

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 8, 2007



Falcon Theatre
Presents

Where's Poppa?

Based on the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Film and the novel by Robert Klane.

Written by Robert Klane
Directed by Gordon Hunt

Previews begin **February 28th** for the 23-Performance Engagement

OPENS FRIDAY, March 9th at 8PM

The **Falcon Theatre** is pleased to announce the cast for its world premiere stage adaptation of the classic Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer film and the novel by **Robert Klane**. *Where's Poppa?*, the fourth show in the Falcon's 2006-07 subscription season, opens **Friday, March 9th** at 8pm.

Director **Gordon Hunt** (*Mad About You*, *Frasier*) brings the madcap stage adaptation of **Robert Klane's** dark comedy classic to the Falcon! *Where's Poppa?* follows the hilariously eccentric family of the Hocheisers. The middle-aged son's love life is constantly being ruined by his over-possessive and jealous mother. Unfortunately, he promised his dying father never to put Momma in a home. But when Momma's lovely new live-in nurse arrives, he resolves his only chance for freedom is to scare his mother to death in this absurdist, fun-filled **comedy!**

The limited 23-performance engagement stars (in alphabetical order) **Marylouise Burke, Katie MacNichol, Jeff Marlow, Rob Nagle, Barry Pearl** and **Ellen Ratner**.

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Robert Klane (Playwright) graduated from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, with Honors in Writing. After graduating, he worked in the advertising business in New York before beginning his first novel, *The Horse is Dead*, between writing commercial spots. With the success of *The Horse is Dead*, Mr. Klane left the agency business and followed up with a second novel, *Where's Poppa?*, which was made into a cult classic film starring George Segal and Ruth Gordon and was directed by Carl Reiner. This led to years of toiling in the film and TV industry (earning him an Emmy Award), and after a couple of dozen movies, Mr. Klane is finally hitting the boards.

Gordon Hunt (Director) was nominated twice for the Directors Guild of America Award for Best Director of a Comedy and won the award for his work on *Mad About You*. He has directed over 50 episodes of such TV shows as *Frasier*, *Suddenly Susan*, and many others. In the theatre, he has directed plays and musicals on both coasts, including Leonard Bernstein's *Mass* at the Hollywood Bowl, where he also directed *My Fair Lady*, *The Music Man*, *Mame* and *Camelot* starring Jeremy Irons & Melissa Errico. For Reprise! he has directed *1776*, *She Loves Me*, and *Pippin*. For thirteen years he has directed the Salon series at the Mark Taper Forum starring Michael Feinstein. In New York he directed the all-star Centennial Salute to Noel Coward at Carnegie Hall, and *Black Water*, an opera with libretto by Joyce Carol Oates, and a number of plays and workshops. He is the author of the bestselling theatre book *How to Audition*, and as a lyricist he won the MACC award for best song of the year for "Errol Flynn," which he wrote with Amanda McBroom.

Marylouise Burke ('Momma Hocheiser') played 'Jack's Mom' at the Ahmanson Theatre and on Broadway in the recent revival of Sondheim's *Into the Woods*, and has originated roles in a host of new plays – receiving a BackStage West Garland Award for the title role in the South Coast Rep production of David Lindsay-Abaire's *Kimberly Akimbo* and a Drama Desk Award for David's *Fuddy Meers* (Manhattan Theatre Club). Her regional stage work includes La Jolla Playhouse, NY Stage & Film, Long Wharf, Hartford Stage, and the *Lettice and Lovage* national tour with Julie Harris. TV: *Hope and Faith*, *Law & Order*, *Law & Order: SVU*. Her film credits include *Sideways*, *Series 7: The Contenders*, *Must Love Dogs*, *Mona Lisa Smile*, *Meet Joe Black*, *Angie*, *Jeffrey*, and *A Prairie Home Companion*.

Katie MacNichol ('Louise') has appeared on Broadway in *Two Shakespearean Actors* and Julie Taymor's *The Green Bird*. Off-Broadway credits include *The Cider House Rules*, *King John* and *The Food Chain* (opposite Joy Behar). Katie played the title role in *A Chaste Maid in Cheapside* for the inaugural season of the Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London. Regional credits: *The Winter's Tale* (Craig Noel Award, Outstanding Dramatic Performance), *Comedy of Errors*, *As You Like It* (Old Globe); *Moliere Comedies* (Mark Taper); *All My Sons* with Richard Dreyfuss and Jill Clayburgh (Westport); *The Real Thing* (Dallas Theatre Center); *Glass Menagerie* with Robert Sean Leonard (Center Stage); and leading roles at Yale Rep, McCarter, Williamstown, Denver Center, Portland Center Stage, Intiman, Shakespeare Santa Cruz, Huntington Theatre and more. Film: *Garmento*, *Bamboozled*, *Star 69*, *Bury the Evidence*. TV: *Law & Order: Criminal Intent*, *Medical Investigation*, *The Practice*.

