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**A NOISE WITHIN PRESENTS  
N. RICHARD NASH'S ROMANTIC COMEDY  
*THE RAINMAKER***

**Saturday, October 11 – Saturday, December 6, 2008  
(Previews Begin Saturday, October 4, 2008)**

A Noise Within, the critically acclaimed classical repertory theatre company, presents the second production of its 2008-09 season, N. Richard Nash's joyful, romantic comedy *The Rainmaker*, which runs Saturday, October 11 through Saturday, December 6, 2008 (previews begin Saturday, October 4).

Andrew Traister directs the three-act play, which he describes as chronicling post-war America, the sense of the American Dream and the promise of what is possible if one believes. *The Rainmaker* was a Broadway hit when it premiered in 1954, and the movie version two years later starred Burt Lancaster and Katharine Hepburn, who received an Oscar nomination. Set on the water-starved western plains, it is the story of Lizzie Curry, who has resigned herself to a life without love as she and the men of the family struggle to keep the farm from collapsing under the weight of devastating drought. Out of the arid ether of this parched land, a shadow larger than life fills the horizon, awakening the hopeful dreamer in all of us.

The production features Bo Foxworth (Starbuck) and Bridget Flanery (Lizzie Curry), both with a long string of television, film and theatre credits; Mitchell Edmonds (HC Curry), who has starred in numerous A Noise Within productions; and Scott Roberts (File), Ross Hellwig (Jim Curry), Leonard Kelly-Young (Sheriff Thomas), and Steve Weingartner (Noah Curry). Noted composer David O provides original music for the production.

"This is a play that's very much a product of its time," Traister says. "It will be an authentic production, set in the mid-fifties that hopefully can reach out and have reverberations for today." *The Rainmaker* marks Traister's second production with A Noise Within.

A Noise Within (ANW) is the only classical repertory company in Southern California and one of only a handful in the entire country dedicated solely to producing classical dramatic literature year-round and working in the repertory tradition of rotating productions using a resident company of professional artists. ANW is led by Founders/Artistic Directors Julia Rodriguez-Elliott and Geoff Elliott.

**(MORE ON REVERSE)**

Over the last 17 years, ANW has attracted fiercely loyal audiences and high praise from the media for its productions of great works of world drama and also as a leading regional force in arts education. The company's consistent dedication to quality has been rewarded with 26 Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Awards, Los Angeles' highest recognition for theatrical achievement, and other similarly substantial honors. Since its founding in 1991, A Noise Within has presented more than 120 plays from the classics of world literature, each season producing a minimum of six plays from authors ranging from Shakespeare and Molière, to Ibsen, O'Neill and Shaw, to Miller and Williams. The Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle named A Noise Within's production of O'Neill's *A Touch of the Poet* Best Revival of 2006, and the LA Stage Alliance nominated Jarry's *Ubu Roi* for six Ovation Awards. In 2004, the theatre collaborated with the Los Angeles Philharmonic and conductor Esa-Pekka Salonen in a tandem performance of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Hollywood Bowl.

A Noise Within's 2008-09 season is dedicated to the De Pietro family for their unflinching generosity and support for the past 17 years.

**Single Tickets are \$44** (Friday and Saturday evenings, Sunday matinees); \$40 (Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday evenings, Saturday matinees); and \$28 (previews). Groups (10 or more) are \$25, or \$30 on Saturday evenings and Sunday matinees; School Groups (10 or more) are \$15, or \$20 on Saturday evenings and Sunday matinees.

A NOISE WITHIN is located at 234 South Brand Boulevard, Glendale, CA 91204. To purchase tickets or for a full season brochure, call 818-240-0910 x1 or visit [www.ANoiseWithin.org](http://www.ANoiseWithin.org).

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## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

*The Rainmaker* marks **ANDREW TRAISTER's** (director), second directorial project with ANW. Last season he directed the company's production of *Waiting for Godot*. Among his other credits, he directed *Lolita* and *Road To Nirvana* at The Actor's Playpen in Los Angeles and has also has directed at The Old Globe, Alaska Repertory Theatre, Arizona Theatre Company, Actors Theatre of Phoenix, Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, Intiman Theatre, Tacoma Actors Guild, Geva Theatre, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, San Diego Repertory Theatre and many other theatres across the country. He has taught at Cornish College of the Arts, California Institute of the Arts, SUNY Binghamton and SUNY Brockport. From 1987-89 Traister served as Artistic Director of Alaska Repertory Theatre. In 1980 he received an NEA Directing Fellowship. For the big screen, Traister directed the independent film *Nicky's Birthday Camera*, starring Robert Hays, Jamie McShane and John Walcutt, which was released in 2007.

