

PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACTS:

Theatre Manager/Press:	Sky A. Rappoport	SRappoport@mpc.edu	831-649-4495
Theatre Arts Chairman:	Gary Bolen	GBolen@mpc.edu	831-646-4085
Director:	Peter DeBono	831-484-9835	831-646-4209
Box Office:	www.mpctheatre.com	mpcboxoffice@mpc.edu	831-646-4213

20 September 2012

**Monterey Peninsula College Theatre Company to open Neil Simon's award winning
"BAREFOOT IN THE PARK"
October 4 - 21, 2012
Tickets on sale now!**

Monterey, CA – MPC Theatre Company's 2012 season continues with **BAREFOOT IN THE PARK**.

Performances will run October 4 - 21, 2011. Tickets for **BAREFOOT IN THE PARK** are priced from \$10 - \$25, with Young Adult (16-25) and group discounts available. Performances are Thursday October 4th (Preview) 7:30 PM, Friday October 5th (Opening) 7:30 PM, Saturday October 6th 7:30 PM, Sunday October 7th 2:00 PM, Thursday October 11th 7:30 PM, Friday October 12nd 7:30 PM, Saturday October 13th 7:30 PM, Sunday October 14th 2:00 PM, Thursday October 25th 7:30 PM, Friday October 26th 7:30 PM, Saturday October 28th 7:30 PM, Sunday October 29th 2:00 PM (Closing).

Neil Simon's second play, **BAREFOOT IN THE PARK**, is a classic romantic comedy about a conservative young lawyer, Paul Bratter, and his free-spirited new bride, Corie. The comedy follows the young couple as they move from the giddy joy of a honeymoon at New York's Plaza Hotel into the crazy reality of married life in a tiny fifth-floor mid Manhattan walkup, with no heating system or elevator. Their oddball upstairs neighbor Victor Velasco and Corie's mother Ethel add to the comic discord, and soon the newlyweds begin to quarrel. Straight-laced Paul starts to question Corie's judgment, while fun-loving Corie begins questioning Paul's sense of romance and adventure, as they come to terms with wedded bliss.

BAREFOOT IN THE PARK was the winner of the 1964 Tony™ Award for Best Comedy. The play opened on Broadway at the Biltmore Theatre on October 23, 1963 and closed on June 25, 1967 after 1,530 performances.

CHRIS DEACON (Paul Bratter) is thrilled to make his return to THE MPC Theater Co. after graduating from UC Irvine with a BA in Drama. Chris has recently appeared in TWELFTH NIGHT as Sir Andrew Aguecheek, BETRAYAL as Robert, and SPRING AWAKENING as Melchior.

ADRIANE OGLIETTI (Corie Bratter) was a cheerleader for six years which is how she discovered her passion for performing arts. She made her acting debut in 2009 as the title character, Princess Rosaland, in MPC Storybook Theater's SLEEPING BEAUTY. Since then she has performed in multiple MPC productions such as PRINCESS AND THE PEA, PIXIES, KINGS, AND MAGICAL THINGS, ONCE UPON A MATTRESS, THE SNOW QUEEN, and MUSICAL OF MUSICALS, THE MUSICAL.

PETER DEBONO (Director) has recently retired and is now Professor Emeritus from the MPC Theatre Department where he has taught and directed for 40 years. He was the 2011 recipient of the Allen Griffin Award for Teaching Excellence. Peter received his BA in Theatre Arts from UCLA and he holds a Master of Fine Arts degree in Acting - also from UCLA. He is a 42 year member of the Screen Actors' Guild.

Some of Peter's directing credits include Neil Simon's "Plaza Suite" and Chapter Two", he has also directed "Our Town, "Death of a Salesman" and "Art". He has directed 152 plays in his career. Peter currently teaches a special Director's Project and will direct a yearly show for the MPC Theatre season.

The creative team includes **Peter DeBono** (Director); **Dan Beck** (Technical Director); **Nichole Anne Bryant-Stephens** (Scenic Designer), **Dan Beck** (Lighting Designer), and **Gloria C Mattos Hughes** (Costumes).

NEIL SIMON Neil Simon is an American playwright and screenwriter, and one of the most reliable hit-makers in Broadway history, as well as one of the most performed playwrights in the world. From the mid- Sixties to the mid-Eighties, Simon's name became synonymous in theatre with popular and financial success, much like Spielberg's would later do to film. Though primarily a comic writer, some of his plays, particularly the *Eugene Trilogy* and *The Sunshine Boys*, reflect on the 20th century Jewish-American experience. Along with his brother Danny, their revues for Camp Tamiment in Pennsylvania in the early 1950s caught the attention of Sid Caesar, who hired the duo for his popular TV comedy series *Your Show of Shows*. His work won him two Emmy Award nominations and the appreciation of Phil Silvers, who hired him to write for his eponymous sitcom in 1959.

In 1961, Simon's second play, the musical *Little Me* (starring former boss Caesar), opened to mixed reviews. Although it failed to attract a large audience, it earned Simon his first Tony Award nomination. Overall, he has garnered seventeen Tony nominations and won three. He has also won the 1991 Pulitzer Prize in drama for *Lost in Yonkers*. He is the namesake of the former Alvin Theatre, (now the Neil Simon Theatre) a legitimate Broadway theater, and an honorary member of the Walnut Street Theatre's board of trustees.

For tickets and more information call 831-646-4213 (Wed-Fri 3-7pm) or purchase online anytime at www.mpctheatre.com. For groups of 15 or more call the Box Office directly.

Tickets for **BAREFOOT IN THE PARK** are priced from \$10 - \$25, with Young Adult (16-25) and group discounts available. Performances are Thursday October 4th (Preview) 7:30 PM, Friday October 5th (Opening)



7:30 PM, Saturday October 6th 7:30 PM, Sunday October 7th 2:00 PM, Thursday October 11th 7:30 PM, Friday October 12nd 7:30 PM, Saturday October 13th 7:30 PM, Sunday October 14th 2:00 PM, Thursday October 25th 7:30 PM, Friday October 26th 7:30 PM, Saturday October 28th 7:30 PM, Sunday October 29th 2:00 PM (Closing).

Tickets on sale at the MPC Box Office (646-4213) and online at <https://secure3.TicketGuys.com/mpc>

#