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**signature**news

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 14, 2010

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## **VA's Signature Theatre Announces Complete Casting for its World Premiere Production of Ken Ludwig's Comedy *A Fox on the Fairway***

**Headlined by Broadway's Jeff McCarthy and Helen Hayes  
Award winners Holly Twyford and Andrew Long; directed by  
Tony Award® Winner John Rando**

Arlington, VA, September 14, 2010 – Virginia's Tony Award-winning **Signature Theatre** today announced the full casting for *A Fox on the Fairway*, the world premiere comedy by DC playwright and Broadway favorite **Ken Ludwig** (*Crazy for You* and *Lend Me a Tenor*), running October 12 through November 14, 2010. Headlining the production are Broadway's **Jeff McCarthy** (*Urinetown*, *Side Show*, and *The Pirate Queen*), and local favorites and Helen Hayes Award winners **Holly Twyford** (Signature's *The Little Dog Laughed* and *Twentieth Century*, and Studio Theatre's *The Shape of Things*) and **Andrew Long** (Signature's *I Am My Own Wife* and *My Fair Lady*, and Studio Theatre's *Frozen*).

The world premiere will be directed by Broadway's Tony Award-winning **John Rando** (*Urinetown*). Working with Rando on the creative team are **James Kronzer** (sets), **Colin K. Bills** (lights), **Kathleen Geldard** (costumes), and **Matt Rowe** (sound).

The cast is rounded out by **Aubrey Deeker**, **Valerie Leonard** and **Meg Steedle**.

Signature Artistic Director Eric Schaeffer stated, "It's always wonderful to premiere a Washington playwright's newest work in their hometown. Having Ken Ludwig premiere his zany new comedy with Tony Award® winner John Rando at the helm is an especially welcome treat! With a terrific cast, a rapid-fire plot and the talents of Ken and John, *A Fox on the Fairway* promises to be filled with plenty of laughs and shenanigans!"

Playwright Ludwig commented, "I couldn't be more thrilled to have the world premiere of my play at Signature Theatre. Their level of artistry and professionalism is always inspiring."

Ludwig's tribute to the great English farces of the 1930s and 1940s, *A Fox on the Fairway* takes audiences on a hilarious romp which pulls the rug out from underneath the stuffy denizens of a private country club. Filled with mistaken identities, slamming doors, and over-the-top romantic shenanigans, it is a furiously paced comedy that recalls the Marx Brothers' classics.

*The New York Times* has called Ludwig "one of those rare contemporary playwrights who thinks in terms of old-fashioned knockabout farce, and that's something to be cherished."

## **TICKETS**

Single tickets to are available and range in price from \$50 to \$76 and are available by calling Ticketmaster at (703) 573-SEAT (7328) or visiting [www.signature-theatre.org](http://www.signature-theatre.org). Group discounts are available for parties of ten or more by contacting Bethany Shannon at [shannonb@signature-theatre.org](mailto:shannonb@signature-theatre.org) or by calling (571) 527-1831. For more information please visit [www.signature-theatre.org](http://www.signature-theatre.org).

## **PERFORMANCE DATES**

Performances of Ken Ludwig's *A Fox on the Fairway* run from October 12 to November 14, 2010. Show times are Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 7:30 pm, Thursdays and Fridays at 8:00 pm, Saturdays at 2:00 pm and 8:00 pm, and Sundays at 2:00 pm and 7:00 pm. There are no performances of *A Fox on the Fairway* on Saturday, October 16 at 2:00 pm, or Tuesday, October 19.

## **PHOTOS**

Editors: Production photos of *A Fox on the Fairway* are available for downloading from [http://www.signature-theatre.org/photo\\_downloads.htm](http://www.signature-theatre.org/photo_downloads.htm). (Link for press only: please do not publish).

## **MEDIA SPONSORSHIPS**

*Metro Weekly* is a media sponsor for *A Fox on the Fairway*.

## **LOCATION**

Located in Arlington, Virginia and complete with free parking adjacent, Signature Theatre is just 5.2 miles from the D.C.'s landmark, the Washington Monument, an estimated 10 – 15 minute drive according to [googlemaps.com](http://googlemaps.com). Signature can be

reached by public transportation via the Pentagon Metro Station and a 5-minute bus ride from there on the 7A, 7F, 25A or 25D buses to Shirlington Transit Centre. Signature is a \$12 taxi ride from the Pentagon City Metro stop (on both the Blue & Yellow lines) with a taxi stand located in front of the Ritz Carlton Hotel.

