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**NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE TO REPRISE**

**AUDIENCES’ FAVORITE FARCE,**

***DON’T DRESS FOR DINNER***

**By Marc Camoletti**

**Adapted by Robin Hawdon**

**Directed by Christopher Williams**

**July 17 –Now extended to August 18, 2024**

Solana Beach, Calif. – For the past twenty years, audiences have been requesting North Coast Repertory Theatre to bring back the side-splitting, furiously paced farce, ***DON’T DRESS FOR DINNER,*** soon to reappear July 17 now extended to Aug.18. Playwright Marc Camoletti writes in the style of a classic French farce, full of mistaken identities, rapid-fire dialogue and unexpected twists. His recipe for comedic confusion combines some sexy hanky-panky, hilarious mix ups and of course, a gourmet dinner in a French country house. Audiences will be laughing from start to finish at the antics of these lovable characters.

Christopher Williams directs Brian Robert Burns,\* Kim Morgan Dean,\* Veronica Dunne\*, Brandon J. Pierce,\* Katy Tang,\* and Jared Van Heel.\* Vernon Willet is the Production Stage Manager; Jeruel Canda is the Production Assistant. The Design Team includes Marty Burnett (Resident Scenic Designer), Matthew Novotny (Lighting Design) Elisa Benzoni (Costume Design), Chris Leussman (Sound Design), and Kevin Williams (Props).

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

***DON’T DRESS FOR DINNER*** previews begin on Wednesday, July 17. Opening Night is set for Saturday, July 20, at 8 pm. The play has now extended. Starts Wednesday, July 17, to Sunday, August 18, 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, July 19, and Wednesday, Aug. 7. A talkback session with the director and cast is scheduled for July 26.

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 ***DON’T DRESS FOR DINNER,*** 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

***DON’T DRESS FOR DINNER***

By Marc Camoletti

Adapted by Robin Hawdon

Directed by Christopher Williams

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

**SCHEDULE:** **Previews start July 17, 2024**

**Opens: July 20, 2024**

**Closes: Aug. 18, 2024**

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

**Added matinee performances at 2pm on Friday, July 19, and Wednesday, Aug. 7. A talkback session with the director and cast is scheduled for July 26.**

**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:**

**MARC CAMOLETTI** (Playwright) (1923-2003) authored more than 40 plays and became a Chevalier de la Légion d’Honneur in France. Boeing Boeing, his first major international success, ran for seven years and 2000 performances in its debut London production. It became the Guinness Book of Records' most performed French play worldwide. The Paramount film starred Jerry Lewis, Tony Curtis and Thelma Ritter. A later play, Don’t Dress for Dinner, also ran for seven years in London’s West End. A French citizen, born in Geneva, and an acclaimed artist and associate of the Société National des Beaux Arts, Marc Camoletti launched his theatre career with three plays running simultaneously in Paris. Ten of his plays have also been produced for television. His work continues to flourish in numerous languages and some 55 countries.

**ROBIN HAWDON** (Adaptation) is a British playwright especially known for the popularity of his comedies. Mr. Hawdon’s plays are amongst the most frequently produced around the world – his name is as well-known abroad as in his native Great Britain. Many of his plays are published by Samuel French/Concord. Over recent years his plays have appeared in mainstream theatres in the UK, New York, Chicago, Toronto, Paris, Moscow, Warsaw, Krakow, Bonn, Stockholm, Copenhagen, Tel Aviv, Russia, Italy, Ukraine, South Africa, Australia, and in hundreds of smaller theatres across every continent. Their popularity, amongst professional and amateur companies alike, is due to the fast pace and comic complexity of their plot lines, combined with an essential humanity and reality in their characterization.

