



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LOS ALTOS STAGE COMPANY

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Love and Madness. Folly and Fantasy

Los Altos Stage Company's 20th Anniversary Season

2015-2016 Season

Los Altos Stage Company is thrilled to announce the line-up for our upcoming season at the Bus Barn Theater in Los Altos. Comprised of two musicals and three plays, our 20th Anniversary Season is overflowing with love, madness, folly and fantasy – the stuff that makes life meaningful, or meaningless, depending on your existential point of view.

The new season opens with a surrealistic comedy that confronts our assumptions about morality, redemption, and the need to connect in a technologically obsessed world; ***Dead Man's Cell Phone*** by Sarah Ruhl. Winner of the Helen Hayes Award for Outstanding New Play, this work explores the paradox of modern technology's ability to both unite and isolate people in the digital age. An incessantly ringing cell phone in a quiet café. A stranger at the next table who has had enough. A dead man with a lot of loose ends. *Dead Man's Cell Phone* opens September 3 and runs through September 27, 2015.

In November, Los Altos Stage Company invites audiences to take a journey with a knight-errant as he rises in triumphant transformation in the classic musical, ***Man of La Mancha***, with book by Dale Wasserman, lyrics by Joe

Darion and music by Mitch Leigh. Winner of five Tony Awards, including Best Musical, it tells the story of the “mad” caballero Don Quixote as a play within a play, performed by Cervantes and his fellow prisoners as he awaits a hearing with the Spanish Inquisition. Backed by his faithful sidekick, Sancho Panza, Quixote duels windmills and defends his “perfect lady” Dulcinea. Dare to dream the impossible dream with this timeless, tough, and tuneful celebration of the human spirit. *Man of La Mancha* opens November 19 and runs through December 19, 2015.

In the New Year, Los Altos Stage Company presents the Bay Area Premiere Production of the winner of the 2010 Horton Foote Prize for excellence in American Theater, ***Middletown*** by Will Eno. Inspired by Thornton Wilder’s *Our Town*, *Middletown* begins with Mary Swanson, who has just moved to a small town, eager to start a family and enjoy neighborly bonds. But when Mary befriends resident John Dodge, she is quick to discover that below Middletown’s unflinchingly honest exterior lies something much more complex. This play is a powerful and poignant meditation on birth, death and points between. *Middletown* opens January 28 and runs through February 21, 2016.

Over fifty years after its original publication, *Catch 22* remains a cornerstone of American literature and one of the funniest—and most celebrated—books of all time. In April, Los Altos Stage Company presents ***Catch 22*** the play, adapted for the stage by Joseph Heller. The play is the both intellectually challenging and absurdly funny, interspersed with moments of grisly realism. At the heart of this absurd tale resides the incomparable, malingering bombardier, Yossarian, a hero endlessly inventive in his schemes to save his skin from the horrible chances of war. He’d like to get out but there’s always a catch. *Catch 22* opens April 7 and runs through May 1, 2016.

Los Altos Stage Company’s 20th season comes to a close with the off-Broadway hit musical that the New Yorker called “a giggly cult hit”; ***Bat Boy: The Musical***, with book by Keythe Farley and Brian Flemming, and music and lyrics by Laurence O’Keefe. Winner of the 2001 Lucille Lortel Award for Best Off-Broadway Musical, *Bat Boy* is a musical comedy/horror show about a half boy/half bat creature who is discovered in a cave near Hope Falls, West Virginia. With a beat-driven rock score that pays homage to

the rock musicals of the late '60s and early '70s, it provides a compelling theatrical metaphor for the dangers of prejudice, intolerance, and provincialism. ***Bat Boy: The Musical*** opens May 26 and runs through June 25, 2016.

Los Altos Stage Company is a quintessential American neighborhood playhouse, serving Los Altos and the greater South Bay area, and paying tribute to the full canon of American musicals, comedies, and dramas. This 18-year-old theater company strives to bring together a diversity of theater enthusiasts, practitioners, and supporters to create, explore and celebrate the rich tapestry of American culture and experience through live theater. Los Altos Stage Company produces five to six shows annually at its intimate 99-seat theater located on the Los Altos Civic Center campus.

Season subscriptions (5 plays) are on sale now at www.losaltosstage.org or by calling the Los Altos Stage Company Box Office at (650) 941-0551. Prices range from \$90 (student) to \$162/subscription. In celebration of the Los Altos Stage Company's 20th Anniversary this June, patrons who purchase a subscription before June 30, 2015 will receive an additional 10% off their adult subscription, for a total savings of 20% off the regular adult single ticket price (available by calling the Box Office only; not available on-line). Single tickets go on sale July 1, 2015.

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Calendar Listing

Dead Man's Cell Phone

By Sarah Ruhl

September 3 – September 27, 2015

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Man of La Mancha

Book by Dale Wasserman, lyrics by Joe Darion and music by Mitch Leigh

November 19 – December 19, 2015

Single Tickets: \$18 (student) to \$36

Middletown

By Will Eno

January 28 – February 21, 2016

Single Tickets: \$18 (student) to \$36

Catch 22

By Joseph Heller

April 7 – May 1, 2016

Single Tickets: \$18 (student) to \$36

Bat Boy: The Musical

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