### **SEASON SUBSCRIPTION TICKETS**

Signature's 2010-11 season also includes Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Sunset Boulevard*, Yasmina Reza's Tony Award-winning play *Art*, *Side by Side by Sondheim*, and the world premieres of Joe Calarco's *Walter Cronkite Is Dead*. and Joseph Thalken's musical *Wheatley's Folly*. Subscriptions for three or more productions are available by calling Signature's box office at (703) 820-9771.

### **AMENITIES – ALI'S BAR**

Starting one hour before and extending for one hour after performances, patrons can visit Ali's Bar for outstanding wine, beer, mixed drinks, and chef-prepared light fare. The theater's much praised source of refreshment overlooking a tree-lined boulevard has been masterminded by wine expert Suzanne McGrath, the proprietor of Shirlington's gourmet wine store, The Curious Grape. Ticket purchase is not required to eat or drink at Ali's Bar.

### **Ken Ludwig's A FOX ON THE FAIRWAY**

Written by Ken Ludwig

October 12, 2010 – November 14, 2010

The MAX

Director	John Rando
Set Designer	James Kronzer
Costume Designer	Kathleen Geldard
Lighting Designer	Colin K. Bills
Sound Designer	Matt Rowe
Production Stage Manager	Kerry Epstein

Bingham	Jeff McCarthy
Pamela	Holly Twyford
Richard	Andrew Long
Justin	Aubrey Deeker
Muriel	Valerie Leonard
Louise	Meg Steedle

### **Bios**

**AUBREY DEEKER INTERNATIONAL:** The Royal Shakespeare Company: *Love's Labor's Lost*. DC AREA: Woolly Mammoth Theatre: *Boom* (2009 Helen Hayes Nomination), *Homebody/Kabul*, Round House Theatre: *Crime and*

*Punishment, Camille, Tabletop*; Shakespeare Theatre: *The Liar* (David Ives World Premiere), *As You Like It, King Lear, Ion, Romeo and Juliet, Antony and Cleopatra, Julius Caesar, Edward II, Taming of the Shrew, Richard III, Love's Labor's Lost, Lorenzaccio*; Folger Theatre: *The Clandestine Marriage*; Studio Theatre: *The Cripple of Inishmaan*; Ford's Theatre: *The Grapes of Wrath*; Theater Alliance: *Blue/ Orange, Slaughter City, Mary's Wedding, Tales from Ovid*; Rep Stage: *Hamlet*; Everyman Theatre: *Someone Who'll Watch Over Me* (Best Actor Baltimore City Paper, 2006). FILM: *Leave No Marine Behind, The Seer* (short). TV: *The Wire*, HBO. EDUCATION: North Carolina School of the Arts.

**VALERIE LEONARD BROADWAY:** *An Ideal Husband* (Lady Basil Don). NATIONAL TOUR: *Lend Me A Tenor* (Maggie); *The Odd Couple* (Gwendolyn Pigeon, with Tony Randall and Jack Klugman). OFF-BROADWAY: Signature Theatre Company, Mirror Repertory, Director's Company. DC AREA: Shakespeare Theatre: *Titus Andronicus, A Midsummer Night's Dream, The Comedy of Errors*; Arena Stage: *A Man's A Man, Theophilus North*; Catalyst Theater: *Metamorphosis, The Elephant Man* (Helen Hayes nomination); Studio Theatre: *The Life of Galileo*; Theater J: *The Bad Friend*; Olney Theatre: *Therese Raquin* (Helen Hayes nomination), *Copenhagen, Oh Coward!, Anna Karenina, Private Lives, Candida, Shadowlands*; Potomac Theatre Project: *The American Dream*. REGIONAL: McCarter Theatre, American Conservatory Theatre, The Pearl Theatre, Two River Theatre Company, Pioneer Theatre. TV: *The Wire, Law and Order*. EDUCATION: Rutgers University: MFA.

