FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE PLEASE

**CONTACT: Nancy Richards – 917-873-6389 (cell) /nancy@northcoastrep.org**

**MEDIA PAGE:** [**www.northcoastrep.org/press**](http://www.northcoastrep.org/press)

**NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE PRESENTS**

**TIMELESS COMEDIC MASTERPIECE,**

***TARTUFFE,* by Molière**

**Translated into English verse by Richard Wilbur**

**Directed by Richard Baird**

**EXTENDED March 6 – April 7th**

(Solana Beach, Calif.) – North Coast Repertory Theatre promises an evening of wit, satire, and uproarious laughter with Molière's timeless comedic masterpiece, ***TARTUFFE***, now extended to April 7th. This extraordinary production, translated into English verse by two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Richard Wilbur, is directed by Richard Baird.

Tartuffe, a charismatic charlatan, insinuates himself into the lives of a wealthy family, setting off a chain reaction of disruption and pandemonium. Wilbur's translation infuses the play with wicked precision and brilliantly rhyming verses, highlighting its satirical commentary on religious hypocrisy, duplicity, lust, and self-inflicted chaos.

Audiences who appreciate classic theatre and ingenious wordplay are in for a treat as they witness this inventive and entertaining evening unfold before them. Following its run at North Coast Rep, ***TARTUFFE*** will transfer to Laguna Playhouse, ensuring that even more theatre enthusiasts can experience this exciting take on a classic. Don't miss your chance to be part of this theatrical journey!

The cast features Kandis Chappell\*, Shanté DeLoach, Rogelio Douglas III\*, Bo Foxworth\*, Katie Karel\*, Melanie Lora\*, Kate Rose Reynolds, Bruce Turk\*, Jared Van Heel\* and Christopher M. Williams.\* The design team includes Marty Burnett (Set Design), Matthew Novotny (Light Design), Elisa Benzoni+ (Costume Design), Ian Scot (Sound Design), Peter Herman (Hair & Wigs Design). Vernon Willet\* is the Production Stage Manager.

\*The actor or stage manager appears through the courtesy of Actors’ Equity Association.

**TARTUFFE** previews begin on Wednesday, March 6th. Opening Night is set for Saturday, March 9th at 8 pm. The play runs Wednesday, March 6 to Sunday, April 7, with performances on Wednesdays and Thursdays at 7 pm, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 pm, and Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 pm and Sundays at 7 pm. Added matinee performances at 2pm on Friday, March 8, and Wednesday, March 27. A talkback session with the director and cast is scheduled for March 15.

North Coast Rep is located at 987 Lomas Santa Fe Drive, Solana Beach, CA 92075. Tickets: Previews - $54 **(including Friday preview at 2pm)**, Weeknights - $67, Wed. & Sat. Matinees/Sat. Eve. - $79; Sun. Night - $65. For ticket information and to secure your seats for ***TARTUFFE,*** call 858-481-1055, or visit [www.northcoastrep.org](http://www.northcoastrep.org). Join us for a night of laughter, satire, and unforgettable entertainment.



**WHAT**: NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE presents

 ***TARTUFFE***

Written By: Molière

Translated by Richard Wilbur

Directed by: Richard Baird

**WHERE**: North Coast Rep, 987 Lomas Santa Fe Drive, Solana Beach, CA 92075

**SCHEDULE:** **Previews start March 6, 2024**

 **Opens: March 9, 2024**

 **Closes: April 7, 2024**

**Wed., Thurs., Sun. @ 7pm, Fri. & Sat @ 8pm; Sat & Sun @ 2pm**

**Added matinee performances at 2pm on Friday, March 8 and Wednesday, March 27. A talkback session with the director and cast is scheduled for March 15.**

**PRICES:** Previews $54.00

 Week Nights $67.00

 Sat. Nights & Matinees $79.00

 Sunday Nights $65.00

**DISCOUNTS:** Seniors, Students, Military & Educators $5.00 off admission. Rush tickets available for $20. Sold 15 minutes prior to showtime.

