

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

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

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, PLEASE:**

**NORTH COAST REP GREETES NEW YEAR**  
**WITH GALES OF LAUGHTER IN**  
**MOON OVER BUFFALO By KEN LUDWIG**  
**Performances Beginning Wednesday, January 9, 2019**  
**Extended Through Sunday, February 10, 2019**  
**Directed By Matthew Wiener**

Solana Beach, CA – For its initial play of 2019, North Coast Rep is pulling out all the stops with an old-fashioned knockabout farce, ***MOON OVER BUFFALO***. Written by comedy genius Ken Ludwig (*Lend Me a Tenor*), this laugh-a-minute show-within-a-show is an evening of mayhem filled with comic inventions and running gags, with everyone in the wrong costumes reading the wrong lines. Hailed by the New York Post as “one of the most hysterical things ever put on a stage,” this play is a love letter to live theatre that will leave audiences exhausted from laughter.

Matthew Wiener directs Brittney Bertier,\* Josh Braaten, Roxane Carrasco,\* Katrina Ferguson,\* Arthur Hanket,\* Matthew Salazar-Thompson, Arusi Santi,\* and Jacque Wilke.\* The design team includes Marty Burnett (Scenic Design), Matthew Novotny (Lighting), Melanie Chen Cole+(Sound), Elisa Benzoni (Costumes) and Peter Herman (Hair and Wigs). Aaron Rumley\* is Props and 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. For background information and photos, go to [www.northcoastrep.org/press](http://www.northcoastrep.org/press).

+USA 829 Union

***MOON OVER BUFFALO*** previews begin Wednesday, January 9. Opening Night on Saturday, January 12, at 8pm. There will be a **special talkback on Friday, January 18**, 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 and extended through February 10, 2019. There is a Wednesday matinee January 30 at 2pm. (See schedule below.) North Coast Repertory Theatre is located at 987 Lomas Santa Fe Drive, Solana Beach, 92075. Tickets: Previews- \$45, Week Nights - \$52; Sat. Eve. & Sun. Mat. \$56; Sat. Mat. & Sun Night - \$49. By popular demand, a Wednesday Matinee has been added on January 30 at 2pm - \$52. Seniors, Students, Military & Educators - \$3 off admission. There is also a \$20 rush for tickets 15 minutes before performance if available. Call 858-481-1055, or visit [www.northcoastrep.org](http://www.northcoastrep.org) to purchase tickets.

## MOON OVER BUFFALO

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>JANUARY</b>							
	6	7	8	9 8 PM Moon Over Buffalo PREVIEW	10 8 PM Moon Over Buffalo PREVIEW	11 8 PM Moon Over Buffalo PREVIEW	12 8 PM Moon Over Buffalo
	13 2 PM Moon Over Buffalo	14 7 PM Moon Over Buffalo	15	16 7 PM Moon Over Buffalo	17 8 PM Moon Over Buffalo	18 8 PM Moon Over Buffalo	19 2 PM Moon Over Buffalo
	20 8 PM Moon Over Buffalo	21 7 PM Moon Over Buffalo	22	23 7 PM Moon Over Buffalo	24 8 PM Moon Over Buffalo	25 8 PM Moon Over Buffalo	26 2 PM Moon Over Buffalo
	27 2 PM Moon Over Buffalo	28 7 PM Moon Over Buffalo	29	30 2 PM Moon Over Buffalo	31 7 PM Moon Over Buffalo		
	Moon Over Buffalo at North Coast Repertory Theatre						

## MOON OVER BUFFALO

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>FEBRUARY</b>						1 8 PM Moon Over Buffalo	2 2 PM Moon Over Buffalo
	3 2 PM Moon Over Buffalo	4	5	6 Extension	7 Extension	8 Extension	9 Extension
	10 Extension	11	12	13	14	15	16
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	24	25	26	27	28		
	Moon Over Buffalo at North Coast Repertory Theatre						

### FACT SHEET:

**WHAT:** NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE presents  
***MOON OVER BUFFALO***  
 By Ken Ludwig  
 Directed by Matthew Wiener

**CAST:** Brittney Bertier,\* Josh Braaten, Roxane Carrasco,\* Katrina Ferguson,\* Arthur Hanket,\* Matthew Salazar-Thompson, Arusi Santi,\* and Jacque Wilke.\*