**CHRISTOPHER WILLIAMS** (Director) During his 30 years in the industry, Christopher has made his theatrical career as a director, union actor and stage manager, as well as, fight choreographer, designer, and instructor. His directing credits include: *Last of the Red Hot Lovers, Visiting Mr. Green*, and the West Coast Premieres of *Gabriel* and *Desperate Measures* (North Coast Rep); *Romeo and Juliet* (Southwest Shakespeare); *Beau Jest* and *Leading Ladies* (Moonlight Stages); *Halpern and Johnson* (AZ Jewish Theatre); *I Hate Hamlet*(Intrepid Theatre); *Julius Caesar* (New Village Arts); *The Outsider* and *Chapatti* (Scripps Ranch Theatre). He served six years as Associate Artistic Director and Casting Director for North Coast Rep following his duties as founding Artistic Director of Oceanside Theatre Company. Christopher has also worked in the film industry where he was producer, casting associate, and on-set acting coach for the WWII feature “Walking with the Enemy,” starring Sir Ben Kingsley and Jonas Armstrong.

**BRIAN ROBERT BURNS\*** (Bernard) FirstNational Tour*: War Horse, The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time.* Yale Rep: *Richard II, Romeo and Juliet.* San Francisco Playhouse: *Becky Shaw.* Rubicon Theater Company: *The Baby Dance: Mixed.* The Fountain Theatre: *Arrival and Departure.* Boomerang: *Cymbeline*. Clout in the Mug: *Look Back in Anger*. Lifetime: “Danger Lurking Under My Roof,” “Lucky Hearts.” Streaming: “Daredevil,” “Blackish.” MFA Yale School of Drama. Brian is in a punk band called Nonheroelite, is a Brazilian jiu-jitsu and kickboxing champion, and plays co-ed wood-bat baseball in a rec league for the two-time LABF champion Los Angeles Death. Brian is elated to be sharing this production of *Don’t Dress for Dinner* with you at the North Coast Rep and would like to thank his friends and family for their love and support.

**KIM MORGAN DEAN\*** (Jacqueline) is delighted to return to North Coast rep, where she was seen last season as Captain Hastings in the world premiere of Steven Dietz’s *Murder on the Links.*Kim has performed in over 20 productions at Barter Theatre in Abingdon, VA and over 30 productions at Greenbrier Valley Theatre in Lewisburg, WV, including *Next to Normal* in the summer of 2023. Other credits include: *Yankee Tavern* (Florida Stage); *Collected Stories* (Mosaic Theatre); *Beguiled Again*, *Ripcord, Moon Over Buffalo* (Florida Rep). She is the recipient of the 2008 and 2009 Carbonell Best Supporting Actress Award for her performances as Wren in *Body of Water* and Mairead in *The Lieutenant of Inishmore*, respectively. Gratitude to the North Coast Rep crew for having me aboard, to TM for love & support, and to YOU for supporting live theatre! [www.kimmorgandean.com](http://www.kimmorgandean.com/)

**VERONICA DUNNE\*** (Suzette) is overjoyed to be working on this hilarious show. She is most recognized for her role as Marisa on Disney Channel’s “KC Undercover” and making her Broadway debut as Roxie Hart in *Chicago*. Along with other TV and Film protects, some stage credits include *Cabaret* (Sally Bowles), Into the Woods (Baker’s Wife), and Legally Blonde (Margot). Instagram: @veronica\_dunne.

**BRANDON J. PIERCE\*** (Robert) is thrilled to be performing at North Coast Rep once again! Born in the city of Philadelphia, where he has most extensively plied his trade, Brandon has had the pleasure of performing all over the country. Broadway: *Birthday Candles* (Roundabout Theatre) Off-Broadway: *Exit Strategy* (Primary Stages) Regional: *Fat Ham, Eternal Life Pt.1, Kill Move Paradise* (Wilma Theatre); *Incendiary* (Woolly Mammoth); *Ben Butler* (North Coast Repertory); *Native Son* (Playmakers Rep.); *Welcome to Fear City* (Kansas City Rep); *Skeleton Crew* (Portland Stage); *Sweat*(People’s Light); *Metamorphoses*(Arden Theatre Company). Brandon is a member of the Wilma Theater's Hothouse Acting Company. Brandon was the recipient of the 2023 Barrymore Award for Outstanding Supporting Performance in a Play. Love to Alexandra, Mom, and Dad.

