

PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**MEDIA CONTACTS:**

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15 June 2012**Monterey Peninsula College Theatre Company presents****CABARET****Book by Joe Masteroff, lyrics by Fred Ebb, and music by John Kander**

Directed by Gary Bolen

Opens (Press Night) June 29 through July 15, 2012**Preview June 28****Tickets on sale now!**

MONTEREY, CA – MPC Theatre brings its storied history to the Wharf Theatre with the multiple-award winning **CABARET**. Seen by Peninsula audiences most recently in 2004, MPC continues its rich tradition of presenting Broadway caliber theatre this time transplanted to an intimate (and very appropriately "cabaret" style setting) on the historic Fisherman's Wharf. It is here that Sally Bowles performs nightly at the infamous Kit-Kat Klub. *"Its divine decadence darling!"* starring Jill Miller and Peter Hoffman as Sally Bowles and the Emcee. Each summer MPC Theatre Company delivers the highest caliber musicals to peninsula audiences. Past hits include *Once Upon a Mattress* (2011 presented at the Outdoor Forest Theatre); the Central Coast premiers of... *RENT* (2010); *The Producers* (2009); *Urinetown, the Musical* (2006 & 2008)

CABARET was turned into an eight-time Oscar-winning 1972 movie starring Liza Minnelli, Michael York and Joel Grey. Prior to the movie, **CABARET** premiered on Broadway 1966. In 1993 the musical returned to New York with Sam Mendes' famous Tony-winning production, which premiered at London's Donmar, and starred Alan Cumming (London and Broadway) and Natasha Richardson (Broadway only). Joe Masteroff's book for **CABARET** was based on John van Druten's play *I Am a Camera*, itself inspired by Christopher Isherwood's *Berlin stories*.

The Story: The scene is a sleazy nightclub in Berlin as the 20s are drawing to a close. Cliff Bradshaw (Rob Devlin), a young American writer, and Ernst Ludwig (Erik Morton), a German, strike up a friendship on a train. Ernst gives Cliff an address in Berlin where he will find a room. Cliff takes this advice and Fraulein Schneider (Phyllis Davis), a vivacious sixty-year old, lets him have a room very cheaply.

Cliff, at the Kit Kat Club, meets an English girl, Sally Bowles (Jill Miller), who is working there as a singer and hostess. Next day, as Cliff is giving Ernst an English lesson, Sally arrives with all her luggage and moves in.

Ernst comes to ask Cliff to collect something for him from Paris; he will pay well for the service. Cliff knows that this will involve smuggling currency, but agrees to go. Ernst's fee will be useful now that Cliff and Sally are to be married. Fraulein Schneider and her admirer, a Jewish greengrocer named Herr Schultz (Mitchell Davis), also decide to become engaged and a celebration party is held in Herr Schultz shop. In the middle of the festivities Ernst arrives wearing a Nazi armband. Cliff realizes that his Paris errand was on behalf of the Nazi party and refuses Ernst's payment, but Sally accepts it.

At Cliff's flat Sally gets ready to go back to work at the Kit Kat Klub. Cliff determines that they will leave for America but that evening he calls at the Klub and finds Sally there. He is furious, and when Ernst approaches him to perform another errand Cliff knocks him down. Sally sings her big number *Come to the Cabaret*. Next morning Cliff is alone, packing to go home. Schultz comes into say he is moving to another part of Berlin. Sally arrives looking ill and without her fur coat; she has sold it to a doctor who has performed an abortion to get rid of her baby. She tells Cliff she is not going to America with him. Leaving Berlin on the train, Cliff recalls the events of his life there. The Master of Ceremonies reminds the audience that he promised that they would forget their troubles.

ABOUT THE CREATIVE TEAM

John Kander (music) & Fred Ebb (lyrics) The John Kander and Fred Ebb collaboration of four decades has created what many would consider Broadway standards and contemporary classics: *Flora, the Red Menace*; *Cabaret* (Tony Award); *The Happy Time*; *Zorba*; *70, Girls, 70*; *Chicago*; *The Act*; *Woman of the Year* (Tony Award, Best Score); *The Rink*; *Kiss of the Spider Woman* (Tony Award, Best Score); and *Steel Pier*. Their collaboration also transferred itself to movies and television as they wrote original material for the Academy Awards; "Liza With a Z" (Emmy Award); HBO's "Liza Minnelli's Stepping Out" (Emmy Award); *Funny Lady* (Oscar nominated for "How Lucky Can You Get"); *Lucky Lady*; *New York, New York*; *Stepping Out*; and *Chicago* (Oscar nominated for Best Song). In the mid '80s the song "New York, New York" becoming the official anthem of New York City. At the time of the unfortunate death of Mr. Ebb, Kander and Ebb had several projects in different stages of completion waiting in the wings: *The Visit*, *All About Us*, *Curtains* (currently on Broadway) and *Minstrel Show*. Life goes on.

