



RENEGADE THEATRE EXPERIMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RENEGADE THEATRE EXPERIMENT

presents

Noah Haidle's

Mr. Marmalade

San José, CA, October 30, 2008 – He is 44. She is 4. He doesn't exist. She does. Renegade Theatre Experiment continues their successful 2008/2009 season by turning to the dark side with the Bay Area Premiere of Noah Haidle's adult comedy, *Mr. Marmalade*. Haidle (*Saturn Returns*, *Vigils*, *Persephone*, *Princess Marjorie*) is one of the foremost playwrights of his generation and has received much acclaim for his funny, perverse, and odd works. In describing where *Mr. Marmalade*, an off-Broadway hit from 2005, came from, Noah Haidle says "The stage picture I began with was of a girl in a tutu and a man in a suit. This was born out of that. I then had the question: Who was the man in the suit and what was he doing there with the girl in the tutu? And there you are—off to the races...".

In *Mr. Marmalade*, we meet Lucy, a four-year-old girl with a very active imagination. Left to her own devices by her mother, a working single mom, Lucy creates an imaginary friend to keep her company, the 44 year old Mr. Marmalade. Unfortunately, Mr. Marmalade is an extremely busy and important business man that doesn't have much time in his schedule for tea parties with Lucy. He also turns out to be a sadistic, cocaine snorting, porn addict who intimidates and beats anyone to get his way. Lucy seeks refuge in a friend her own age, Larry, but he has his own problems. Larry is the youngest suicide attempt in the history of New Jersey and has to deal with an older step brother that constantly abuses him. All of this would form an intriguing drama, but Haidle has weaved these elements into an incredibly dark, biting, hilarious comedy that the L.A. Times called "slyly amusing, envelope-pushing". The New Yorker described *Mr. Marmalade* as "alternately hilarious and heartbreaking".

"I invite the audience to delve into the dusty murky depths of imagination and find the moments when the imagination became alive and dangerous," says director Wolfgang Lancelot Wachalovsky, "the moments when you imagined your own death, the villain who constantly taps on the shoulder of your mind, the harrowing visions of being chased ad infinitum and returning to these visions on a nightly basis because they are comforting, stable. We all seek stability and in an effort to stave off the loneliness of our world we create our comfortable hell."

Mr. Marmalade runs November 7th-22nd at the Historic Hoover Theater in San Jose. Performances begin at 8:00pm, except Sunday matinees which are at 2pm. This show is recommended for mature audiences 18 and up. Tickets for *Mr. Marmalade* are \$18.00 General Admission (Thursdays and Sundays) and \$20.00 General Admission (Fridays and Saturdays). Students and teachers, seniors, and Theatre Bay Area members qualify for discount tickets (\$13.00 Thu/Sun & \$15.00 Fri/Sat) with valid ID. Tickets and season subscriptions are on sale at www.renegadetheatre.com.

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The Renegade Theatre Experiment (RTE), founded in 2001, is the South Bay's voice for alternative theatre.

PUBLICITY PHOTOS: <http://www.renegadetheatre.com/press>

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AN INVITATION TO THE MEDIA

Renegade Theatre Experiment proudly invites you to attend any of our opening weekend performances for

MR. MARMALADE
Written by Noah Haidle

**Historic Hoover Theater
1635 Park Avenue
San José, CA 95126.**

**November 7th, 8th, and 9th
Friday and Saturday performances begin at 8:00 PM
Sunday matinee begins at 2:00 PM**

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING ABOUT Renegade Theatre Experiment:

"They do make it a point to sort of reach out to alternative voices and stories that aren't necessarily told...they're wanting to do the same thing that I'm wanting to do—challenging people to think when they're seeing a show, not shying away from topics that would be taboo. It's a bold company."

[Playwright Erica Hemenway, quoted in *The Salinas Californian*, February 29, 2006]

"A South Bay company that's already received notice from the press for its bold, unconventional productions."