**BIOS:**

**MOLIÈRE** (Playwright) was the leading French comic actor, stage director, and dramatic theoretician of the seventeenth century. He was born Jean Baptiste Poquelin on January 15, 1622, to a Parisian furniture merchant and upholsterer to the king.  In 1643, he incorporated an acting troupe, The Illustrious Theatre, and acquired the pseudonym Molière.  In 1658 the troupe went to Paris and played before Louis XIV. The king's brother became Molière's patron; later Molière and his colleagues were appointed official providers of entertainment to the Sun King himself. In the following twenty-four years, starting with *The Precious Maidens Ridiculed*, which established him as the most popular comic playwright of the day, and ending with *The Imaginary Invalid*, Molière advanced from being a gifted adapter of Italian-derived sketches and a showman who put on extravaganzas, to a writer whose best plays had the lasting impact of tragedies. Molière's plays include: *The Jealous Husband, The Flying Doctor, Sganarelle, The Rehearsal at Versailles,* and *The Forced Marriage. The School for Husbands, The School for Wives, Tartuffe, Don Juan, The Misanthrope, The Doctor In Spite Of Himself, Amphitryon, The Miser, George Dandin, The Bourgeois Gentleman, Scapin, The Learned Ladies,* and *The Imaginary Invalid.*

**RICHARD WILBUR** (Translator) was born in New York City and received his B.A. from Amherst College and an M.A. from Harvard. He has taught on the faculties of Harvard, Wellesley, Wesleyan, and Smith. Mr. Wilbur’s publications include six volumes of poetry and two collections of his selected verse, a volume of his collection verse, translations of Molière’s four most outstanding verse plays, the musical *Candide*, for which he supplied most of the lyrics, a collection of his prose, and two books for children. His highly praised verse translations of Molière’s plays *The Misanthrope, Tartuffe, The School for Wives,* and *The Learned Ladies* have all been performed in New York and are frequently presented by resident theatre companies throughout the United States, Canada, Australia, and Great Britain, including productions at Stratford, Ontario, and the National Theatre in London. He has also completed verse translations of two of Racine’s great tragedies, *Andromache* and *Phaedra*. Among Mr. Wilbur’s awards are two Pulitzer Prizes, a National Book Award, Edna St. Vincent Millay Award, Bollingen Award, Ford Foundation Award, Guggenheim Fellowship, and Prix de Rome Fellowship. He has served as both Chancellor and President of the American Academy of Arts and Letters. In 1987 he was named the second Poet Laureate of the United States, succeeding Robert Penn Warren.

**RICHARD BAIRD** (Director) is an award-winning director, actor and producer.  He is the founding Artistic Director of New Fortune Theatre Company, where he directed the West Coast Premiere of *Public Enemy* and a revival of Harold Pinter’s *The Birthday Party* and co-directed *Henry V* and *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*.  Directing credits include- North Coast Repertory Theatre: *Of Mice and Men, A Walk in the Woods, Amadeu*s and *Dancing Lessons*.  Oregon Shakespeare Festival: *The Changeling* (Black Swan Series); Backyard Renaissance: *The October Night of Johnny Zero; An Experiment with an Airpum*p; Intrepid Theatre*: Much Ado about Nothing*; Diversionary Theatre*: Edward II*; Southwest Shakespeare Company: *As You Like It* and *The Winter’s Tale.*  Shakespeare Sedona/Poor Players: *Richard II*.  Poor Players Theatre: *Merchant of Venice, Macbeth, Romeo and Juliet, Titus Andronicus, Coriolanus, Measure for Measure* (three times), *Taming of the Shrew, Othello, A Midsummer Night’s Dream,* and *Henry IV, Part One.*

*Cast in Alphabetical Order:*

**KANDIS CHAPPELL\*** (Mme. Pernelle) is delighted to return to North Coast Rep, where she was previously seen as Eleanor in the one-woman show, *Eleanor*. Other shows include: *Collected Stories, King O’ The Moon, The Lion in Winter*, and *The Illusion*. Kandis is an Associate Artist of the Old Globe where she has appeared in more than 30 productions including T*he Merchant of Venice, Private Lives, The Winter’s Tale,* and *Pygmalion*. She has worked extensively at South Coast Rep in Costa Mesa in such productions as *The Crucible, Woman in Mind, Shadowlands*, and *A Streetcar Named Desire,* and has also appeared on Broadway, at Lincoln Center, and at theaters across the US.

**SHANTÉ DELOACH** (Mariane) is delighted to be making her North Coast Rep debut! By way of Tucson, Arizona, she is a graduate of AMDA College and Conservatory of the Performing Arts, and now splits her time between Los Angeles and Atlanta. She is the Administrative Director of Eleventh Story Productions, a company focused on producing diverse and enigmatic stories, and she is “1⁄2 of 6 Feet Forever,” a podcast that delves into unsolved crimes and mysterious happenings in communities of color around the globe. Most recent credits include *A Midsummer Night’s Dream, The Mountaintop,* the film “Honk for Jesus,” “Save your Soul,” and “Triggered,”a film she acted in and produced that is currently making its festival rounds. Love to my family and friends, to Ebb and Erika for helping with my audition, and to YOU for supporting live theatre. Enjoy the show!

