

From: Sandra Schwarzmann
Date: March 12, 2009
NORTH COAST REP PRESENTS
Rabbit Hole
By David Lindsay-Abaire
Directed by Stephen Elton
For Immediate Release: March 12, 2009
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Rabbit Hole
By David Lindsay-Abaire
Directed by Stephen Elton
Photos will be available at
www.northcoastrep.org/press
Monday, March 30th, 2009

You have been invited to attend our Press Opening:
Saturday, April 4, 2009 at 8PM.

Rabbit Hole
By David Lindsay-Abaire
Directed by Stephen Elton
April 1- April 26, 2009

Written with poignant humor and finely-observed detail, David Lindsay-Abaire's Pulitzer Prize winning drama is a sublimely crafted play about ordinary people trying to make sense of a constantly shifting environment.

Becca and Howie Corbett have everything a family could want, until a life-shattering accident turns their world upside down and leaves the couple drifting perilously apart. *Rabbit Hole* charts their bittersweet search for comfort in the darkest of places and for a path that will lead them back into the light of day.

"The play is a departure stylistically from my earlier work. It's a straightforward conventional family drama. It's my first play with a couch in it for example. But, for me it's thematically very similar to everything else I have written. All of my plays are about women suddenly finding themselves in upside down worlds where they have to sort out who they are and where they fit in. In this play the main character happens to have a son who has died and one day her entire world has turned upside down and nothing is what it was the moment before. It's still about loss it's still about dysfunction within families; It's still about finding your way in the world, it's just so happens that instead of two thirds comedy one third drama it's two thirds drama one third comedy. Despite everything that is going on in the play I do want to point out to people that there are a lot of laughs in it, people are having a good time as well as wiping their eyes."-David Lindsay-Abaire

A stellar cast including:

Jo Anne Glover, Brendan Ford, Sandra Ellis-Troy, Ryan Kidd and Jessa Watson



L to R: Ryan Kidd, Brendan Ford and Jo Anne Glover
Photo by; Aaron Rumley

**A Special Evening in conjunction with
The Jenna Druck Foundation's
Families Helping Families Program**



Friday April 24, 2009 8:00 PM

Approximately 1/3 of a portion of ticket sales will go directly to support:
The Jenna Druck Family Foundation. Following the show will be a special talk back with
the cast and crew of Rabbit Hole. Desert will be provided courtesy of Paradise Grille.

Families Helping Families (FHF) was born to give people a new way to treat people grieving. When Jenna Druck died tragically in 1996, her father Dr. Ken Druck sought help to survive the grief. As a mental health professional, Dr. Druck consulted within his community of peers only to find no solace.

FHF realizes that grief is an individual journey, with no right way and no 'cure.' There are generalities that may be applicable to an individual, but each person's journey is a result of their entire life, their existing relationships, and the relationship with the person they have lost - and that is absolutely unique.

FHF provides a network of peers for exploring the deeply personal experience of grief, in a supportive and empathetic environment. Sometimes, all one needs is to know that they are not alone in their grief, and there is a shoulder to lean on.



David Lindsay-Abaire (Playwright) David's *Fuddy Meers* was most recently awarded the 2008 Ed Kleban Award as America's most promising musical theatre lyricist. Prior to that, he received the 2007 Pulitzer Prize for Drama for his play *Rabbit Hole*, which premiered on Broadway at MTC's Biltmore Theatre. *Rabbit Hole* also received five Tony Award nominations, including Best Play, and the Spirit of America Award. His other shows include *Fuddy Meers*, *Kimberly Akimbo*, *Wonder of the World*, *High Fidelity* and *A Devil Inside*, among others. In addition to his work in theatre, David wrote the screenplay for the upcoming Newline feature *Inkheart* and is currently at work on screen adaptations of his plays *Rabbit Hole* for 20th Century Fox, starring Nicole Kidman, and *Kimberly Akimbo* for Killer Films and DreamWorks. David is a proud New Dramatists alum, a graduate of Sarah Lawrence College and the Juilliard School, as well as a member of the WGA and the Dramatists Guild Council