Jeff Marlow ('Gordon Hocheiser') Theatre credits include *Nothing Sacred* (South Coast Repertory), *And the Winner Is* (Laguna Playhouse), *You Can't Take It With You* (Geffen Playhouse), *The Sleeper* (Laguna Playhouse), *Indoor/Outdoor* (Colony Theatre), *Medea* (Theatre @ Boston Court – L.A. Drama Critics Circle Award nomination: Best Featured Performance), and *Around the World in 80 Days* (Colony Theatre – L.A. Ovation Award nomination: Best Supporting Actor). Television credits include *Grey's Anatomy*, *Without a Trace*, *The Bernie Mac Show*, *Judging Amy*, *Strong Medicine*, and *Passions*. Film credits include *Akeelah and the Bee* with Laurence Fishburne, *I-See-You.Com* with Beau Bridges, and *The Hebrew Hammer* with Adam Goldberg.

Rob Nagle ('Rabbi/Bailiff/Mugger/Bugatti/Cop') Theatre credits include *Moonlight and Magnolias*, Odyssey Theatre; *Beautiful City*, *The Time of Your Life*, both with Open Fist; *Loot*, Theatre East; *The Voyage Inheritance*, Centerstage (Baltimore). Other credits include work with Meadows Basement, LA Theatre Works, Black Dahlia, San Jose Repertory, Circle X, The Old Globe, Shakespeare Festival/LA, Mark Taper Forum, Shakespeare Theatre (Washington, DC), Goodman Theatre, Connecticut Repertory. Film: *Fun with Dick and Jane*, *Inside*, *Cellular*, *American Wedding*, *How High*. Television: *Studio 60*, *Without A Trace*, *Everwood*, *The Guardian*, *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, *The West Wing*, *Dawson's Creek*. Education: Northwestern University.

Barry Pearl ('Sidney Hocheiser') is a 46 year theatre veteran, who's done hundreds of stage productions, including Broadway's *Bye Bye Birdie*, *Oliver!* and *The Producers*; National Tours and Regional productions of *Don't Dress For Dinner* (recently at The Norris Theatre Centre), *Grease*, *The Immigrant*, *Noises Off*, *Talley's Folly*, *Guys And Dolls*, *Crazy For You*, *Forum*, *Little Shop*, *Fiddler*, etc.; to scores of television shows ranging from *ER* to *Days Of Our Lives*. Best known for playing 'Doody' in Paramount's hit film, *Grease*, kids know Barry as 'Professor Tinkerputt' from NBC's special, *Bedtime with Barney: Imagination Island*, and the live stage show, *Barney's Big Surprise*, as well as the videos of both. A Drama-Logue, Santa Barbara Independent Press and San Diego Playbill Award winner, Barry holds a BFA from Carnegie-Mellon University.

Press Release: Falcon Theatre announces the cast of *Where's Poppa?*

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Ellen Ratner* (**Gladys Hocheiser/Caretaker/Lady Cop**) Originally from NYC, she has become a familiar face to Los Angeles theatre goers, appearing in seven Justin Tanner plays; most notably last spring when she starred with Laurie Metcalf in a revival of Justin Tanner's award winning play *Pot Mom*. She is currently working in a film entitled *Punching the Clown*, starring comedian Henry Phillips. TV appearances: *Everybody Loves Raymond*, *Frasier*, *Seinfeld*, *The Nanny* and many more.

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WHEN:	PREVIEWS	Wednesday, February 28th – Thursday, March 8th, 2007
	OPENING NIGHT	Friday, March 9th, 2007 at 8pm
	SHOW CLOSES	Sunday, March 25th, 2007 at 4pm
	PERFORMANCES	Tuesdays through Saturdays at 8pm, and Sundays at 4pm.
	PRICES	Tickets range from \$25.00 – \$37.50

THE FALCON THEATRE is located at 4252 RIVERSIDE DRIVE, in Burbank.

For ticket reservations, call 818.955.8101

To arrange PRESS SEATS, schedule interviews or request additional editorial information or photos, please contact Wesley Horton at 818.955.8004.

Visit the Falcon Theatre online at www.FalconTheatre.com