Comes Through (also co-author); The Chosen; A Life in the Theatre; Story Theatre and Charley's Aunt. Coconut Grove Playhouse - Sonia Flew starring Lucy Arnaz; Halpern and Johnson starring Hal Linden and Brian Murray. Papermill Playhouse - The Chosen starring Theodore Bikel and John Lloyd Young. Portland Stage - Words By Ira Gershwin, Halpern and Johnson. Renaissance Theatre -Long Day's Journey Into Night. Actor's Theatre of Phoenix – Rabbit Hole. Alabama Shakespeare Festival - Rocket City (World Premiere) and Honky Tonk Angels. Laguna Playhouse - *Alexandros* (World Premiere). Southwest Shakespeare Company - *Cyrano* de Bergerac. AJTC - Awake and Sing. Meadow Brook Theatre - A Christmas Carol. Portland Rep - Conversations With My Father and Gaslamp Quarter Theatre - A Shayna Maidel.

AARON RUMLEY* (Stage Manager) North Coast Repertory Theatre: The Fox on the Fairway, Betrayal, Unnecessary Farce, Gunmetal Blues, Fallen Angels, Who Am I This Time?, Broken Glass, Two by Pinter: The Lover and The Dumb Waiter, THIS, The Lion in Winter, Heroes, Lend Me a Tenor, My Name is Asher Lev, The Drawer Boy, Becky's New Car, Voice of the Prairie, Ghosts, Glorious!, Talley's Folly, Over the Tavern, Rabbit Hole, The Dresser, Don't Dress for Dinner, Madagascar, Mornings at Seven, String of Pearls, Dracula, Rashomon, Wit, A Moon for the Misbegotten, Leading Ladies, Collected Stories, Halpern & Johnson, Romeo and Juliet, The Bungler, The Chosen, A Life in the Theatre and The Rainmaker. North Carolina Theatre: Talley's Folly, Picnic, The Miser and On Golden Pond. Aaron received a B.A. in Theatre from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, and is the production manager at the North Coast Repertory Theatre. Aaron is a Member of Actors' Equity Association.

MARTY BURNETT (Resident Scenic Designer) Marty begins his 23rd season as Resident Designer/Technical Director at North Coast Rep. He has designed the last 166 shows. Other venues include Laguna Playhouse, Portland Stage Company, Drury Lane (Chicago), Claridge Hotel (Atlantic City), Union Plaza, Sahara Hotel, Hacienda in Las Vegas, Coronado Playhouse, Scripps Ranch Theater, Harrah's Lake Tahoe. Marty is a proud alumni of Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska.

MATTHEW NOVOTNY (Light Design) is pleased to be designing another show for North Coast Rep, where he has designed close to 40 shows over the past seven years. Matthew is currently the Lighting Designer in Residence for San Diego Musical

Theatre as well as North Coast Rep, and his work can be seen at a wide variety of theatres across San Diego. Matthew holds a BA in Technical Theatre from San Diego State, and a Masters Degree in Lighting Design from Boston University. Matthew is married to his beautiful wife Amanda, with three gorgeous children; Ragan, Harper and Heston.

ELISA BENZONI (Costume Design) is thrilled to be working with North Coast Rep again. Recent credits include: *Chapatti, The Fox on the Fairway* (North Coast Rep); *Pericles, Prince of Tyre, Reckless, Much Ado About Nothing, Measure for Measure* (Old Globe/USD); *The Who and The What, Our Town, Tall Girls, Brahaman/I, Sam Bendrix at the Bon Soir* (La Jolla Playhouse); *Sylvia, Much Ado About Nothing* (New Village Arts), *Snakeskin, Lifeblood Harmony, Chagall, A Man Found Wanting* (Malashock Dance); *The Storm, The Threepenny Opera, A Man, His Wife, and His Hat* (UCSD). Assistant costume credits: *Dialogues des Carmelites* (Teatro Petruzzelli, Bari), *Paradise Found* (MenierChocolate Factory, London), *Milk Like Sugar* (La Jolla Playhouse), *As You Like It, Midsummer Night's Dream* (The Old Globe). Elisa holds a costume design MFA from UCSD. www.elisabenzoni.com

MATT LESCAULT-WOOD (Sound Design) – Matt has been sound designing in San Diego for the past decade, and has enjoyed working with the wonderfully talented theatre community. Previous credits include: Sweeney Todd, Cabaret, Little Shop of Horrors, A Behanding In Spokane, Man of La Mancha, Assassins, Company, Spring Awakening, Pageant, True West, Fool For Love, Sons of the Prophet, My Fair Lady, Hay Fever, The Vortex (Cygnet); Eurydice, Dead Man's Cell Phone, Hickorydickory, ENRON, Eternally Bad (Moxie); Seascape, Stage Kiss, Lord of The Flies (New Village Arts); Henry V [2014 San Diego Critics Circle Nominee] (New Fortune); MixTape [2015] (Lambs). Matt has a Degree in Theatrical Design and Technology from SDSU.

PETER HERMAN (Hair & Wig Design) has previously designed wigs for over 30 North Coast Rep productions including: *Fallen Angels, Romance Romance, Faded Glory, Mandate Memories, The School For Lies, Honky Tonk Angels, Travesties, I Love You Because, Little Women, My Name is Asher Lev and Five Course Love. He has also designed costumes for past North Coast Rep productions of 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, The Big Bang, Madagascar, and Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris. Peter teaches wig and makeup design at San Diego State University. He is glad to be part of the creative team on this show.*

ANDREA GUTIERREZ (Prop Design) has been working at North Coast Rep since 2012, beginning as the Stage Manager and Prop Master for the Theatre School @ North Coast Rep. She worked as backstage crew for the 32nd and the beginning of the 33rd Season, before taking over as Supervising House Manager and Volunteer Coordinator. Her previous prop credits include *The Diary of Anne Frank, Alice in Wonderland* and *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, as well as two seasons as properties assistant at Starlight Theatre. She received her B.A. in Theatrical Design and Production from UCLA's School of Theatre, Film & Television, and is currently pursuing her M.A. from Johns Hopkins University.

JESSICA AMADOR (Scenic Artisan) – A local scenic artist from Solana Beach. This is her third scenic production at North Coast Rep. Other recent productions include: Chapatti, The Fox on the Fairway (North Coast Rep), Comedy of Errors, Baskerville, Twelfth Night, Rich Girl, Arms and the Man at The Old Globe. The Normal Heart, Drowsy Chaperone, Once on this Island, Blood Wedding at MiraCosta College. She attended MiraCosta College 2001-2004 & The Pacific Conservatory of the Performing Arts in 2004-2006 (PCPA Theaterfest).

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