**ANDREW LONG SIGNATURE:** *I Am My Own Wife, My Fair Lady* (Henry Higgins), *Saving Aimee*. DC AREA: Studio Theatre: *Frozen* (Helen Hayes Award); Shakespeare Theatre: *Coriolanus* (Coriolanus), *Antony & Cleopatra* (Antony), *Julius Caesar* (Antony), *Hamlet* (Claudius), *King Lear* (Edmund), *Richard II* (Bolingbroke), *Don Carlos, A Midsummer Night's Dream, The Merchant of Venice, The Duchess of Malfi*, and many others; Arena Stage, Theater J, Olney Theater, Folger. REGIONAL: Guthrie Theater: *M Butterfly* (Gallimard), *Gross Indecency*; Rep of St. Louis: *Enrico IV* (Enrico), *Amadeus* (Salieri), *Copenhagen, Metamorphoses*; Denver Center: *Richard III* (Richard); Cincinnati Playhouse, Pioneer Theater, Chautauqua Theater, and the Oregon, Illinois, Alabama, and New Jersey Shakespeare Festivals. EDUCATION: BFA, University of Nevada, MFA Alabama Shakespeare Festival/University of Alabama. AWARDS: 2010 Lunt-Fontanne Fellow, 2007 Will Shakespeare Award.

**JEFF MCCARTHY BROADWAY:** *Urinetown, Chicago, The Pirate Queen, Sympathetic Magic, Side Show, Dream True, Beauty & the Beast, Smile, Zorba, The Pirates of Penzance*. INTERNATIONAL: *Iphigenia in Aulis* (Greece), *Lady Be Good* (La Fenice, Venice). REGIONAL: Los Angeles: *City of Angels, The Three Sisters, Search and Destroy, Les Misérables*; Long Wharf: *The Price, The Front Page*; Barrington Stage: *Follies, Sweeney Todd*; Seattle Rep: *Sunday in the Park with George*; Denver Center: *A Lie of the Mind*; The Guthrie: *The Misanthrope, The Piggy Bank*. TV: *The Good Wife, Law and Order(s), Albert Schweitzer - Return to Africa* (title role), *Love Monkey,*

*Star Trek(s), Cheers, Designing Women, In the Heat of the Night.* FILM: *Consent, Starting Out in the Evening, Rapid Fire, RoboCop, Cliffhanger.*

**MEG STEADLE NEW YORK:** *Bunny's Bakery* (directed by Warren Carlyle); NAMT: *The Average Achievers Club.* REGIONAL: Two River Theatre: *Barefoot in the Park, A Year with Frog and Toad*; Triad Stage: *Picnic*; Victory Gardens Theater: *Real Girls Can't Win*; American Music Theatre Project: Andrew Lippa's *Asphalt Beach* (Premiere). TV: *Body of Proof* (ABC). EDUCATION: Northwestern University, 2008, Theatre Arts. AWARDS: Northwestern's William Daniels Award for Best Supporting Actress (2007) and Best Lead Actress (2008).

**HOLLY TWYFORD SIGNATURE:** *The Little Dog Laughed* (Helen Hayes Award), *Twentieth Century.* DC AREA: Arena Stage: *Long Day's Journey into Night, The Matchmaker, The Miser, Arcadia, An American Daughter*; Folger Theatre: *Romeo and Juliet* (Helen Hayes Award), *Much Ado About Nothing, Hamlet, As You Like It, Othello, Twelfth Night, Melissa Arctic, All's Well That Ends Well, The Two Gentlemen of Verona* (Helen Hayes Award), *Arcadia, Orestes: A Tragic Romp*; Round House Theatre: *The Sisterhood, Living Out*; Studio Theatre: *The Steward of Christendom, Desk Set, Betty's Summer Vacation, Shape of Things* (Helen Hayes Award), *Far Away, Black Milk, The Internationalist, The Road to Mecca*; Theatre J: *Life in Refusal, There Are No Strangers, Lost in Yonkers*; Woolly Mammoth Theatre: *Goodnight, Desdemona (Good Morning, Juliet), Stop Kiss, Recent Tragic Events.* REGIONAL: Arden Theatre: *Private Lives, Candida.*