Joe Masteroff (book) Came to New York from Philadelphia after attending Temple University and serving in the U.S. Air Force, he has been represented in New York City by the play *The Warm Peninsula*, the libretto for

an operatic version of Eugene O'Neill's *Desire Under the Elms* and the book and lyrics for a recent production of *Six Wives* at the York Theatre Company.

ABOUT THE PRINCIPLES

Sally Boles:

JILL MILLER (*Sally Boles*) - CABARET is Jill's first show with MPC, and she is very excited to be a part of it! Thus far in 2012, she has also appeared in Pacific Repertory Theater's productions of FIDDLER ON THE ROOF (Hodel) and HAIRSPRAY (Prudy Pingleton); Paperwing Theatre Company's production of REEFER MADNESS (Mary Lane). She also choreographed REEFER MADNESS and HAIRSPRAY. Jill would like to dedicate her performances in CABARET to her handsome and loving husband, Daniel Matthey, who is unable to attend as he serves our country in the United States army.

Cliff Bradshaw:

ROB DEVLIN is happy to be returning to the MPC stage for the first time since 2007, when he starred in GUYS AND DOLLS (Sky Masterson) He also recently played in PacRep's FIDDLER ON THE ROOF (Fyedka) and has appeared in many other local productions over the last 16 years. Rob thanks his family for their support and dedicates his performance to Dan and Dee.

The Master of Ceremonies

PETER HOFFMAN is thrilled to reprise the role of Emcee after a 3 year absence from the stage. Starting with MPC's 2004 production of CABARET, Peter has performed in several musicals with MPC including ANNIE, URIENTOWN, and GUYS AND DOLLS. Peter would like to thanks Mark, Marnie, Gary, and Susan for making it possible for him to participate in this year's theater season.

Fraulein Schneider:

PHYLLIS DAVIS has enjoyed performing on Peninsula stages for 34 years and has appeared in over 75 productions and interestingly enough; the first of these was a production of MY FAIR LADY right here at The Wharf Theater in 1978! Most recently she appeared on stage at the Wharf Theatre for MPC in THE MUSICAL OF MUSICALS (THE MUSICAL!), Other recent roles include: THE GOAT OR WHO IS SYLVIA (Stevie), ONCE UPON A MATTRESS (The Nightengale), 101 DALMATIONS (Cruella DeVille,) WILLY WONKA (Mrs. Beauregard,) and CATS (Grizabella). Favorite roles for MPC include: NOISES OFF (Dottie), FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM (Donna), URINETOWN: THE MUSICAL (Josephine Strong,), MOST HAPPY FELLA (Marie), CABARET (Fraulein Schneider), A TAFFETA CHRISTMAS (Donna) and COMPANY (Joanne). Phyllis is delighted to be performing in this delightful show with such a talented cast and sharing the stage once again with her wonderful husband Mitch!

Fraulein Kost:

TARA MARIE LUCIDO was born and raised on the Monterey Peninsula and has been a part of the theater community for the last 23 years. This will be her second CABARET with MPC where she played a Kit Kat club dancer. She is very excited to come back to the show again to play Fraulein Kost! The last role you may have seen her in with Monterey Peninsula College was in RENT (Alexi Darling). Her favorite roles at MPC include—THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW (Columbia), NOISES OFF (Poppy), A MIDSUMMER NIGHTS DREAM (Hermia), COMPANY (April). Her most recent roles have been played at Carmel's Pacific Repertory Theatre are WIZARD OF OZ (Dorothy), THE 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLIGN BEE (Marcy Park), EURYDUICE(Little Stone), ROMEO AND JULIET (The singing Italian Servant) FIDDLER ON THE ROOF (Chava). Currently she is working as an actor for the Monterey Bay Aquarium with fellow cast member Camilla De La Llata! Coming up later this year, Tara will be featured in the next two PacRep Shakespeare's directed by Ken Kelleher, appearing as Lucius in Julius Caesar and Ursula in Much Ado About Nothing.

