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**A NOISE WITHIN PRESENTS
SHAKESPEARE'S EXUBERANT COMEDY,
*THE TAMING OF THE SHREW***

Saturday, March 7 – Sunday, May 17, 2009

A Noise Within (ANW), the acclaimed repertory theatre company, begins the second half of its 2008-09 season with Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew*, a rough and raucous ride on the road to romance and one of the Bard's most popular, high-spirited comedies, which opens Saturday, March 7 and runs through Sunday, May 17, 2009. (Previews begin Saturday, February 28.) Directed by ANW Co-Founder/Co-Artistic Director Geoff Elliott, the cast includes Allegra Fulton (Katherine), Steve Weingartner (Petruchio), Apollo Dukakis (Baptista), Alan Blumenfeld (Grumio) and Tom Fitzpatrick (Gremio), who garnered critical raves as Fagin in ANW's *Oliver Twist* earlier this season.

"In many ways *The Taming of the Shrew* is a perfect play," says Elliott. "It's beautifully balanced with sometimes soaring imagery, a fast forward-moving energy, and deep and relevant substance concerning relationships between men and women." He adds, "As controversial as the play has become over the years with regard to 'the taming of Kate,' I believe that it's first and foremost a fun-loving comedy about two childish individuals who, over the course of the play, complete each other, mature, and fall truly and deeply in love."

Elliott sets this production around Italy in the 1950's. "Not only do I love the look of the period," he says, "I also think that because this was a time in which the dust of the terrible WWII world upheaval was settling, people were once again turning their attention to marriage, love, family, and just plain having fun. It is also a wonderfully vibrant time musically. Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett, Rosemary Clooney, Dean Martin and other Italian crooners had arrived, and some of this musical style is being incorporated into the sound of the production."

(MORE ON REVERSE)

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.

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 unflagging 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.

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ABOUT THE ARTISTS

GEOFF ELLIOTT (Director), co-founder and co-artistic director of A Noise Within with his wife, Director Julia Rodriguez-Elliott, co-produced close to 100 productions and directed/co-directed more than 40. Elliott has also performed major roles for some of the leading regional theatres in America, including The American Conservatory Theatre, South Coast Repertory, Arizona Theatre Company, Milwaukee Repertory Theatre and California Shakespeare Festival. He has received three Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle awards and more than a dozen other awards for acting. His Shakespearean roles include Iago in *Othello*, Theseus/Oberon in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Coriolanus, Richard in *King Richard III* and Hamlet. He has also performed leading roles in classic plays by such authors as O'Neill, Miller, Ibsen, Rostand, Wilde and Williams. Earlier this season, he appeared as Bill Sykes in ANW's production of Neal

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Bartlett's adaptation of *Oliver Twist*. Elliott holds a BFA from the University of Florida and an MFA from the American Conservatory Theatre.

APOLLO DUKAKIS (Baptista) is a resident artist of A Noise Within and has appeared in more than a dozen productions with company, including Mr. Dimanche/A Poor Person in *Don Juan*, Brabantio/Gratiano in *Othello*, Horace Vandergelder in *The Matchmaker*, Cominius in *Coriolanus*, Elbow/Barnardine in *Measure for Measure*, Pantalone in *The King Stag*, Argan in *The Imaginary Invalid*, Abbess/2nd Merchant in *The Comedy of Errors*, The Stage Manager in *The Skin of Our Teeth*, Dubois in *The Misanthrope*, Doctor Baugh in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, Ragueneau in *Cyrano de Bergerac* (1998 and 1995), Baptista in *Taming of the Shrew*, Boss Mangan in *Heartbreak House* and Shepherd in *Oedipus the King*. Previously, Dukakis co-founded and served as associate artistic director, and resident actor at The Whole Theatre in New Jersey from 1973 to 1990. Other credits include *Homebody/Kabul* at Trinity Repertory Company, *Hecuba* at American Conservatory Theatre, *Nine Armenians* at Mark Taper Forum, *Anna in the Tropics* at Pasadena Playhouse and Palo Alto's TheaterWorks, *Pera Palas* at Theatre @ Boston Court/Antaeus, which received LA Critics Award-Best Ensemble, Glengarry Glen Ross at Dallas Theatre Center, *Lear* in *King Lear* at Shakespeare Santa Monica, *Rhinoceros* at Antaeus, *Shylock* in *Merchant of Venice* at Pacific Repertory Theatre (Carmel), *Old Actor* in *The Fantasticks* at Arizona Theatre Company, Denver Center Theatre Company, Williamstown Theatre Festival, American Place Theatre, La Mama, George St. Playhouse, Provincetown Playhouse, among others. Active in film and television as well, he has appeared in *American Heart*, *Last Action Hero*, *Shadow of the Blair Witch*, *Arrest and Trial*, *7th Heaven*, *Seinfeld*, *L.A. Law*, *Life Goes On*, *Hunter*, *Dream On* and *Beauty and the Beast*.