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

**SCHEDULE:** Previews: January 9, 2019  
 Closes: February 10, 2019 (Extended)  
 Wed. @ 7pm, Thurs-Sat @ 8PM; Sat & Sun @ 2PM, Sun @ 7pm  
 Talkback with cast & director: Friday, January 18, 2019. Matinee Jan 30<sup>th</sup> @ 2pm

**PRICES:**

Previews	\$45.00
Week Nights	\$52.00
Sat. Matinees & Sunday Nights	\$49.00
Sat. Nights & Sunday Matinees	\$56.00
Wed. Matinee (ADDED) January 30th	\$52.00

**DISCOUNTS:** Seniors, Students, Military & Educators \$3.00 off admission. Rush ticket available for \$20.

**BOX OFFICE:** (858) 481-1055 or [www.northcoastrep.org](http://www.northcoastrep.org)

**BIOS:**

**KEN LUDWIG** (Playwright) is a two-time Olivier Award-winning playwright whose work is performed every night of the year throughout the world in more than 30 countries and over 20 languages. He has written 24 plays and musicals, with six Broadway productions and seven in London's West End. His Tony Award-winning play *Lend Me a Tenor* was called "one of the classic comedies of the 20th century" by *The Washington Post*. His other plays and musicals include *Crazy for You* (five years on Broadway, Tony Award for Best Musical), *Moon Over Buffalo* (Broadway and West End), *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* (Broadway), *Treasure Island* (West End), *Twentieth Century* (Broadway), *Leading Ladies*, *Shakespeare in Hollywood*, *The Three Musketeers*, *The Game's Afoot*, *The Fox on the Fairway*, *The Beaux' Stratagem*, *Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery*, and *A Comedy of Tenors*. His critically acclaimed adaptation of Agatha Christie's *Murder on the Orient Express*, written at the request of the Christie Estate, premiered this season to sold-out houses at McCarter Theatre Center in Princeton, and his world-premiere adaptation of *Robin Hood!* opens at The Old Globe this summer. Mr. Ludwig has received commissions from The Royal Shakespeare Company, The Bristol Old Vic and The Old Globe, and he is a Sallie B. Goodman Fellow of McCarter Theatre. His many awards and honors include the Charles MacArthur Award, two Helen Hayes Awards, the Southeastern Theatre Conference Distinguished Career Award, the Edgar Award for Best Mystery of the Year, and the Edwin Forrest Award for Contributions to the American Theatre. His book "How to Teach Your Children Shakespeare" (Random House) won the Falstaff Award for Best Shakespeare Book of 2014, and his essays are published by The Yale Review. He holds degrees from Harvard and Cambridge University.

**MATTHEW WIENER** (Director) is thrilled to return to North Coast Rep where he previously directed *Marjorie Prime*, *The Fox on the Fairway*, *Unnecessary Farce*, *Perfect Wedding*, *Shipwrecked*, and *Lend Me a Tenor*. For almost 20 years he was the Producing Artistic Director at Actors Theatre of Phoenix where he produced over 100 shows and directed almost 50. He has also directed at Phoenix Theatre, Childsplay, The Fulton Theatre, The Children's Theatre Company, and others. He has served on panels for Theatre Communications Group, Arizona Commission on the Arts, Phoenix Office of Arts and Culture, Tucson/Pima Arts Council and the Nevada Arts Council. Matthew holds an MFA from the Yale School of Drama, and is a proud member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society.

**ARTHUR HANKET\*** (George Hay) has been seen in *Two Gentlemen of Verona* (San Diego Old Globe); *Present Laughter* (Theatre Group Santa Barbara – Independent Award 2013 Best Actor); *The Goat* (CV Rep), and last year as Harry Roat in *Wait Until Dark* at Great Lakes Theater. An MFA graduate of FSU's Asolo Conservatory, he has performed with: NY Public Theater, NY Theater Workshop, Hudson Guild, Playwrights Horizon, LA Ahmanson, La Jolla Playhouse, Guthrie Theater, Hartford Stage, Houston Alley, Philadelphia Drama Guild, Milwaukee Rep, Missouri Rep, St. Louis Rep, and the California, Utah, Idaho and Alabama Shakespeare Festivals. He enjoyed touring nationally in *Some Like It Hot — The Musical* (with Tony Curtis), playing Tony's film role Joe/Josephine/Junior, as well as creating roles in the New York premiers of works by Tony Kushner and Eric Overmyer. As an acting teacher, he has been on the faculty at AMDA's Los Angeles campus for more than three years now. He is quite mad for the Virgos in his life, Stephanie and Grey.

