



## MEDIA RELEASE

*For Immediate Release*

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### **SAN JOSE REPERTORY THEATRE ANNOUNCES THE 2007-2008 SEASON Begins September 2007**

#### **Featuring**

**\*World Premiere Adaptation, *Triumph of Love*,  
Co-Production with California Shakespeare Theater\***

**\**This Wonderful Life*\***

**\* Regional Premiere, *Tranced*\***

**\* Regional Premiere, *Souvenir*\***

**\* World Premiere Adaptation, *Jekyll and Hyde*  
Co-Production with Arizona Theatre Company\***

SAN JOSE, Ca. (March 1, 2007) – San Jose Repertory Theatre’s Artistic Director **Timothy Near** announced today the 2007-2008 Season, with five of the six plays. Near has assembled an entertaining, captivating and challenging season, balancing the revelations and excitement of contemporary plays with the thrill of seeing the classics innovatively interpreted and produced, a hallmark for Near and San Jose Rep.

“I am truly jazzed at next season’s selections of three absolutely entrancing comedies, a riveting contemporary drama and a Victorian mystery,” states Rep Artistic Director, Timothy Near. “Each play is smart, theatrical and will stimulate the mind and celebrate the human capacity to make life choices that are positive and transformational. I am especially excited about these plays because each one provides great opportunity for artists to dive in, dig deep, mine the gold of their imaginations and bring us some glittering insights into the human condition.”

The 2007-2008 Subscription Season is filled with romance, intrigue, suspense, music and laughter! This season will feature the World Premiere adaptation of **Pierre Marivaux’s** beautifully stylish 18<sup>th</sup> century romantic comedy, ***Triumph of Love***, and **Jeffrey Hatcher’s** adaptation of the intriguing Victorian tale of split personality, ***Jekyll & Hyde***. The season also includes two Regional Premieres: **Robert Clyman’s** chilling psychological thriller, ***Tranced***, and the Broadway hit, ***Souvenir*** by **Stephen Temperley**. ***This Wonderful Life*** by **Steve Murray** is the delightful treat that is perfect for the holiday season.

“The board is thrilled with next season’s selections,” said Jay Hoey, San Jose Rep’s Board President. “Timothy Near has put together an extraordinary and challenging season of first-class art that not only continues the Renaissance at the Rep, which started this year through the generous support of the city, foundations, and our donors, but is also sure to be embraced enthusiastically by the Rep’s theatre-going community.”

The exciting collaboration with California Shakespeare Theater launches our season with the World Premiere Adaptation of ***Triumph of Love***, by Pierre Marivaux, one of France’s most influential playwrights. This beautifully stylish 18<sup>th</sup> century romantic comedy is full of delicious deception, gender confusions and all the complexities of

l'amour. This is the story about a beautiful young princess who disguises herself as a man in order to win the love of a prince. The princess Leonide learns her throne rightfully belongs to Agis, who is in exile and was raised as her  
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enemy. Bedazzled by Agis, the mischievous Leonide will stop at nothing to charm his heart and win his affection. The wildly creative and imaginative Lillian Garrett-Groag, director of 2000-01 *Enter the Guardsman*, returns to the Rep to mount a world premiere of her own adaptation of this elegantly composed classic. **September 22-October 21, 2007**

Surrender to the charms of the holiday season with ***This Wonderful Life*** by **Steve Murray**; conceived by **Mark Setlock**. This visually stunning holiday stage adaptation of the perennially popular holiday film *It's A Wonderful Life* will capture your heart and captivate your spirit. A witty holiday spectacle brimming with nostalgia and imagination—it's a one-man tour de force as he seamlessly and with breakneck pace plays 35 characters, and while doing so reminds us of the power of perspective and friendship...the perfect holiday gift. **November 24-December 23, 2007.**

*Tranced*, the new play by **Robert Clyman**, calls into question the concept of 'truth' and explores the powerful art of persuasion. In this chilling psychological thriller, Philip is a highly respected psychiatrist famous for using "trancing," a form of hypnotism, to help his patients uncover suppressed memories. When he trances Azmera, a foreign grad student, he learns that her secret could have profound consequences for thousands of people in an African village. Enlisting the aid of an ambitious reporter with connections to the Director of African Affairs, Philip is pulled into a suspenseful vortex that calls into question the very nature of truth. **January 26-February 24, 2008.**

The Regional Premiere of this wildly funny play ***Souvenir*** will put a song on everyone's lips! The play with music by **Stephen Temperley** was hailed by the NY Daily News as "Hilarious and deeply touching...a loony triumph! Extraordinary!" Dubbed by her critics as the "Dire Diva of Din," Florence Foster Jenkins, a real-life socialite, enjoyed a remarkably successful concert career even though she was unburdened by talent and deliriously tone-deaf. Lost in her vision of music, her accompanist, Cosme McMoon, grows to admire, respect and even protect the diva's triumphant spirit. This beloved Broadway hit is a tribute to friendship and a salute to one woman's unwavering belief in herself. This will speak to anyone who's ever held onto a dream. **March 22-April 20, 2008.**

**Jeffrey Hatcher**, the author of the screenplay *Casanova* and adaptor of Henry James' *The Turn of the Screw*, Anouilh's *Leocadia: To Fool the Eye*, and *Smash* based on George Bernard Shaw's novel *An Unsocial Socialist*, sets out on a new journey. His new play will investigate and attempt to answer the question, "What happened on the night Henry Jekyll died?" **Jeffrey Hatcher's** new adaptation of ***Jekyll and Hyde***, based on **Robert Lewis Stevenson's** intriguing Victorian tale of split personality, explores the conflicting depths of good and evil within humanity. The tortured but often funny and charming soul of Edward Hyde is revealed as he longs for the Henry Jekyll persona, while simultaneously desiring to be free of the spell that compels him to such wicked and deplorable acts. **May 10-June 8, 2008.**

Subscriptions are now available to renewing subscribers and reservations are being taken for new subscriptions. Prices begin at **\$222.00** for a six play subscription. For subscription tickets, call **408.367.7255** or buy online at [www.SJRep.com](http://www.SJRep.com).

### **About the Rep**

Under the direction of Artistic Director Timothy Near, San Jose Repertory Theatre stimulates, celebrates and enhances understanding of ourselves and others through the shared experience of live theater by producing new plays and classics marked by innovative interpretations and a reflection and inclusion of our community and the world in which we live. During the nine seasons since moving into the facility in 1997, the Rep continues to strive to be a major contributor to the national body of theatre literature and to produce theater with an optimistic, humanist and enlightened aesthetic. For more information, visit us at [www.SJRep.com](http://www.SJRep.com)

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