TOM FITZPATRICK (Gremio), who appeared as Fagan in ANW's recent production of Neil Bartlett's adaptation of *Oliver Twist*, has been an actor for 49 of his 67 years, primarily on the stage. After completing graduate studies in theatre at Boston University, he joined the prestigious APA/Phoenix Repertory Company at The Lyceum Theatre on Broadway and was also a company member at various resident theatres around the country, including Baltimore's Center Stage, The Charles Playhouse, The Boston Rep and The Meetinghouse Theatre Company, all in Boston, and The New Mexico Rep. Fitzpatrick also did summer stock at Eugene O'Neill's legendary Provincetown Playhouse on Cape Cod, and appeared at numerous Off-off-Broadway theatres. Fitzpatrick moved to Hollywood in 1980 and in 1985 began a 10-year engagement as a charter member of Dar A Luz, a performance group created by the late Avant-Garde director Reza Abdoh. Fitzpatrick has also performed at The Mark Taper Forum, The Pasadena Playhouse, The La Jolla Playhouse, The Los Angeles Theatre Center and The Long Beach Opera and at such smaller venues as Theatre/Theatre, The Playwright's Arena, Moving Arts, The Globe Playhouse, DeJa Vu Coffeehouse, The Ford Amphitheatre, The Actors' Gang, The Evidence Room and A Noise Within. In film, Fitzpatrick had the honor of giving Leonardo Di Caprio his first screen kiss in *The Basketball Diaries*. In *The Salton Sea*, he croons Lou Reed's "Take A Walk On The Wild Side," and in *Date Movie* he played the magician Gandalf. He also appeared in the indie films *Ill-Gotten Gain* and *The Confession*, as well as two indies that are currently in post-production, *Tribe* and *A Monster In The Attic*. Fitzpatrick is a silent film fanatic, and possesses a nearly encyclopedic knowledge of that mythic, vanished era.

ALLEGRA FULTON (Katherine), one of Canada's most celebrated actors, was born to two writers. Her childhood years were shared between her birthplace, Toronto, Barcelona and Sydney, Australia. She began working professionally at age 11 garnering numerous awards in Europe, US and Canada. Onstage, Fulton has received glowing reviews in classical and contemporary works. Her triumphant North American Tour of *Frida K.* – a one-woman tour de force about the life of Frida Kahlo (written by the actress' mother, Gloria Montero) – was proclaimed "One of the most extraordinary performances on the New York Stage" (*Village Voice*). She was invited by the Mexican and Canadian consulates to perform it in Frida's own Mexico City, where it received unanimous acclaim. Active in film and television as well, Fulton has been a regular on the Showtime series *Street Time*, the CTV series *The Associates*, and the celebrated French series *Tabou*. Recent credits include the CBS movie *Riding the Bus With My Sister*, the ABC movie *Celeste In the City*, the Rhombus film *Child Star* and the David Hyde film *Choke*, which won top honors at the Palm Springs International Short Film Festival. Fulton has worked with such noted directors as Angelica Huston, Nick Cassavetes, Frank Pierson, Claudia Weill and Canadian greats Don McKellar, Bruce MacDonald, Denys Arcand, Francois Girard and John Greyson. The independent film *The Hangman's Bride* (Word of Mouth Productions), in which she stars and shares a writing credit with her husband, actor Shawn Doyle, won the Genie Award for best short film, the Golden Sheaf Award and the Gold Award at the Houston World Festival. Fulton's voice can be heard in many animated series in both Canada and the US, and in many TV voiceovers. She is the signature voice of TMN, CBC television and MFEST.