**KATRINA FERGUSON\*** (Charlotte Hay) is pleased to be performing at North Coast Rep, and to be reprising the role of Charlotte having played it at Greenbrier Valley Theatre WV last season. Other favorite roles/plays include: Maria Callas/*Master Class*, (Footlights Award for Excellence) Womens' Theatre Company; Eleanor of Aquitaine/*The Lion in Winter*, (Best Actress) Dorset Theatre Festival; Louise/*Always Patsy Cline*, Monmouth University; *Calendar Girls*, U.S. Premiere, Ivoryton Playhouse; Emilia/*Othello*; Anna/*Anna Christie*; Hedda/*Hedda Gabler*, NNE Rep. Sara Rosensweig/*The Sisters Rosensweig*, Maggie Cutler/*The Man Who Came to Dinner*, Arts Center Coastal Carolina; and numerous shows at NJ's Bickford Theatre, Centenary Stage Co., and NJ Rep. Tours: six seasons with American Drama Group Europe, *A Christmas Carol*; National Shakespeare Co.: *Othello*, *Comedy of Errors*. Originally from Australia, Katrina's married to her favorite actor, J.C. Hoyt. Proud member of Actors' Equity and SAG-AFTRA. [www.katrinaferguson.info](http://www.katrinaferguson.info)

**ROXANE CARRASCO\*** (Ethel) is thrilled to be back at the North Coast Repertory Theatre after playing Muriel in *Fox on the Fairway* and Mona in *Dames at Sea*. Favorite credits include: BROADWAY: *Chicago* (Velma), BROADWAY WORKSHOPS: *Like Water for Chocolate* (Gertrudis), *The Mambo Kings* (Dance Captain), INTERNATIONAL TOURS: *Chicago* (Velma, Dance Capt), *West Side Story* (Anita), *A Chorus Line* (Cassie, Morales) REGIONAL THEATRE: *Manifest Destinitis*, *El Henry*, *In the Heights*, *Real Women Have Curves*, *The Women* at San Diego REP; *The Who's Tommy* (original cast), *Figaro Gets a Divorce* at the La Jolla Playhouse, *Chicago* (Velma) at Moonlight, *Margin of Error* (Sunita) at Roustabouts. TV: "Law and Order SVU", "As the World Turns" (recurring role). Roxane holds an M.F.A. in Musical Theatre (SDSU) and is the proud mother of Lucas. Roxane currently is the Arts Community Liaison and at the San Diego School of Creative and Performing Arts (SDSCPA).

**JACQUE WILKE\*** (Rosalind) is thrilled to be back on stage at North Coast Rep! Recent acting credits: North Coast Repertory Theatre: *The Father, Unnecessary Farce, Lend me a Tenor, Mistletoe, Music, and Mayhem*, and *Don't Dress for Dinner*; Diversionary Theater: *The Happiest Place on Earth, Ballast, The Divine Sister, The Further Adventures of Hedda Gabler, Scrooge in Rouge, Next Fall, Fair Use, The New Century, Anita Bryant Died for your Sins*; MOXIE: *Ironbound, Or; Backyard Renaissance Theatre: Abundance*; Cygnet Theatre: *Stupid F\*cking Bird, The Importance of Being Earnest, Travesties, and Mistakes Were Made*; San Diego Repertory Theater: Honky (Craig Noel Award); La Jolla Playhouse: *Yoke, The Car Plays*; Intrepid Theater: *The Winter's Tale, All My Sons; Moonlight at the Avo: Blithe Spirit*; New Village Arts: *The Seven Year Itch*, and *The Heidi Chronicles*; Bang Productions: *Side Man*; Jacque is a proud member of Actors Equity. Her next production will be this spring at Cygnet Theater in *Pride and Prejudice*, by Kate Hamill.