Herr Schultz:

MITCHELL DAVIS has performed on local stages for “a long time” and most recently appeared for MPC in THE MUSICAL OF MUSICALS (THE MUSICAL!), ONCE UPON A MATTRESS (The Wizard), COMPANY (Larry), A YEAR WITH FROG AND TOAD (The Large and Terrible Frog), KISS ME KATE (Thug #2), GUYS AND DOLLS (Arvide), FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM (Senex), URINETOWN: THE MUSICAL (Senator Fipp), NOISES OFF (Selsdon), and CABARET (Herr Schultz). Last year he was in THE GOAT OR WHO IS SYLVIA (Martin) with the Paper Wing Theater and 101 DALMATIANS (Roger) with Pac Rep. He has performed with other theater companies on the Peninsula including The Troupers of the Central Coast, The Forest Theater Guild, CET, and The Western Stage. (CABARET, JUN 2012)

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Gary Bolen, Chairman of the Theatre Arts Department at MPC, holds B.A. and M.A. degrees in Theatre from Cal State University Fullerton and an M.F.A. in Acting from UCLA. A member of the Screen Actors Guild, Actors’ Equity and AFTRA as well as the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, Mr. Bolen appeared in dozens of television dramas, sit-coms, soaps and national commercials prior to his employment at MPC. His most recent appearances on the Morgan Stock stage were in CHAPTER TWO and as a last minute replacement for one of his cast members in URINETOWN THE MUSICAL. Most recent directorial efforts include THE MUSICAL OF MUSICALS (THE MUSICAL!), ONCE UPON A MATTRESS, RENT, COMPANY and BEYOND THERAPY.

DINNER THEATRE PACKAGES

We are pleased to offer Dinner & Theatre (\$36.00 pp) packages with a *prix fixe* menu at **Isabella’s on the Wharf**. We hope that theatergoers will take advantage of the tremendous savings offered with these packages, which can only be obtained through the MPC Box Office.

ABOUT THE DESIGN TEAM

The creative team includes **Gary Bolen** (*Director*), **Susan Cable** (*Choreographer*), **Sherri Beck** (*Assistant Choreographer*) **Barney Hulse** (*Musical Director*), **D. Thomas Beck** (*Technical Director*), **D. Thomas Beck** (*Lighting Design*), **Gloria C. Mattos Hughes** (*Costume Design*), and **Ana Warner** (*Props Design*).

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

Preview performance on Thursday June 28 at 7:30 PM. Regular performances are Thursday, Friday & Saturday at 7:30 PM (June 29, 30 July 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14) and Sunday at 2:00 PM (July 1, 8, 15) at the Bruce Ariss Wharf Theatre, located on the historic Old Fisherman’s Wharf in downtown Monterey. The MPC Box Office is located at 980 Fremont Street, downtown Monterey. Tickets are \$25 Adults, \$22 Seniors; \$15 Young Adults (16-21) & Military, and \$10 Children 15 & under; 24-hr Advance Purchase \$20; Online \$18 for Adults & Seniors.

Dinner/Theatre packages are available for \$36 per person. (Prices do not include, gratuity, drinks, or dessert)



and must be purchased at least 24 hours in advance. Dinner/Theatre packages include a *prix fixe* menu at **Isabella's on the Wharf** (a Tene Shake signature restaurant) and performance tickets for **CABARET**.

Tickets may be purchased from the MPC Box Office (831-646-4213) Wednesdays 3:00 – 7:00 PM, Thursdays & Fridays from 3:00 to 5:00 PM, or at the Wharf Theatre box office beginning 90 minutes prior to any performance, or online at www.TicketGuys.com

Public Parking is easy and affordable in Monterey. There are four parking facilities located near Old Fisherman's Wharf. Fees are economical and all lots are safe and clean.

Performances are:

Thr., Jun 28 – 7:30 p.m. – *Preview* - All Seats \$12.50
Fri., Jun 29– 7:30 p.m. - *Opening*
Sat., Jun 30 – 7:30 p.m.
Sun., Jul 1 – 2:00 p.m.

Thr., Jul. 5 7:30 p.m.
Fri., Jul. 6 7:30 p.m.
Sat., Jul. 7 7:30 p.m.
Sun., Jul. 8 2:00 p.m.

Thr., Jul. 12 7:30 p.m.
Fri., Jul. 13 7:30 p.m.
Sat., Jul. 14 7:30 p.m.
Sun., Jul. 15 2:00 p.m. – *Closing*

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