



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**MARIN THEATRE COMPANY KICKS OFF 2008-2009
SEASON WITH TERRENCE MCNALLY'S
'FRANKIE AND JOHNNY IN THE CLAIR DE LUNE'
SEPTEMBER 11 - OCTOBER 5**

Mill Valley, CA -- Marin Theatre Company kicks off its 2008-2009 season with the touching and often hilarious romantic comedy *FRANKIE AND JOHNNY IN THE CLAIR DE LUNE*, by famed American Playwright Terrence McNally, September 11 – October 5 (**Opening night is Tuesday, September 16 at 8pm**).

First performed in 1987 by off-Broadway's Manhattan Theatre Club, this sexually charged comedy had several successful runs in off-Broadway and regional theaters before its first Broadway production in 2002 starring Stanley Tucci and Edie Falco. The two-character play centers around Frankie (Terri McMahan –Oregon Shakespeare Festival actor & director; making her MTC debut) a waitress, and Johnny (Rod Gnapp – *Frozen*, *Visions of Kerouac* and *The Crucible*), a short order cook, who fall into bed together at the end of their first date. Johnny knows this is love; Frankie thinks he's nuts. Over the course of one beautiful moonlit night, these two damaged souls reveal themselves to each other, and their one night stand begins to offer the promise of something much more.

This play contains full-frontal female and male nudity and is for mature audiences only.

Jasson Minadakis, MTC Artistic Director, directs this season opener in the 231-seat Boyer Theatre.

**Preview Performances are Thursday, Sept 11 through Sunday, Sept 14.
Regular Performances are Tuesday, Sept 16 through Sunday, Oct 5. Tuesday,**

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Thursday, Friday and Saturday performances are at 8PM; Wednesdays, at 7:30pm; Sunday evening performances at 7PM. There are matinees on Saturdays, Sept 20 and Oct 4 at 2pm; Thursday, Sept 25 at 1pm; and every Sunday throughout the run at 2pm. All performances are at Marin Theatre Company, 397 Miller Avenue in Mill Valley. Tickets range from \$31-\$51 with Pay-What-You-Can on Tuesdays, except for Opening Night. Seniors 65+ receive a \$10 discount on weekday and Saturday matinees. Full time student tickets are \$20 for all performances. Order tickets at 415.388.5208 or online at www.marintheatre.org.

MTC Engaged! programs for FRANKIE AND JOHNNY IN THE CLAIR DE LUNE include:

- Director's Nights (post-show discussions) are Wednesdays, Sept 17 & Oct 1 after 7:30pm shows.
- Perspectives (pre-show topical lecture) is Thursday, Sept 25 at noon (before 1pm matinee).
- Wine Tasting Series (a pre-show tasting at 7pm) before Saturday, Sept 20 8pm show.
- Happy Hour is one hour prior to the Wednesday, Sept 24 7:30pm show
- After Words (on-stage interview) follows Sunday, Sept 14 2pm preview matinee. There are Q&A's following most performances, with the exception of Opening Night, September 16 and Saturday evening performances.

Entering its 42nd year, Marin Theatre Company is one of only five LORT theaters in the bay area, and is the largest professional regional theatre company located in San Francisco's North Bay. It produces an annual season of more than 200 performances on its two stages. MTC provides a forum for contemporary, classic and emerging playwrights and, through the new Expanded Programs forum, an environment that introduces people of all ages to the transformative power of theatre. Through its public performances, school tours, and various educational programs, MTC serves more than 40,000 people annually.

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