**ARUSI SANTI\*** (Howard) is making his debut at North Coast Repertory Theatre. Regional theatre credits include: *A Christmas Carol* (Guthrie Theater), *Ironbound* (B Street Theatre, Moxie Theatre), *Once* (Lamb's Players Theatre), *Cinderella Eats Rice and Beans* (New Village Arts), *Annie Get Your Gun, The Liar, Boomtown Improv* (Creede Repertory Theatre), *Clandestino* (Workhaus Collective/Mixed Blood Theatre). UK credits include: *Much Ado About Nothing* (Edinburgh Fringe Festival). Mexico credits include: *The Lark* (Teatro UNAM). Arusi has also helped develop plays at La Jolla Playhouse, The Guthrie Theater, Cygnet Theatre, and Moxie Theatre. Training: University of Minnesota/Guthrie Theater BFA Actor Training Program.  
www.arusisanti.com IG: @arusi.santi

**BRITTNEY BERTIER\*** (Eileen) is delighted to make her North Coast Repertory debut! She most recently originated the role of Norma Jeane in Marilyn! The New Musical at The Paris in Las Vegas. Other favorite credits include King of the Road: The Roger Miller Story (Laguna Playhouse), Eliza Doolittle in My Fair Lady (Sierra Repertory Theatre), and such television credits as "Jane The Virgin" and the Netflix original series "Atypical." She co-created and stars in the comedic web series "Transplants," now available on The On Channel! BFA from The Hartt School.

**JOSH BRAATEN** (Paul) is thrilled to be making his North Coast Rep debut in *Moon Over Buffalo*. As a kid, he spent most days on his family farm in Minnesota dressing up as Batman and playing make believe. Josh credits his parents for instilling confidence and always fostering his curiosity and imagination. He recently appeared in *Water by the Spoonful* at The Mark Taper Forum in Los Angeles and has spent the majority of the past 17 years working in TV and film on such projects as "This Is Us," "Mike & Molly," "Code Black," "NCIS: LA," "Castle," "The Mentalist," "Criminal Minds," "American Horror Story," "New Girl," "Psych," "Mad Men," "Boston Legal," "Less Than Perfect," "Buffy the Vampire Slayer," & "Semi-Pro." Josh is eternally grateful for the love and support of his family and friends and would like to dedicate his performance to Paityn and Ezby.

**MATTHEW SALAZAR-THOMPSON** (Richard) Select San Diego acting credits: *The Car Plays*, *The Grift* (La Jolla Playhouse) *Spring Awakening* (Cygnet Theatre); *Dead Man's Cell Phone* (MOXIE Theatre); *Now or Later* (Diversions Theatre); *Much Ado About Nothing* (Intrepid Theatre); *Henry V* (New Fortune Theatre); *Beachtown* (San Diego Rep [understudy]); *The Father*, *The Spitfire Grill*, *The Odd Couple*, *THIS*, *Don't Dress for Dinner*, *Over the Tavern*, *Dracula*, *Leading Ladies*, *A Thousand Clowns*, *Julius Caesar*, *The Comedy of Errors* (North Coast Rep), *Terra Nova* (Compass Theatre); *Cold Comfort Farm*, *West Side Story* (Lamb's Players). TV credits: "C.S.I.," "Veronica Mars," "Fashion House," "Cover Me," "Dharma and Greg," "Watch Over Me," "18 Wheels of Justice," "Frasier," "The Invisible Man," "Days of Our Lives," and "Baywatch."

## CREATIVE STAFF

**AARON RUMLEY\*** (Stage Manager & Props) has stage-managed over fifty shows at North Coast Repertory Theatre. North Carolina Theatre: *Talley's Folly*, *Picnic*, *The Miser* and *On Golden Pond*. He also designs sound and projections. 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 is in his 27th season as Resident Designer/Technical Director at North Coast Rep. He has designed the last 190 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 alumnus 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 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 BA 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 three gorgeous children: Ragan, Harper and Heston.