[Karen McKeivitt, *Theatre Bay Area Magazine*, August 1, 2004]

PAST PRODUCTIONS:

***THE BOOK OF LIZ* by Amy Sedaris and David Sedaris**

"Slightly off-beat and gentle, the tale is brought to life through the fine talent of an ensemble of multi-role playing actors...With so many characters and so little space, let me say there were strong performances by all making RTE's production of "The Book of Liz" a must-see. "

[W. Fred Crow, *The Milpitas Post*, September 12, 2008]

***NOAH JOHNSON...* by Jon Bastian (Bay Area Premiere)**

"It's a ghoulish story, but an effective reminder of the ghoulish business world we sometimes live in, where we'd prefer not to look too closely at the economic skullduggery that takes place, because its truths are too horrifying and too painful."

[John Angell Grant, *The Palo Alto Daily News*, July 20, 2007]

***WAITING TO DANCE* by Erica Hemenway (World Premiere)**

"AT LAST, a play centered on women that doesn't feel as if half the character potentialities have been dropped from the conversation. Engaging, unpredictable, sometimes warm, sometimes brutal, Renegade Theatre Experiment's world-premiere *WAITING TO DANCE* keeps the company's brand of errant sophistication going to unexpected places."

[Marianne Messina, *Metro*, February 8, 2006]

***LORCA IN A GREEN DRESS* by Nilo Cruz (California Premiere)**

"RTE certainly lives up to its name with "Lorca," making its mark as a little theater company willing to chase the high of new and difficult work."

[Karen D'Souza, *San Jose Mercury News*; July 20, 2005]

FACT SHEET

RENEGADE THEATRE EXPERIMENT presents
MR. MARMLADE
Written by Noah Haidle

WHO: Renegade Theatre Experiment - San José-based theatre company with Bay Area cast, featuring Polina Krasnova, Keith C. Marshall, Morgan Volleger, Nizar Ahmed, Christine Schisano and Aeon Brady.

WHAT: A dark comedy about a little girl and her cocaine and porn addicted 40-year-old imaginary friend.

WHY: The incomparable experience of live theatre...with a Renegade edge.

WHEN: November 7th – 22nd. Thursday through Saturday performances will begin at 8:00 PM. Sunday matinee performances will begin at 2:00pm.

WHERE: Historic Hoover Theater, 1635 Park Avenue, San José, CA 95126. General Seating.

PRICE: Ticket Prices:

Thurs & Sun: \$18.00 General Admission

\$13.00 Student/Educator/Senior/TBA Discount Admission

Fri & Sat: \$20.00 General Admission

\$15.00 Student/Educator/Senior/TBA Discount Admission

Tickets available online (www.renegadetheatre.com) and at the door.

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ABOUT RENEGADE THEATRE

Committed to forward-thinking performance, Renegade Theatre Experiment builds creative partnerships with aspiring and established artists to bring unique, outstanding theatre to the Bay Area. Founded in 2001, when a group of alumni from Santa Clara University joined together to develop as actors, RTE continues to explore the human experience through established and fresh performance works which break with convention. RTE's artistic and critical successes have included the World Premieres of Matt Casarino's *THE PORNOZOMBIES* and Erica Hemenway's *WAITING TO DANCE*, the West Coast Premiere of *BILL OF (W)RIGHTS* by nine of America's hottest playwrights, Roald Dahl's *THE BFG*, the California Premiere of *LORCA IN A GREEN DRESS* by Nilo Cruz, Avery Crozier's *EAT THE RUNT*, Brian Parks' *GONER*, *HEAR ME ROAR: WOMEN'S IMAGES OF SELF*, and the first North American production of the critically acclaimed show, *THE DICE HOUSE* by Paul Lucas.

RTE continues in its tradition of bringing exceptional, avant-garde productions to the South Bay by kicking off its 2008/2009 season with Amy and David Sedaris' kitschy, wildly entertaining *THE BOOK OF LIZ*. Find out what happens when a nun gets her act together and takes her cheese ball recipe on the road. This is followed by Noah Haidle's savage black comedy *MR. MARMALADE*, the outrageous tale of a four-year-old girl and her imaginary friend: a coke-addicted porno fiend. The season finishes strongly with Anthony Burgess' brilliant stage adaptation (a play with music!) of his infamous cult novel, *A CLOCKWORK ORANGE*.

www.renegadetheatre.com