FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SARAH JONES RETURNS TO BERKELEY REP FOR A WORKSHOP PRODUCTION OF SELL/BUY/DATE

May 23, 2016—Berkeley Rep announced today that Tony Award-winning playwright and performer Sarah Jones (Bridge & Tunnel) will return to the stage as a dazzling medley of characters in Sell/Buy/Date, an exuberant new show she has developed inspired by the real-life experiences of people affected by the commercial sex industry.

“I’m very excited to workshop Sell/Buy/Date at Berkeley Rep before we premiere in New York at Manhattan Theatre Club this fall,” says Jones. “It’s a homecoming of sorts since I workshopped Bridge & Tunnel at Berkeley Rep before it went to Broadway. The Bay Area audience brings such a dynamic mix of receptivity and critical thinking, sophistication and openness. I feel like they’ll challenge and help the piece grow, just as I offer them an intimate window into my process, and give them new ways to talk, think, and even laugh about this topic.”

Sell/Buy/Date presents an honest, moving and even humorous look at a complex and fascinating subject, all while preserving the full humanity of voices seldom heard in the theater. Written and performed by Jones and directed by Carolyn Cantor, this limited workshop engagement will run Tuesday, July 19–Sunday, July 31 in the Osher Studio on 2055 Center Street in downtown Berkeley. General admission tickets go on sale Thursday, May 26 for $40 ($20 for patrons under 30) at berkeleyrep.org or by calling 510 647.2949.

*This is a workshop production and is not open to reviews* Sell/Buy/Date will have its world premiere in September at the Manhattan Theatre Club in New York City. An earlier developmental production of Sell/Buy/Date was presented in January 2016 at New York Live Arts. Sell/Buy/Date is commissioned by the Novo Foundation and was developed, in part, at the 2015 Sundance Institute Theatre Lab and the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts.

SARAH JONES (Writer, Performer) Called “a master of the genre” by The New York Times, Jones is “a one woman global village” perhaps best known to theater audiences for her multi-character, one-person show Bridge & Tunnel – a critically acclaimed Broadway hit originally produced Off-Broadway by Oscar-winner Meryl Streep and The Culture Project. Jones is also known for her activism, including her role as A UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador performing for audiences around the world, and raising awareness of issues including ethnic, racial, and economic disparities in the U.S. She is also known for her popular multi-character TED Talks given at the annual TED Conference which have millions of views, and performances in venues
ranging from the White House to the World Economic Forum in Davos. In addition to her work on *Sell/Buy/Date*, she is currently developing multimedia projects based on her characters. Learn more about Sarah’s ongoing projects at www.sarahjonesonline.com or via social media at @jonesarah on Twitter and xosarahjones on Instagram and Facebook.

**CAROLYN CANTOR** *(Director).* New York credits include *Fly By Night* (Drama Desk nomination), *Great God Pan*, *After the Revolution* (Callaway Award) and *Essential Self Defense* (PlaywrightsHorizons), *Arlington* (Vineyard), *Regrets* and *Pumpgirl* (Manhattan Theatre Club), *In A Dark Dark House* (MCC), *The Talls* (Second Stage), *Something You Did* (Primary Stages), *Core Values* (Ars Nova) *Orange Flower Water, Now That's What I Call a Storm, Living Room in Africa and Stone Cold Dead Serious* (Edge Theater). Her regional credits include *The Violet Hour* (Old Globe), *Rabbit Hole* (Geffen, Garland Award), *Diary of Anne Frank* (Papermill), *After the Revolution, Not Waving and The King Stag* (Williamstown Theatre Festival), *Vera Laughed* and *Get What You Need* (NYS&F). Carolyn has received the Kanin-Seldes Award from the Theatre Hall of Fame, the Boris Sagal and Bill Foeller Fellowships from Williamstown, and a Drama League Directing Fellowship. She is a graduate of Dartmouth College. Upcoming: Greg Moss’s *Indian Summer* at Playwrights Horizons.

**ABOUT BERKELEY REP**
Berkeley Repertory Theatre has grown from a storefront stage to an international leader in innovative theatre. Known for its core values of imagination and excellence, as well as its educated and adventurous audience, the nonprofit has provided a welcoming home for emerging and established artists since 1968. In four decades, four million people have enjoyed nearly 400 shows at Berkeley Rep. These shows have gone on to win five Tony Awards, seven Obie Awards, nine Drama Desk Awards, one Grammy Award, and many other honors. In recognition of its place on the national stage, Berkeley Rep received the Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre in 1997. Its bustling facilities – which include the 400-seat Peet’s Theatre, the 600-seat Roda Theatre, the Berkeley Rep School of Theatre, the Osher Studio, and a spacious new campus in West Berkeley – are helping revitalize a renowned city. Learn more at berkeleyrep.org.

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MEDIA ALERT: Due to changes in the artist’s travel schedule, the workshop will run Tuesday, July 19-Sunday, July 31.

FACT SHEET

SARAH JONES RETURNS TO BERKELEY REP FOR A WORKSHOP PRODUCTION OF SELL/BUY/DATE

WHO: Written and performed by Sarah Jones
Directed by Carolyn Cantor

WHAT: Sell/Buy/Date

Tony Award-winning playwright and performer Sarah Jones (Bridge & Tunnel) returns to Berkeley Rep as a dazzling medley of characters in Sell/Buy/Date, an exuberant new show inspired by the real-life experiences of people affected by the sex industry. Brimming with Jones’ masterful, multicultural characterizations, Sell/Buy/Date presents an honest, moving, and even humorous look at a complex and fascinating subject, all while preserving the full humanity of voices seldom heard in the theatre.

WHERE: Berkeley Repertory Theatre
Osher Studio, 2055 Center Street @ Arts Passage
Berkeley, CA 94704

WHEN: 16 Performances: Tuesday, July 19-Sunday, July 31, 2016

HOW MUCH: Regular: $40 · Under the age of 30: $20

For promotional photos and other information visit the Berkeley Rep Press Room.

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