**ROGELIO DOUGLAS III**\* (Damis) is a Black and Afro-Latino multi-hyphenate artist: actor, spoken-word poet, educator, writer. He was born and raised in Brooklyn, NY, and now resides in LA after earning his MFA in Acting from UCLA Theatre, Film & Television. RD3 is humbled and grateful to be making his debut appearance with North Coast Rep Theatre! Douglas was last seen in *The Talented Tenth* (Robey Theatre Co. at The LATC), *The Inheritance* (Geffen Playhouse), and *Picnic* (Odyssey Theatre). Additional work includes *Measure for Measure* as Claudio, and *Titus Andronicus* as Aaron the Moore (Shakespeare by the Sea). On-screen credits include: “They Listen” (Blumhouse Productions) and "Space Lightning” (Amazon Prime) and more on NBC, CBS & HBO. He can be heard dubbing English for “Rhythm + Flow France” on Netflix. Douglas is an educator at Theater of Arts Conservatory and UCLA. Proud member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. Love. Growth. & Black Poetry. | @RogelioDouglas3

**BO FOXWORTH**\*(Orgon)as a proud member of the Antaeus Theatre

Company in LA, he has been seen in *Measure for Measure, Cloud 9* (LADCC and Stage Raw Best Actor Winner*),* *Henry IV*, *The Liar*, *The Crucible* (Ovation nomination), the title role in *Macbeth***,** *The Seagull* and *The Malcontent.* Other theatre’s include South Coast Rep, The Pasadena Playhouse, I.C.T., The Fountain Theatre, Shakespeare Orange County, The Skylight Theatre, Ensemble Theater Company, La Mirada, Laguna Playhouse, The Geffen, Disney Hall, LA TheatreWorks, Boston Court Pasadena, The Hollywood Bowl and A Noise Within (2 Ovation nominations). New York and Regional theaters include The Lucille Lortel, The Century Theater, The Pearl Theater, The Shakespeare Theater D.C., Vienna’s English Theater, The Long Wharf, Baltimore Center Stage,

Playmakers Rep, The Old Globe, The Yale Rep and many others. He has

numerous film and television credits including “Modern Family,” “VEEP,” andthe HBO movie “All the Way*.”* He is a graduate of UCLA and Yale School of Drama.

**KATIE KAREL**\* (Dorine) is back at North Coast after having appeared last summer in *Pippin*. Also at North Coast Rep: *The Remarkable Mr. Holmes, Always...Patsy Cline*, *Last of the Red Hot Lovers,*and *Sherlock Holmes & The Great Nome Gold Rush.* Off Broadway: *Lucky Duck.* National Tour: *Menopause the Musical 2*, San Diego - *Guntopia*with Roustabouts, *A Christmas Carol*at Lamb’s Players*.*Selected Regional: *Skylight, Indecent, The Humans, Chesapeake, You Can’t Take It with You, Valhalla, Heathers, Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson, Into the Woods, The Addams Family, Sunday in The Park With George, Sweeney Todd, 1776, In Trousers,* a few *Hairspray*s and a couple more *Patsy Clines*. Her thanks to everyone at North Coast, and to the cast and creative team. Love to Gary. Karel is passionate about her mentorship with LLS, Imerman Angels, and Friend for Life Cancer Support Network as a survivor. Connect with Katie at [www.katiekarel.com](http://www.katiekarel.com/)

**MELANIE LORA**\* (Elmire)—North Coast Rep: *The Homecoming*, *Into the Breeches.*Laguna Playhouse: *Many Happy Returns.*A fairly recent transplant from Los Angeles, other LA/SoCal credits include *The Hothouse*(Antaeus Theatre Co), *Of Good Stock*(world premiere), *Elemeno Pea, Misalliance,*and *Collected Stories* (South Coast Rep), *Dinner with Friends,*and *Boeing Boeing*(La Mirada Theatre), *The Good Book of Pedantry and Wonder* (Theatre@Boston Court) as well as productions at the Actors’ Gang, Ahmanson Theatre, Geffen Playhouse, The Odyssey Theatre and many others. Film/TV: “Show Me Yours,” “Fishhead,” “I am I,” “The United States of Leland,” “Sons of Anarchy,” “Numbers,” “Gilmore Girls” and others. Lots and lots of tv commercials and voiceover work. Mom to four incredible humans. More at [melanielora.com](http://melanielora.com) @missmelanielora