ALAN BLUMENFELD (Grumio) has appeared in numerous A Noise Within productions, including as McCleavy in *Loot*, Sancho in *Man of La Mancha*, Pere Ubu in *Ubu Roi*, Bottom in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Hollywood Bowl, Chrysalde in *School for Wives*, Dogberry in *Much Ado About Nothing*, and Etienne in *A Flea in Her Ear*. The veteran actor has also performed in *An Italian Straw Hat*, *A Feminine Ending*, and *Born Yesterday* with South Coast Repertory Theatre and in Theatricum Botanicum's productions of *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, for which he won an LA Drama Critics Circle Award, *The Winter's Tale*, *The Skin of Our Teeth*; *Lysistrata*, *King Lear*, *The Seagull*, *The Madwoman of*

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Chailot, *Talley's Folly*, and *Romeo and Juliet*, among others. Blumenfeld was cast in the first national tour of Neil Simon's *Laughter on the 23rd Floor*, and, regionally, has appeared with ACT in San Francisco, Renaissance Rep in Chicago; PCPA in Santa Maria; and San Francisco Opera. With more than 200 television guest star roles to his credit, Blumenfeld plays the recurring role of the Nightmare Man on *HEROES*, and earned accolades for appearances in *Madmen*, *Gray's Anatomy*, *CSI*, *Without a Trace*, *Gilmore Girls* and *ER*. On the silver screen, he has appeared in *Righteous Kill*, *In Her Shoes*, *The Ring*, *Heartbreakers*, *2Gether*, *MTV*, *Tin Men*, *The Elder Son*, *The TV Set* and *Callback*.

A Noise Within resident artist, **STEVE WEINGARTEN** (Petruccio) most recently appeared as Noah in the company's critically acclaimed production of *The Rainmaker*. Previous ANW roles include Jake Latta in *The Night of the Iguana*, Worcester/Traveler in *Henry IV, Part 1*, Antigonus in *The Winter's Tale*, Governor/Innkeeper/Muleteer in *Man of La Mancha*, Oliver in *As You Like It*, Caliban in *The Tempest*, Cassius in *Julius Caesar*, Puck in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Victor Chandel/Poche in *A Flea in Her Ear*, George in *Of Mice and Men*, Chris in *All My Sons*, Ariel in *The Tempest*, Straker in *Man and Superman*, Brutus in *Coriolanus*. Other engagements of note include Caius Ligarius in *Julius Caesar* at the Mark Taper Forum; *King Lear*, *Saint Joan* and *A Christmas Carol* at American Conservatory Theatre; and *Troilus and Cressida*, *Timon of Athens* and *Comedy of Errors* at Berkeley Shakespeare Festival. Weingarten, a veteran of the television soap opera *Days of our Lives*, also appeared in the animated film *Terra*, directed by Dane Smith and Meni Tsirbas, and the horror film *Lord of Illusions* written and directed by celebrated English author, filmmaker and artist Clive Barker.

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:

SHAKESPEARE'S *THE TAMING OF THE SHREW*

Cast and Crew:

Alan Blumenfeld (Grumio)
Apollo Dukakis (Baptista)
Mitchell Edmonds (Merchant)
Tom Fitzpatrick (Gremio)
Allegra Fulton (Katherine)
Bill Hunt (Vincentio/Tailor)
Antonie Knoppers (Lucentio)
Jane Noseworthy (Bianca)
Jeremy Rabb (Tranio)
Laura Rhi (Widow)
Stephen Rockwell (Hortensio)
Andy Steadman (Curtis)

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Tim Venable (Biondello)
Steve Weingartner (Petruccio)

Geoff Elliott, Director
Kurt Boetcher, Set Designer
Soojin Lee, Costume Designer
Lena Garcia, Prop Master
Ken Booth, Lighting Designer
Patrick Hotchkiss, Sound Designer
Rebecca Baillie, Production Manager
Susan Coulter, Stage Manager
Adam Lillibridge, Technical Director
Jennifer Inglis, Scenic Artist
Ronnie Clark, Master Electrician

WHEN:

Previews:

Saturday, February 28, 8 pm
Sunday, March 1, 7 pm
Wednesday, March 4, 8 pm
Thursday, March 5, 8 pm
Friday, March 6, 8 pm

Opens:

Saturday, March 7, 8 pm

Runs:

Sunday, March 8, 2 pm
Sunday, March 8, 7 pm
Wednesday, March 25, 8 pm
Thursday, March 26, 8 pm
Friday, March 27, 8 pm
Saturday, March 28, 2 pm
Saturday, March 28, 8 pm
Wednesday, April 22, 8 pm
Thursday, April 23, 8 pm
Friday, April 24, 8 pm
Sunday, May 3, 2 pm
Sunday, May 3, 7 pm
Wednesday, May 6, 8 pm
Thursday, May 7, 8 pm
Saturday, May 16, 2 pm
Saturday, May 16, 8 pm
Sunday, May 17, 2 pm
Sunday, May 17, 7 pm

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