**KATY TANG\*** (Suzanne) is excited to return to North Coast Rep, previously seen in*Pippin*, *The Cherry Orchard*, and *The Remarkable Mister Holmes*. Regional credits: *Sweeney Todd*, *She Loves Me* (South Coast Repertory), *A Christmas Carol* (Denver Center, Syracuse Stage), *Marry Me A Little* (International City Theatre), *Candide* (San Bernardino Symphony), *A Little Night Music*(EastWest Players), *Spring Awakening*(Cygnet Theatre),*The Mikado*, *Turn of the Screw* (Pacific Opera Project), La Mirada Theatre, Independent Shakespeare Company, Laguna Playhouse, The LATC, Arrow Rock Lyceum, Sacred Fools, Fullerton Civic Light Opera, and LA Opera. International credits: Susanna in ”Le Nozze di Figaro” (Mediterranean Opera Festival, Italy), Sophie in “Werther,” *Amour in*“Orphée et Eurydice” (La Péniche Opera, France).  Katy has also recently created her own site-specific work with vocal sound installations, as a selected 2023 Artist in Residence with Saturn’s Return in Washington state. Tang trained at UCLA & the Ecole Normale de Musique, Paris. She was runner-up Miss CA 2013 and is a two-time Junior Olympian ice-skater.

**JARED VAN HEEL\*** (George)is thrilled to be returning to North Coast Rep after appearing as Valére/M. Loyal in *Tartuffe* earlier this year. 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 *Tartuffe*(Laguna Playhouse), *The Liar, The Merry Wives of Windsor,*and *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (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.

**VERNON WILLET\*** (Production Stage Manager) is returning to North Coast Rep after having helmed *Tartuffe,*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.

**JERUEL CANDA** (Production Assistant) is excited to be back for his third production with North Coast Rep. Past shows include: *Pippin* (North Coast Rep), *Intimate Apparel* (North Coast Rep), and *Globe for All: Comedy of Errors* (The Old Globe). On top of working backstage, he also has a passion for acting and recently finished a production of*Tuck Everlasting* (Coronado Playhouse). Jeruel holds a B.A. in Drama from UC Irvine.

**DESIGN TEAM**

**MARTY BURNETT** (Set Design) Resident Designer at North Coast Rep since 1992. Scenic designed more than 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, The Angel Next Door,* and *Tartuffe* 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 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 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 more than 100 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.

**CHRIS LUESSMAN** (Sound Design) is thrilled to be returning to North Coast Rep. Some of Chris’ favorite sound designs include: Off Broadway: *The Third Story*. La Jolla Playhouse: *Billy Crystal’s 700 Sundays, Chasing The Song, Hollywood*, and *The Darrell Hammond Project.* Moonlight Stage Productions: *The Wizard of Oz* (Craig Noel Award,) *Les Misérables*, and *Little Shop of Horrors*. North Coast Rep: *Dracula* and *A Christmas Carol,* (for which he won Patté Awards,) *The Odd Couple, The Tempest, Henry IV Part I, Baby, Jaques Brel...,The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee,* and *Voice of the Prairie*. Chris holds a BA in Theatre from UCLA, and an MFA in Theatre from UC San Diego.

**KEVIN WILLIAMS** (Props Design) Recovering actor and L.A. native, Kevin has spent over two decades as a designer, art director, fabricator and consultant for clients such as Walt Disney, Imagineering, HUB network, Red 5 Studios, Buena Vista Pictures and Twentieth Century Fox. Notably, he was the Resident Production Designer for interactive theatre company, Delusion, for seven years:” Lies Within” (2014), “His Crimson Queen” (2016), “Lies Within VR” (2017), “The Blue Blade” (2018), and “Reaper’s Remorse (2021). Kevin is the Prop Department Supervisor for UVLA’s School of Theater, Film & Television and lives in Orange County with his incredible family. Proud member of S.P.M.

**CREW – HANNAH WAGNER**

**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.

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