**KEN LUDWIG** is an internationally acclaimed playwright who has had a number of hits on Broadway, in London and throughout the world. He has won the Laurence Olivier Award, England's highest theatre honor, as well as three Tony Award nominations and two Helen Hayes Awards. His work has been commissioned by the Royal Shakespeare Company and has been performed in at least thirty countries in over twenty languages. His musical *Crazy For You* ran for over four years on Broadway and in London. *Lend Me A Tenor*, originally produced by Andrew Lloyd Webber and recently revived on Broadway, was called "one of the two great farces by a living writer" by The New York Times. Other plays and musicals include *Moon Over Buffalo* (Broadway & London's Old Vic, starring Carol Burnett, Lynn Redgrave, Joan Collins & Frank Langella); *Twentieth Century* (premiered at The Signature Theatre; on Broadway, starring Alec Baldwin & Anne Heche); *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* (Broadway); *Treasure Island* (London, Theatre Royal, Haymarket; 2009 AATE Distinguished Play Award for Best Adaptation); *Shakespeare in Hollywood* (commissioned by The Royal Shakespeare Company, Helen Hayes Award as Best Play); *Leading Ladies; Be My Baby, The Beaux' Stratagem* (adaptation with Thornton Wilder at the request of the Wilder Estate); *The Three Musketeers* (Bristol Old Vic); *An American in Paris, A Fox on the Fairway, The Game's Afoot.* He studied music at Harvard with Leonard Bernstein and theatre history at Cambridge University in England. For more information, please visit [www.kenludwig.com](http://www.kenludwig.com).

**JOHN RANDO** (Director) BROADWAY: *Urinetown* (Tony Award, Outer Critic's Circle Award), *The Wedding Singer*, *A Thousand Clowns*, *Dance of the Vampires*, Neil Simon's *The Dinner Party*, City Center Encores!: *On the Town*, *Damn Yankees*, *Face the Music*, *Of Thee I Sing*, *Pajama Game*, *Do Re Mi*, *Strike Up the Band*. OFF-BROADWAY: *The Toxic Avenger* (2009 Outer Critics Circle Award, Best Off-Broadway Musical); The Drama Department: *The Downtown Plays*; Roundabout Theatre Company: *Pig Farm*; Manhattan Class Company: *Bright Ideas*; Manhattan Theatre Club: *Polish Joke*; Primary Stages: *Mere Mortals*; The Acting Company: *Comedy of Errors*; Pearl Theatre: *Venetian Twins*, *When Ladies Battle*, *Twelfth Night*. DC AREA: Kennedy Center. REGIONAL: Alley Theatre: Ken Ludwig's *Be My Baby* (world premiere), Old Globe Theatre, Mark Taper Forum, Geffen Playhouse, American Conservatory Theatre, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Philadelphia Theatre Company, Berkshire Theatre Festival, and many others. AWARDS: Drama League Directing Fellow, 2004 Outstanding Young Texas Ex, University of Texas; 2010 Distinguished Alumni Award, UCLA Department of Theater, Film and Television.

## **ABOUT SIGNATURE**

Recipient of the 2009 Regional Theatre Tony Award, Signature Theatre is a non-profit professional theater company in Arlington, Virginia dedicated to producing contemporary musicals and plays, reinventing classic musicals, and developing new work. Under the leadership of co-founder and Artistic Director Eric Schaeffer and Managing Director Maggie Boland, Signature has presented 28 world premiere productions and is renowned for combining Broadway-quality productions with intimate playing spaces.

In addition to hosting the finest talent from the DC metropolitan area and New York, Signature has been home to such theatre luminaries as Chita Rivera, George Hearn, Hunter Foster, Emily Skinner, Marc Kudisch, Judy Kuhn, John Kander and Fred Ebb, Cameron Mackintosh, Terrence McNally, and the company's signature composer, Stephen Sondheim. Since its founding in 1989, Signature has won 70 Helen Hayes Awards for excellence in the Washington, DC region's professional theater and has been honored with 276 nominations.

Signature is partially supported by a grant from the Virginia Commission for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts and by a gift from Arlington County through the Arlington Commission for the Arts and the Cultural Affairs Division of the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources.

## **Directions**

The Signature Theatre complex is located at 4200 Campbell Avenue (22206) off I-395 at the Shirlington exit. After the exit, blue Signature signs mark the way to the theater. Free parking is available in two adjacent public garages. Please note that Campbell Avenue is a new street and some GPS online mapping systems do not yet recognize Signature Theatre's address. For directions visit <http://signature-theatre.org/map.htm>.

Contact Information

Subscriptions: (703) 820-9771

Single Tickets: Ticketmaster (703) 573-SEAT (7328)

Signature Administration (571) 527-1860

Signature Theatre

4200 Campbell Avenue

Arlington, VA 22206

<http://www.signature-theatre.org>

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