**KATE ROSE REYNOLDS** (Flipote/Police Officer/Laurent) is a multi-hyphenate theatre maker, and the Director of Operations for Loud Fridge Theatre Group. Recent San Diego performance credits include: *Iron*(Roustabouts, SD Critic’s Circle Award for Featured Performance); *Witchland* (Backyard Renaissance); *The Humans*(San Diego REP); *Cardboard Piano* (Diversionary). Elsewhere: *Hamlet, Twelfth Night*(Perspective Theatre Company, SF); *The Academy* (Theater for the New City, NYC); and over 15 productions with Bristol Valley Theatre in upstate New York, including *Silent Sky, Mary’s Wedding*, and *Private Lives.*She also stars in the independent horror film “Soul to Keep,”currently streaming on Amazon Prime. [www.katerosereynolds.com](http://www.katerosereynolds.com).

**BRUCE TURK\*** (Tartuffe) recently appeared at North Coast Rep as Henry Jekyll. Broadway and Off Broadway credits include the title role in Julie Taymor’s production of *The Green Bird*and numerous appearances with Theatre For A New Audience. San Diego audiences have seen him in fifteen productions of Shakespeare at the Old Globe Theatre (Craig Noel Award). Also, Lincoln Center, Brooklyn Academy of Music, ACT, Pasadena Playhouse, Seattle Repertory, McCarter Theatre, La Jolla Playhouse, Denver Center, Geva, Cincinnati Playhouse, Goodman, the Shakespeare Theaters in DC, New Jersey and Santa Cruz, and many more. He has been a resident member of Tadashi Suzuki’s Acting Company in Japan, Resident Artist at Hartford Stage, and recipient of the TCG/Fox Fellowship for Distinguished Achievement. Graduate of Northwestern University.

**JARED VAN HEEL\*** (Valere/M.Loyal) is thrilled to be making his North Coast Rep debut. San Diego audiences may have previously seen him in eight productions of Shakespeare at The Old Globe. He has toured extensively throughout the USA, Canada, Mexico, Australia, and New Zealand. Off-Broadway credits include *Hamlet*and *The Awesome 80s Prom.*Select Regional credits include *The Liar, The Merry Wives of Windsor,*and *The Cmplt Wrks of Wllm Shkspr (abridged)*(Texas Shakespeare Festival); *The Trip to Bountiful, Frankenstein Unplugged, Betty’s Summer Vacation, Cyclone,*and *Breach*(Montana Repertory Theatre); *Antony & Cleopatra*(Harlequin Productions), *American Midget*(Trembling Stage), *Twelfth Night* (MadCap Productions), and others.

**CHRISTOPHER M. WILLIAMS\*** (Cleante) is an actor, director, producer, stage manager, teacher and fight choreographer. Select acting credits include: Off Broadway: *Rothschild and Sons* (The York). Regional: *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, Dancing Lessons, The Outsider, How the Other Half Loves, Holmes and Watson, Laughter on the 23rd Floor, The Tempest, Lend Me a Tenor, Don’t Dress for Dinner* (North Coast Rep); *A Moon for the Misbegotten, The Drawer Boy* (AZ Theatre Co); *Noises Off!, Comedy of Errors* (Phoenix Theatre); *Noises Off!* (Idaho Shakes); *Angels in America: Part 1 & 2, Lobby Hero* (Actors Theatre); *Beau Jest, Jest a Second* (AZ Jewish Theatre); *Hamlet, A Funny Thing...Forum, Oliver!, Julius Caesar, Othello, Henry V,* (SW Shakespeare). On screen credits include: “Terriers,” “The Incredible Adventures of JoJo,” “Island of Lost Girls.” He also played Jacob and was a producer of the WWII feature film, “Walking with the Enemy,” starring Ben Kingsley and Jonas Armstrong.