**BO FOXWORTH (Starbuck)** has appeared in numerous ANW productions, including *As You Like It*, *The Tempest*, *Picnic*, *Twelfth Night*, *Coriolanus*, *Measure for Measure*, for which he received an Ovation Nomination for Best Featured Actor, and ANW's production of *A Midsummer Nights Dream* at the Hollywood Bowl with Esa-Pekka Salonen conducting the L.A. Philharmonic. Other credits include the world premiere of *The Verdi Girls* and *Bright Ideas* at Laguna Playhouse and title roles in *Hamlet* and *Macbeth*, *A Midsummer Nights Dream* and Angelo in *Measure for Measure* at Shakespeare Orange County. He also appeared in *The Rehearsal* at Disney Hall, *Sunset Boulevard* at The Hollywood Bowl, *War Music* at The Geffen and, most recently, the national tour of *Top Secret: The Battle for the Pentagon Papers* with LATW, which starts a six-week New York run at The Public Theater this winter. Foxworth was an original cast member of the Off-Broadway hit, *As Bees in Honey Drown* at the Lucile Lortel, *Traveler Without Luggage* at the Century Theater, *Humulus the Mute* at HERE, and *The Miser* at The Pearl Theater. Regionally, he performed in *Hamlet* at The Shakespeare Theater in Washington D.C., *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf* at Vienna's English Theater in Vienna, Austria, *An American Daughter* at The Long Wharf, *Galileo* at Baltimore Center Stage, *The Seagull* at Playmakers Rep, *Overtime* and *The Merchant of Venice* at The Old Globe and many others. His film and television credits include *33 Griffin Lane*, *Blood Deep*, *Last Stop*, *Skin Deep*, *Viva*

(MORE)

*Laughlin*, *Diagnosis Murder*, *Law and Order SVU*, and *The Rescue of Jessica McClure*, and he played Carl Wilson in *Summer Dreams*, *The Story of the Beach Boys*. A UCLA graduate, he earned a Masters from Yale School of Drama.

Iowa native **BRIDGET FLANERY** (Lizzie Curry) makes her ANW debut in *The Rainmaker*. She earned an MFA from the Yale School of Drama and has performed in theatres across the country. Her favorite stage roles include Blanche Dubois in *A Streetcar Named Desire*, Beppi in *Farmyard/Ghost Train*, Isabella in *Measure for Measure*, Wendla in *Spring Awakening*, and Viola in *Twelfth Night*. Flanery also has extensive television credits, including: *Will and Grace*, *Without a Trace*, *General Hospital*, *Out of Practice*, *7th Heaven*, *Sabrina the Teenaged Witch*, *All My Children*, *Guiding Light* and *Babylon 5*, to name a few. She can be seen this fall in episodes of *Desperate Housewives* and *Two and a Half Men* as well as the independent feature film *Something Blue*.

**MITCHELL EDMONDS** (HC Curry) is currently celebrating his 17<sup>th</sup> season as a resident member of A Noise Within. The Tennessee native began performing as youngster in his church's drama club and with the University of Tennessee's Carousel Children's Theatre. At 15, he joined The Bishop's Company, a repertory touring company and continued touring through his teens with a children's theater company and a marionette company. He also participated in summer stock at the Wagon Wheel Playhouse in Indiana and the Wingspread summer Theatre in Michigan. Edmonds served in the U.S. Air Force in the early '60's and was stationed at a base near Tokyo. There he performed with a base theatre club as well as with the Tokyo Armature Dramatic Club. He also dubbed English into Japanese films. Edmonds subsequently acted at the Provincetown Playhouse in New York City as part of its repertory company. He also performed extensively at such regional theatres as Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, New Orleans Rep, South Coast Rep, A Contemporary Theatre in Seattle, the Performing Arts Foundation on Long Island, San Diego Rep, The Alliance Theatre in Atlanta, Alaska Rep in Anchorage, the Old Globe theatre in San Diego, Cortland Rep in upper New York. In addition, Edmonds co-founded a marionette company based in Atlanta and was the founder and director – for three years – of the Studio Company in Atlanta. He has performed at Broadway's Court Theatre in *Red, White and Maddox* in 1969 and *Two Shakespearian Actors* in 1992. At A Noise Within, Edmonds has appeared in more than 40 plays, including *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, *Skin of Our Teeth*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Heartbreak House*, *Waiting for Godot*, *Great Expectations*, *Henry IV*, Part One and *Tartuffe*. Among his television credits are *True Blood*, *The West Wing*, *Days of Our Lives*, *Frazier* and *Numb3rs*.

