

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 4, 2013

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Cinnabar sizzles with the jubilant musical “La Cage aux Folles”

PETALUMA, CA – Yes, you cancan! Cinnabar Theater in Sonoma County is transformed into one of France’s finest nightclubs for “La Cage aux Folles,” the exuberant show that’s earned **11 Tony Awards including Best Musical**. After Cinnabar presents a comedy called “The Pavilion” in September, “La Cage aux Folles” kicks off on Friday, October 18 and sashays across the stage through Sunday, November 3.

“This show is so much fun,” said Elly Lichenstein, Cinnabar’s esteemed artistic director. “Not only is it full of **irresistible songs and sassy jokes**, it delivers a wonderful message about the universality of love and family. Our talented cast captures that feeling when they sing my favorite lyric from the show: ‘The best of times is now. Live and love as best as you know how!’”

The “New York Times” calls “La Cage aux Folles” “an openhearted, old-style, big-time musical... Harvey Fierstein’s sentimental and funny book shrewdly juxtaposes a sense of the outrageous with the oldest, established values of marriage and family.”

Featuring music and lyrics by Jerry Herman, this jubilant show celebrates marriage in all its forms. A young man gets engaged, yet he’s afraid to bring his fiancée’s parents home. Will he hide the fact that he was raised by two men who run a risqué cabaret? Or will love conquer all at “La Cage aux Folles”? After the singing and dancing – under the costumes and glitter – it’s all about loving that person in the mirror.

Tickets for “La Cage aux Folles” are \$35 for adults and \$25 for ages 21 and under. Special \$9 seats are available for middle- and high-school students as part of “Friday Night Live,” a new theater party for local youth that takes place on October 18. Or score significant savings by seeing “La Cage aux Folles” as part of a subscription to three or five shows at Cinnabar.

“La Cage aux Folles” features stage direction by Sheri Lee Miller and music direction by Nancy Chun. The designers are David Lear (scenery), Clay David (costumes), and Wayne Hovey (lights). The show is generously underwritten by Karen and Mike Bergin of Bergin Glass with Frank Schomer.

The **14-person cast** showcases Michael Van Why as Albin and Stephen Walsh as Georges alongside Madeleine Ashe (Madame Dindon), Stephen Dietz (Monsieur Dindon), Miguel Evangelista (Francis), Elly Lichenstein (Mademoiselle Renaud), Clark Miller (Monsieur Renaud), Valentina Osinski (Jacqueline), James Pelican (Jacob), Kyle Stoner (Jean-Michel), and Audrey Tatum (Anne). The hilarious kickline of Cagelles features Joseph Favalora, Quinn Monroe, Valentina Osinski, and Zack Turner.

Every year, **Cinnabar Theater** produces a thrilling mix of plays, musicals, operas, and concerts in a remarkable range of genres. Cinnabar’s Young Rep offers extensive activities for local youth, and the Cinnabar Singers welcome anyone who wants to be part of a chorus. All these events take place in the iconic red schoolhouse perched atop a grassy hill on the outskirts of Petaluma.

Audiences have flocked to performances in this intimate setting since 1972, when Marvin and Jan Klebe established an arts center for the community. Along with their sons, they transformed a charming 1908 schoolhouse into a jewel-box theater that has hosted successful shows for four decades. Now Cinnabar is preparing another year of lively performances for its loyal audience.

Cinnabar Theater is located at 3333 Petaluma Boulevard North, just off Highway 101 and only minutes from historic downtown Petaluma. There's ample parking up on the hill... and a friendly herd of goats grazing in the neighboring field. For more information, or to purchase tickets, **call 707-763-8920 or visit cinnabartheater.org**.

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Photo caption:

At Cinnabar Theater in Petaluma, Michael Van Why (left) and Stephen Walsh star in "La Cage aux Folles," a jubilant musical that celebrates the importance of love and family. (Photo by Eric Chazankin)

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"LA CAGE AUX FOLLES"

WHO: Cinnabar Theater, the beloved professional theater in Sonoma County

WHAT: Cinnabar is transformed into one of France's finest nightclubs for "La Cage aux Folles," the exuberant show that earned 11 Tony Awards including Best Musical.

Book by Harvey Fierstein / Music and lyrics by Jerry Herman
Based on the play by Jean Poiret
Music direction by Mary Chun / Stage direction by Sheri Lee Miller
Featuring a cast of 14 talented local actors, singers, and dancers

WHERE: Cinnabar Theater, 3333 Petaluma Blvd. North, Petaluma, CA 94952

WHEN: October 18 – November 3, 2013
Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. / Sundays at 2 p.m.

HOW MUCH: \$9 for middle-school and high-school students (October 18 only)
\$25 for ages 21 and under
\$35 for adults
Significant discounts available as part of a ticket package

TICKETS: 707-763-8920 or www.cinnabartheater.org

Buy online at anytime... or call Monday through Friday between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.
Tickets may also be available at the door, but reservations are recommended!

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