**VERNON WILLET\***(Production Stage Manager) is returning to North Coast Rep after having helmed the return engagement of *2 Pianos 4 Hands*and two world premieres: *The Angel Next Door*by Paul Slade Smith and one of the most successful productions to date, *Murder on the Links*, written and directed by Steven Dietz. Vernon’s work encompasses many of the Southern California theatres: the Laguna Playhouse, McCoy/Rigby Entertainment, Musical Theatre West, 3D Theatricals, the Rubicon Theatre, San Diego Musical Theatre, Theatre Aspen, Maltz Jupiter Theatre and a myriad of others. He shares his life with director/choreographer/champion ballroom dancer Cate Caplin. Actors’ Equity Association member since 1983.

**DESIGNERS**

**MARTY BURNETT** (Set Design) Resident Designer at North Coast Rep since 1992. Scenic designed over 250 productions at the theatre. Resident Designer at Coronado Playhouse 1981-84 and Fiesta Dinner Theater 1984-87. Co-owner Props and Drops 1987-91, Designing for Union Plaza, Hacienda and Sahara Hotels and Casinos, Las Vegas; Harrah’s, South Lake Tahoe and Claridge Hotel, Atlantic City; Drury Lane Theater, Chicago. At Laguna Playhouse designed *Chapatti, Alexandros*, and transfer designed *Murder on the Links* from North Coast Rep. Marty has a B.A. from Creighton University, Omaha, NE.

**MATTHEW NOVOTNY** (Light Design) is pleased to be designing another show for North Coast Rep, where he has designed close to forty 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 B.A. in Technical Theatre from San Diego State and a master’s degree in Lighting Design from Boston University. Matthew is married to his beautiful wife Amanda, with five AMAZING children: Ragan, Harper, Heston, Maddex, and Harrison.

**ELISA BENZONI** (Costume Design) is thrilled to be working on her eighth season at North Coast Rep including numerous Craig Noel nominated productions. Elisa has also worked on over a hundred productions across Southern California with theatres such as The Old Globe, La Jolla Playhouse, Geffen Playhouse, South Coast Repertory Theatre, Laguna Playhouse, San Diego Repertory Theatre, Diversionary Theatre and New Village Arts. Being Italian born, Elisa has also had the opportunity to work and perfect her craft in Europe. Elisa holds a costume design M.F.A. from UCSD where she currently is an adjunct professor.

**IAN SCOT** (Sound Design) is a composer and sound designer specializing in the development of new works and installations. His music and designs have been heard at Playwrights Horizons, Roundabout Theatre, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Yale University Art Gallery, Actors Shakespeare Project, Dorset Theatre Festival, Ars Nova, and Yale Repertory Theatre. Ian has made an extensive career as an A1 for productions with Audible Theatre, The New Group, Signature Theatre, New York Theatre Workshop, Tuacahn Amphitheater, Classic Stage Company, Theatre for the New City, Berkshire Theatre Festival, and others. Ian received his MFA in Sound Design from Yale School of Drama.

**MATT FITZGERALD** (Co Props Design) is the Production Manager at North Coast Rep since 2022. Previous credits include: Projection Design (*Intimate Apparel,* Sound Design *(Blues in the Night),* and Assistant Stage Manager *(The Cherry Orchard)*. Matt holds a Bachelor of Arts from San Diego State.

**TESSIA IADICICCO** (Co Props Design) found a passion for theatre while attending Palomar College. It was there that her journey began, and she has since worked in various roles all around North County. She has worked with Moonlight Amphitheater over the last 2 years where she got her start in Prop work. Now, she has teamed up with the North Coast Rep design team to bring you *Tartuffe*!

**PETER HERMAN** (Hair & Wigs Design) has previously designed wigs for over 30 North Coast Rep productions. Peter teaches wig and makeup design at San Diego State University. He is glad to be part of the creative team on this show.

**GRACE WONG** (Assistant Costume Designer) is excited to be working on her first show at North Coast Rep. Design credits include*Kagitingan* (Blindspot Collective), *The Two Kids That Blow Shit Up* (Endless Summer Productions), *blu, Hells Canyon, Peerless, Trojan Women: A Version, Epicene: A Queer Extravaganza, Exotic Deadly, Mojada, and Mr. Burns: A Post-Electric Play* (UCSD). Associate design credits include *900 Years* (UCSD). Assistant design credits include *Everybody* and *The Underground* (UCSD).

**VICTORIA HUA – Assistant Stage Manager**

**JAMES SNYDER – Production Assistant**

**BONNIE JOHNSTON – Movement Consultant**

**CREW:**

**AKARI OI**

**North Coast Repertory Theatre,** under the artistic leadership of David Ellenstein since 2003, is a professional Equity theatre, currently celebrating its 42nd 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.

*###*