**SCOTT ROBERTS** (File) recently wrapped an appearance in the Rubicon Theater/ Pacific Resident Theatre co-production of *My Antonia*, written and directed by Scott Schwartz. Prior to that, he worked opposite Greg Mullavey in Alan Ayckbourn's comedy *How the Other Half Loves*, and in *First Monday in October* with Ralph Waite. Recently, he appeared in the Odyssey Theatre's latest production of *The Chicago Conspiracy Trial*. Roberts has played Hortensio in LA Shakespeare's production of *A Taming of the Shrew* and donned his best wig in the 17<sup>th</sup> Century Restoration comedy *The Way of the World* as Mirabell. Off-Broadway, he has played Mickey in *Hurlyburly* and Bruce in *Beyond Therapy*, and had the opportunity to work on one of O'Neill's first plays at the Provincetown Playhouse. He recently taped an independent television pilot, *Little League*. Roberts is a graduate of the Actors Studio MFA program and Harvard University, where he translated a lot of Latin and still found time to travel the world playing on their rugby team. Originally from Boston, he is an avid Boston fanatic and a lifelong member of Red Sox Nation.

EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

## **CALENDAR LISTING**

### **WHO:**

A Noise Within – one of the nation's leading repertory theatres

### **WHERE:**

A Noise Within  
234 South Brand Blvd.  
Glendale, CA 91204

### **TICKET PRICES:**

\$44 (Friday and Saturday evenings, Sunday matinees);  
\$40 (Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday evenings, Saturday matinees);  
\$28 (previews).  
Group rates and special rates for school groups available

**TICKETS & INFO:**

818-240-0910 x1  
www.ANoiseWithin.org

**What:**

**N. RICHARD NASH'S *THE RAINMAKER***

*Cast and Crew:*

Bo Foxworth (Starbuck)  
Bridget Flanery (Lizzie Curry)  
Mitchell Edmonds (HC Curry)  
Scott Roberts (File)  
Ross Hellwig (Jim Curry)  
Leonard Kelly-Young (Sheriff Thomas)  
Steve Weingartner (Noah Curry)

Andrew Traister, Director  
David O, Composer  
James P. Taylor, Set and Lighting Designer  
Julie Keen, Costume Designer  
Byron Batista, Hair/Make-up  
Dicapria Del Carpio, Props Master  
Rebecca Baillie, Production Manager  
Kate Barrett, Stage Manager  
Adam Lillibridge, Technical Director  
Michael Pukac, Scenic Artist  
Ronnie Clark, Master Electrician

**PREVIEWS:**

Saturday, October 4, 8 p.m.  
Sunday, October 5, 7 p.m.  
Wednesday, October 8, 8 p.m.  
Thursday, October 9, 8 p.m. (a Pay-What-You-Can performance)  
Friday, October 10, 8 p.m.

**OPENS:**

Saturday, October 11, 8 p.m.

**RUNS:**

Sunday, October 12, 2 p.m.  
Sunday, October 19, 2 p.m.  
Sunday, October 19, 7 p.m.  
Wednesday, October 22, 8 p.m.  
Thursday, October 23, 8 p.m.  
Saturday, November 15, 2 p.m.  
Saturday, November 15, 8 p.m.  
Sunday, November 16, 2 p.m.  
Sunday, November 16, 7 p.m.  
Thursday, December 4, 8 p.m.  
Friday, December 5, 8 p.m.  
Saturday, December 6, 2 p.m.  
Saturday, December 6, 8 p.m.

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9/18/08

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