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BERKELEY REP EXTENDS VANYA AND SONIA AND MASHA AND SPIKE

Critics call Christopher Durang’s Tony Award-winning comedy “a hoot and a half”

September 27, 2013 – Berkeley Repertory Theatre’s Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike is a hit with audiences and critics alike. Due to popular demand, this year’s Tony Award winner for Best Play from three-time Obie Award-winner Christopher Durang will now play through October 25 for an additional four performances. Critics agree that Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike is this fall’s must-see, laugh-induced comedy:

- “Smartly directed by Richard E.T. White, this outrageous romp is a hoot and a half,” proclaims Karen D’Souza of the San Jose Mercury News. “The playwright, famed for his flair with farce from The Marriage of Bette and Boo to Beyond Therapy, packs the uber-absurd plot with so many belly laughs that the wistfulness at the core of the hijinks is all the more poignant…The sincerity of Durang's fondness for his eccentric characters and the honesty of his discontent with the "now" lends the otherwise goofy plot a sense of gravity.

- “Hilarious,” declares Robert Hurwitt in the San Francisco Chronicle. “A bountiful mash-up of Chekhov's four major plays with Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, Ingmar Bergman, the Beatles, Old Yeller, the Oresteia and Maggie Smith thrown in…”

In the show about a dysfunctional family in rural Pennsylvania, Vanya and Sonia have frittered their lives away in the family farmhouse — while their sister Masha escaped to become a Big Movie Star. When Masha returns unannounced with her boy toy, the stage is set for a fabulously funny family reunion. A Chekhovian mash-up with a whole lot of heart, this smash comedy will have you simultaneously laughing and contemplating family, miracles, and life's glorious second chances.

Tickets start at $35. Savings are available for groups, seniors, students, and anyone under 30 years of age — meaning discounted seats can be obtained for as little as $17.50. Or ask about ticket packages: the best prices are available to those who purchase three or more plays in Berkeley Rep's season. The Roda Theatre is located at 2015 Addison Street, near bus lines, bike routes, and parking lots — and only half a block from BART. For tickets or information, call (510) 647-2949 or simply click berkeleyrep.org.

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FACT SHEET

VANYA AND SONIA AND MASHA AND SPIKE

WHO:
Written by Christopher Durang
Directed by Richard E.T. White

Creative team: Kent Dorsey (scenic designer), Beaver Bauer (costume designer), Alexander V. Nichols (lighting designer), and Rob Milburn and Michael Bodeen (composers and sound designers)

Cast: Anthony Fusco (Vanya), Lorri Holt (Masha), Mark Junek (Spike), Caroline Kaplan (Nina), Sharon Lockwood (Sonia), and Heather Alicia Simms (Cassandra)

WHAT:
In Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike, this year’s Tony Award winner for Best Play, Masha returns to the forlorn family farmhouse with her prized 20-something boy toy Spike, and the stage is set for an absurd weekend of general hilarity.

WHERE:
Berkeley Repertory Theatre
Roda Theatre, 2015 Addison Street @ Shattuck, Berkeley, CA 94704

WHEN:
EXTENDED THROUGH OCTOBER 25
- Tuesdays @ 8:00 PM
- Wednesdays @ 7:00 PM
- Thursdays and Fridays @ 8:00 PM
- Saturdays @ 2:00 PM and 8:00 PM
- Sundays @ 2:00 PM and 7:00 PM

Special Events:
Last Call: Saturday 9/28 following the evening performance
Post-play discussions: Friday 10/4 and Tuesday 10/8 following the performance

COST:
$35 - $89 (subject to change)
Discounts: • Half-price tickets available for anyone under 30 years of age
• $10 discount for students and seniors one hour before curtain
• Groups of 15 or more, contact (510) 647-2918 or groups@berkeleyrep.org


TIX & INFO: (510) 647-2949 – berkeleyrep.org

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