Stephen Elton (Director) Stephen is the artistic associate at North Coast Rep. and in addition to directing *A Christmas Carol* last year, Stephen is directing the 2007 Pulitzer Prize winner *Rabbit Hole*. During Stephens's multifarious career he has worked in: film production, video editing, production and lighting design, dramaturgy, screenwriting, as well as acting and directing for the stage. Stephen founded Beowulf Alley Theatre in Tucson Arizona, where he produced six seasons including: 5 Regional premieres, 4 Arizona premieres, and 1 world premiere. Stephen led Beowulf Alley to 8 *Arizona Daily Star* MAC awards including awards for Best Director, Best Drama, Best Comedy, and Best Actor. Stephen directed productions of: *Frozen*, *Of Mice and Men*, *The Bear*, *The Proposal*, *The Reluctant Tragic Hero*, *Death of Zukasky*, *Criminal Hearts*, *Lone Star*, *PVT. Wars*, *Home/ABROAD*, *Design for Living*, *Round and Round the Garden*, and *The Love Course*. In addition Stephen produced, designed and directed the annual comedy shows: *Comedy Arizona* and *Grand Canyon Comedy* with the national improv group *Laughing Stock Comedy Company*. As an actor Stephen was founding member of the acting ensemble of Live Theatre Workshop and has worked in regional theatre across Arizona including roles as: Lenny in *Of Mice and Men*, Lloyd in *Noises Off!*, Sgt. Toomey in *Biloxi Blues*, Wib in *Criminal Hearts*, Barry in *Death of Zukasky*, Apple in *The Exact Center of the Universe*, Manny in *Coming Through*, Leo in *Design for Living*, Louis in *Cousins*, Troup in *The Rear Column*, and Christy in *The Playboy of the Western World*.



Jo Anne Glover (Becca) Jo Anne is a founder and Managing Director of MOXIE Theatre. A graduate of the University of Texas, and Circle in the Square Theatre School (NYC), she has worked On- and Off-Broadway, in Los Angeles, and regionally. San Diego credits include *Bleeding Kansas*, *Off The Ground*, *The Receptionist* (SD Critics Circle Best Supp. Actress), *The Listener*, *Bluebonnet Court*, *Devil Dog Six*, *WET*, *Miss Witherspoon*, *The Adoption*

Project, Dog Act, Limonades Tous les Jours (Patte award, Best Actress), *Pulp*, Kimberly Akimbo, *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*, *Hamlet*, *Relatively Speaking*, *Stop Kiss*, *Othello*, *The Taming of the Shrew* and *Monstropoloy*. Some other favorites, outside of San Diego, include *Bus Stop* (Broadway production), *The Three Sisters*, *Subtle Bodies*, *The Trojan Women*, *Romeo & Juliet*, *Measure for Measure* and *I Hate Hamlet*. In addition to her work as an actress, she has also worked as a producer in both New York and Los Angeles.



Brendan Ford (Howie) Brendan is happy to be returning to North Coast Rep, where he played Dominic in *Amy's View*. At Laguna Playhouse, he played Declan in *Many Happy Returns* and Frank in *Red Herring*. Other roles include Harper in *One Slight Hitch* at the Falcon Theater, Jamie in *Long Day's Journey* at San Diego Rep., Jack in *Ernest in Love* at the Fremont Theater, Arthur in *Camelot* at the Fullerton CLO, The Captain in *Anything Goes* for Reprise!, Neville Craven in *Secret Garden* at South Bay CLO, Vincent Van Gogh in the world premiere of *Break of Day* at the Lillian Theatre, Torvald in *A Doll's House* at L.A. Rep., Marco in the world premiere of *Florinda* at the Freud Playhouse, and at LATC, he played Laertes, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern in a 6 actor *Hamlet*, and Leslie in *The Hostage*. Brendan grew up in New York City where, among other roles, he played Laertes in *Hamlet* and Hastings in *She Stoops to Conquer* for the National Shakespeare Co., Claudio in *Measure for Measure* at Westbeth Theatre Center, Romeo in *Romeo and Juliet* at Columbia Shakespeare Festival and Valere in *Tartuffe* at Westside Rep. Brendan has appeared in the films *Clear and Present Danger*, *The Net*, *George of the Jungle* and *If These Walls Could Talk*. Brendan appeared recently in episodes of *CSI Miami*, *Numbers* and *Notes from the Underbelly* and in the Pilot of *Hot Properties*. Other TV credits include *The District*, *The Pretender*, *V.I.P.*, *Beverly Hills 90210*, *Chicago Hope*, *Babylon 5*, *Silk Stalkings* and he has had recurring roles on *Weekends at the D.L.* on Comedy Central, *Pauly* and *The Young and the Restless*.



Sandra Ellis-Troy (Nat) NCR favorites (of 16 appearances): *Auntie Mame*, directed by Sean Murray; and *Broadway Bound*, directed by Olive Blakistone. Favorites elsewhere: *Waverly Gallery*, New Village Arts (Ensemble Member); *A Little Night Music*, Cygnet Theatre (Associate Artist); *Ring Around the Moon*, Lambs' Players Theatre (Guest Artist) *Gingerbread Lady*, Renaissance Theatre, *Driving Miss Daisy*, Moonlight's Avo Playhouse; *The Burning Deck*, La Jolla Playhouse; *Snow Ball*, Boston's Huntington Theatre, directed by Jack O'Brien. Film: *Ready? OK!*, Daisy 3 Productions; and multiple voice-over projects. AEA-Resigned, SAG, AFTRA. Recipient of seventeen performance awards.
www.sandraellistroy.com



Ryan Kidd (Jason) Current Theatre major at Mira Costa College.

