Steve Martin’s PICASSO AT THE LAPIN AGILE Brings Quickfire Wit and Alley Resident Company Members to the Stage

Martin’s humorous first play about an imaginary meeting between Pablo Picasso and Albert Einstein runs May 11 – June 3 in the Hubbard Theatre

HOUSTON, TX – The Alley Theatre and Interim Artistic Director James Black announce the cast and crew of Picasso at the Lapin Agile, by Steve Martin and directed by Sanford Robbins. Stemming from the notion that these two great men were close in age and in Paris at the same time around 1904, Martin leaps into a fantastical contemplation of what they might have discussed and who else might have joined them at the Lapin Agile bar. Picasso at the Lapin Agile plays the Hubbard Theatre May 11 – June 3, 2018. Tickets are available at alleytheatre.org or by calling the Box Office at 713.220.5700.

The Picasso at the Lapin Agile cast includes Alley Resident Company Members Elizabeth Bunch (The Great Society, Grounded) as Germain, Dylan Godwin (Ether Dome, Amadeus) as Albert Einstein, Shawn Hamilton (The Great Society, A Christmas Carol) as Freddy, Chris Hutchison (Dry Powder, As You Like It) as Charles Dabernow Schmendiman, Melissa Pritchett (Describe the Night, Born Yesterday) as Suzanne, Jay Sullivan (The Great Society, The 39 Steps) as Visitor, and Todd Waite (Describe the Night, The 39 Steps) as Sagot.

Additionally, joining the company are visiting artists Torrey Hanson (Goodman Theatre’s Blind Date, House Theate’s Nutcracker) as Gaston and Joseph Castillo-Midyett (Rep Theatre’s Romeo and Juliet, as Pablo Picasso).

The Alley welcomes back Sanford Robbins to direct. He previously directed the Alley’s 2013 production of You Can’t Take It With You and the 2012 production of November. Picasso at the Lapin Agile’s creative team includes Scenic and Lighting Designer Kevin Rigdon, Costume Designer Tricia Barsamian, Original Music and Sound Designer Lindsay Jones, Assistant Director Brandon Weinbrenner, and Stage Manager Kristen Larson.

Picasso at the Lapin Agile was the first play written by actor/comedian Steve Martin. He began his career on “The Smothers Brothers Comedy Hour” (1967–1969), for which he earned his first Emmy Award for Outstanding Writing Achievement in Comedy, Variety or Music in 1969. Martin is an accomplished, Grammy Award-winning, boundary-pushing bluegrass banjoist and composer who has won three Grammys for performing and composing. He has earned numerous honors including an Academy Award, five Grammy Awards, an Emmy Award, the Mark Twain Prize, and the Kennedy Center Honor. He has appeared in films including The Jerk, All of Me, Little Shop of Horrors, Father of the Bride, The Pink Panther, and The Pink Panther 2. Martin collaborated with singer/songwriter Edie Brickell on the Tony-nominated Broadway production Bright Star.

Performances of Picasso at the Lapin Agile are Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday at 7:30 p.m., Friday at 8:00 p.m., Saturday at 2:30 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., and Sunday at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Picasso at the Lapin Agile is recommended for ages 13 and up.
SPONSORS: Picasso at the Lapin Agile is sponsored by Honorary Producers Ken and Mady Kades. The Alley Theatre is supported by the 2017-18 season sponsor United Airlines, the official airline of the Alley Theatre; Four Seasons Hotel Houston, the official hotel of the Alley Theatre; and Lynn Wyatt.

TICKETS: Tickets to Picasso at the Lapin Agile are now on sale and start at $26. Discounted tickets are available for military and senior, and any student, regardless of age, with a valid student ID for designated performances. Tickets can be ordered online (alleytheatre.org) or by phone (713.220.5700).

TALKBACKS: The Alley Theatre will present Artist TalkBacks following the Saturday, May 19 (2:30 p.m.) and Tuesday, May 22 (7:30 p.m.) performances of Picasso at the Lapin Agile. These discussions will feature cast and artistic staff.

DESIGNER TALK: An hour before the Sunday, May 13 matinee preview performance (2:30 p.m.) of Picasso at the Lapin Agile a member of the artistic staff will lead a discussion with the production’s creative team to give audiences a behind-the-scenes look at the design process. These pre-show talks will offer audiences an exclusive opportunity to ask questions about the designer’s work and learn how they brought the script to life. Designer Talks will take place in the Texas Room.

PRESS PHOTOS: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/i44zh06k20qh9ai/AACsFL6rOg5gf3Eb2JYbwFaga?dl=0
Alley Resident Company Members Elizabeth Bunch and Dylan Godwin at Houston’s Brasserie du Parc. Photos by Lynn Lane.

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ABOUT THE ALLEY THEATRE
The Alley Theatre, one of America's leading not-for-profit theatres, is a nationally recognized performing arts company led by Interim Artistic Director James Black and Managing Director Dean R. Gladden. The Alley produces up to 16 plays each year in its newly renovated theatre, ranging from the best current work, to re-invigorated classic plays, to new plays by contemporary writers. The Alley is home to a Resident Company of actors. In addition, the Alley engages theatre artists of every discipline – actors, designers, composers, playwrights – who work on individual productions throughout each season as Visiting Artists.

The renovation of the Hubbard Theatre at the Alley was completed in October 2015 – and created a new 774-seat state-of-the-art performance venue. Matched with the newly renovated 296-seat Neuhaus Theatre, the Alley offers nearly 500 performances each season. The Company reaches over 200,000 people each year through its performance and education programs. Its audience enrichment programs include pre-show and post-performance talks, events, and workshops for audience members of all ages.

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