**ELISA BENZONI** (Costume Design) is thrilled to be working on her third season with North Coast Repertory where she has designed *Blithe Spirit*, *A Funny Thing...*, *The Father*, *How The Other Half Loves*, *This Random World*, *Of Mice and Men*, *The Spitfire Grill*, *Travels with My Aunt*, *The Illusion*, *Laughter on the 23rd Floor*, *The Cocktail Hour*, *Fox on the Fairway* (Nominated for a Craig Noel Award), *Chapatti*, *Hedda Gabler*, *Sherlock Holmes and the Adventure of the Great Nome Gold Rush*. Select Credits Include: *Sex with Strangers* (Geffen Playhouse), *The Who and The What*, *Our Town*; *Tall Girls*; *Brahman/I*; *Sam Bendrix at the Bon Soir* (La Jolla Playhouse); *Constellations* (Old Globe); *Romeo and Juliet*, *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, *Pericles*,

*Prince of Tyre, Reckless, Much Ado About Nothing* and *Measure for Measure* (USD/Old Globe); *Ballast, Mystery of Love and Sex* (Diversions Theatre), *Secret Garden, Awake and Sing*, and *Sylvia* (New Village Arts). Elisa holds a costume design MFA from UCSD where she is currently an adjunct professor. [www.elisabenzoni.com](http://www.elisabenzoni.com)

**MELANIE CHEN COLE** <sup>+</sup> (Sound Design) is delighted to work with North Coast Rep again! She is a San Diego based sound designer who has worked all over the country. Recent NCRT shows include: *The Father, This Random World, Travels with My Aunt, An Illusion, Marjorie Prime*. Select regional credits include: *The Imaginary Invalid* (The Old Globe); *At the Old Place, POP Tour 2018: #SuperShinySara* (La Jolla Playhouse); *Actually, Vietgone* (San Diego Rep); *Steel Magnolias* (Dallas Theater Center); *Sherwood: The Adventures of Robin Hood* (PlayMakers Repertory Company); *Mrs. Warren's Profession* (A Noise Within); *Animals Out of Paper* (East West Players). Melanie holds an M.F.A. in Sound Design for Theatre & Dance from UC San Diego. [www.melaniesound.com](http://www.melaniesound.com)

**TERRY BERLAND, CSA** (Los Angeles Casting Director) cast films including: "Whistler and The Case For Beauty," "Exiles in Hollywood," "Child of God," "Maladies," "Isaac Stern: Life's Virtuoso" and TV animation "Invader Zim". I am proud to cast both celebrity and everyday working actors in commercials branding products in voice-over, animation and on-camera genres where talent have successful careers in television and film, and you don't even know their names. I am happy to have the opportunity to have been part of casting for *Mandate Memories, Fallen Angels, Now You See It, Gunmetal Blues* and now *Moon Over Buffalo* for North Coast Rep.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

Season 37's lineup includes one World Premiere musical from the creators of the legendary Broadway musical *Guys & Dolls*, and two West Coast Premieres, one, a West Coast premiere of an intriguing Sherlock Holmes mystery, the other, a gripping wartime family drama. Following is the West Coast premiere of **Gabriel**. On the Nazi-occupied Isle of Guernsey in 1943, a mysterious handsome man washes up on shore and four British women decide to protect him through cunning deception and bravery. This is a powerful wartime drama brimming with suspense and intrigue that will keep audiences on the edge of their seats. Runs Feb. 20-March 17, 2019. **All in the Timing**, a sextet of one-act comedies by David Ives, uses inspired language and wordplay to examine various attempts at relationships and communication with comical results. It will push your smart buttons and tease your brain. Runs April 10-May 5, 2019. Next up is **A Walk in the Woods**, a play that is especially relevant today with world tensions escalating. Set in the midst of the Cold War, a U.S. and Soviet arms negotiator agree to meet informally. Their revealing and absorbing conversations, laced with humor, explore unexpected and uncharted territory. Highly recommended for those yearning for a more enlightened world. Runs May 29-June 23, 2019. The final show of Season 37 is the World premiere of **Another Roll of the Dice**, reuniting songwriter Frank Loesser and author Damon Runyon, creators of the legendary Broadway musical, **Guys and Dolls**. This colorful new musical includes standards such as "Heart and Soul," "Baby It's Cold Outside," "Two Sleepy People," and "Let's Get Lost." Order early – this show is a sure-fire winner. Runs July 10-Aug. 4, 2019.

**About the North Coast Repertory Theatre:**

North Coast Repertory Theatre, under the artistic leadership of David Ellenstein since 2003, is a professional Equity theatre founded in 1982 by Olive and Tom Blakistone. Currently celebrating its 37th 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.

#####