Recent Productions at Mira Costa College:

Anything Goes – Lord Evelyn Oakleigh

Heartland – Rolf.

Our Town – George Gibbs.

Twelfth Night – Sebastian.

Graduate of Mira Costa College's Actors Academy.



Jessa Watson (Izzy) Jessa Watson is pleased to be back on the North Coast Rep stage. Credits Include: *Rabbit Hole* (Izzy) San Jose Rep, *SUDS: The Rocking 60's Musical Soap Opera* (Dee Dee) National Tour. Under My Apron (Featured Player) Midown International Theatre Festival. *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* (Adult Who) The Old Globe. Cabaret (Kit Kat Girl/Two Ladies), *A Christmas Carol* (Kate) San Diego Rep. *Love Song* (Joan) Cygnet Theatre. *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Gwendolen) & *Travesties* (Gwendolen), *First Night* (Meredith), *As Bees*

in Honey Drown (Illya, et al), *Fuddy Meers* (Heidi) North Coast Rep. *Devil's River* (Charlotte), *Richard III* (Queen Elizabeth), *The Universal Monster Show* (Mildred), *Furious Blood* (Younger Clytemnestra), *Sweet Charity* (The One in the Red Dress) Sledgehammer Theatre. Watson co-directed the world premiere of Kirsten Brandt's *Berzerkergang* with Michael Severance and directed *Nu: (Part II) Echoes Traveling* with Sledgehammer Theatre (Associate Artist 1999-2002). She is a proud member of AEA.

The cast of *Rabbit Hole* includes:

Jo Anne Glover (Becca)

Brendan Ford* (Howie)

Sandra Ellis-Troy (Nat)

Ryan Kidd (Jason)

Jessa Watson* (Izzy)

**Member of Actors' Equity Association*

The Design Team includes:

Stephen Elton (Director)

Marty Burnett (Scenic Design)

Matt Novotny (Light Design)

Michelle Hunt (Costume Design)

Chris Luessmann (Sound Design)

Bonnie Durben (Props and Set Dressing)
John Finkbiner (Scenic Artist)
Kshusha Vanyan (Costume Shop Supervisor)

The Crew Includes:
Aaron Rumley* (Stage Manager)
Aaron Rumley (Production Manager)

Place: Larchmont, New York
Time: The Present

Approximate Running Time: 2 Hours
Intermission: There will be one 15 minute intermission

About the North Coast Repertory Theatre

From its modest beginning as a community theatre in a shopping center in 1982, the North Coast Repertory Theatre has evolved into one of the area's leading performing arts organizations, recognized for the quality of its work and its commitment to excellence. It is one of only four year-round Equity Theatres in San Diego County. Located in Solana Beach, in the heart of San Diego's Coastal North County, the theatre boasts an award-winning main stage season, with performances year-round presented to over 40,000 people in its intimate 194-seat setting. In addition, the theatre involves thousands of young people each year in the Theatre School @ North Coast Rep, and in North Coast Rep's education and outreach program.

FACT SHEET:

WHAT: North Coast Repertory Theatre presents:
Rabbit Hole

WHEN: April 1 – April 26, 2009

Preview shows will be the Wednesday April 1st – Friday April 3rd,
Opening night/press night is Saturday April 4th.

SHOW TIMES: Select Wednesdays at 7pm and select Saturday matinees at 2pm. Regular show times are Thursday – Saturday at 8:00pm and Sundays at 2:00PM and 7:00PM.

WHERE: North Coast Repertory Theatre

987 Lomas Santa Fe Drive, Solana Beach, CA 92075

TICKETS: Preview tickets are \$28.00, Opening Night tickets are \$45, Saturday evening and Sunday Matinee tickets are \$39.00 and Wednesday – Friday evening and Saturday Matinees are \$35.00. Student/Seniors and Military save \$3.00 and Subscriber single

tickets are \$5.00 off. For ticket information or reservations call (858)-481-1055 or visit www.northcoastrep.org The North Coast Rep Box Office is located at 987 Lomas Santa Fe Drive ion Solana Beach. Box Office Hours during show dates are Noon until 8:00PM and non-show dates Noon until 4PM.

LISTING: When a tragic accident turns the Corbett family's world upside down, everyone copes with the loss and the need for renewal in their own way. Written by one of America's most important young playwrights, *Rabbit Hole* is a moving family play that charts the Corbetts' bittersweet search for comfort and a path that will lead them back into the light of day.

Images/Photographs for *Rabbit Hole* will be made available on-line Monday, March 30, 2009 at www.northcoastrep.org/press. Photo credits go to Aaron Rumley. If you would like a script to be sent to you electronically please contact Sandra@northcoastrep.org or directly at 858-481-2155 Ext. 20.

PHOTO CREDITS: Aaron Rumley