

News Release

April 23, 2009

Contact: Kati Mitchell 617-496-2000 x8841

American Repertory Theater

presents

ROMANCE

by David Mamet

directed by Scott Zigler

WHAT: American Repertory Theater presents David Mamet's ***Romance***, a courtroom farce that takes no prisoners in its quest for total political incorrectness.

WHEN: May 9 - June 7, 2009

Tues–Thurs, Sun @ 7:30pm; Fri–Sat @ 8:00pm; Sat & Sun matinees @ 2:00pm

Opening Night/Press Review Night: Wednesday, May 13 @ 7:30pm

WHERE: Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle Street, Cambridge

TICKETS: \$25-79. Student discounts include single tickets at \$25 advance purchase, and \$15 day of performance. Other discounts include **50 @ 15 at noon** (\$15 tickets on sale at noon on the day of performance; in person only, based on availability) and **Pay What You Can** (50 tickets available for every Saturday matinee performance of the season at the Loeb Drama Center for patrons to purchase at whatever amount they can afford (based on availability)). **Group rates**, with extra savings for senior citizens and student groups are also available. Tickets can be purchased online at www.americanrepertorytheater.org, by phone at 617-547-8300, or in person at

the A.R.T. Box office.

RATING: “R” — Ridiculous, Rude, Raunchy, Raucous.

SOUNDBITE: “A Jewish chiropractor, a Catholic defense lawyer, a gay prosecutor, and a pill-popping judge walk into a courtroom... “ It’s *ROMANCE*...Mamet-style

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: “A joy — a fiesta of forbidden laughter...glorious.” — *Newsday*

“...an exhilarating spectacle. Mamet is a connoisseur of fiasco, knows all about legal punctilio, and has great fun bringing mayhem to the ritual.” *The New Yorker*

“It made me weep with delight. *Romance* is funny. Extremely funny.” — *The Wall Street Journal*

Cambridge, Mass. — If you think you know David Mamet, think again. This famously terse playwright is a master of biting comedy. The A.R.T. — producer of the world premieres of Mamet’s *Oleanna*, *Cryptogram*, *The Old Neighborhood*, and *Boston Marriage* — is pleased to present Mamet’s wildest and most politically incorrect farce — ***Romance***. The production opens ***Sex, Satire, Romance, and Ducks*** — a celebration of comic work spanning Mamet’s career that also includes ***Seriously Funny*** – short plays by David Mamet, Harold Pinter, and Shel Silverstein, directed by Jim Frangione; and the double bill ***Sexual Perversity in Chicago***, directed by Paul Stacey partnered with ***Duck Variations***, directed by Marcus Stern.

Lawyers and judges, Jews and Christians, homosexuals and chiropractors — no one gets off easy in Mamet’s madcap skewering of the American legal system. As a Mideast Peace Conference convenes nearby, an ambiguous court case is persistently interrupted by domestic squabbles, ethnic slur-

slinging, and a hallucinating judge. The esteemed, noble practice of Law degenerates into sheer comic chaos as Mamet ponders the most fundamental human question: Why can't we all just get along?

The A.R.T. Acting Company includes:

- *Remo Airaldi* (fifty-nine productions at the A.R.T., including *Endgame*, *The Seagull*, and *No Exit*) as the Defendant;
- *Thomas Derrah* (one hundred and fifteen productions at the A.R.T., including *Endgame*, *The Seagull*, *Julius Caesar*, *Highway Ulysses*) as the Prosecutor;
- *Will LeBow* (fifty-six productions at the A.R.T., including *Endgame*, *Copenhagen*, and *The Miser*) as the Judge;
- *Jim True-Frost* (*Julius Caesar* at the A.R.T., *The Rivals*, *August: Osage County* on Broadway, *The Wire* on HBO) as the Defense Attorney;
- A.R.T. Institute actors *Doug Chapman* as the Doctor, *Carl Foreman* as Bernard, and *Jim Senti* as the Bailiff.

Creative Staff:

- *David Mamet* is an award-winning playwright, screenwriter, director, author, translator, cartoonist, and teacher. His plays include the A.R.T. world premieres of *Oleanna*, *Cryptogram*, *The Old Neighborhood*, and *Boston Marriage*, all of which went on to Broadway and national tours; *Glengarry Glen Ross* (Pulitzer Prize), *American Buffalo* (Obie Award, Drama Critics Circle Award), *Speed-the-Plow*, *Edmond*, and *A Life in the Theater*. His films include *The Winslow Boy*, *The Verdict*, *The Untouchables*, *House of Games*, *The Spanish Prisoner*, and *Homicide*, among many others.
- Director *Scott Zigler* is a longtime collaborator of Mamet, a founding member of Atlantic Theater Company and its past Artistic Director. His A.R.T. credits include *Copenhagen*, *The Cripple of Inishmaan* and *The Old Neighborhood* (at A.R.T. and on Broadway), as well as numerous Mamet works nationwide. He is the Director of the A.R.T. Institute.
- Set Design is by *J. Michael Griggs* (*No Child*, *No Man's Land*, *Boston Marriage*,

among others at A.R.T., many Boston area productions).

- Costume design is by *Miranda Hoffman*, (Well on Broadway, productions in New York and nationwide).
- Lighting Design is by *D.M. Wood* (*Romeo and Juliet* at A.R.T. numerous opera and theater productions nationwide and in Europe).
- Sound Design is by *David Remedios* (forty seven productions at the A.R.T., numerous regional and local productions).

The performance schedule of ***Romance*** is as follows:

May 9, 15, 16, 22, 23, 29, 30 June 5, 6 at 8:00pm; May 12, 13, 14, 17, 19, 20, 21, 24, 26, 27, 28, 31, June 2, 3, 4 at 7:30pm; May 10, 16, 17, 23, 24, 30, 31, June 6 at 2:00pm. Special performances include ***Under 35 Night*** on Thursday, May 14 with a post-show reception, and ***Out at A.R.T.*** for the GLBT community on Friday, May 22, with post-show reception.

Following the run of *Romance* the A.R.T. Institute for Advanced Theater Training will present its production of ***Seriously Funny*** (directed by Jim Frangione) May 29 - June 6 at Zero Arrow Theater; and the double bill ***Sexual Perversity in Chicago*** (directed by Paul Stacey) and ***Duck Variations*** (directed by Marcus Stern), June 11 - 28 at the Loeb Drama Center, presented jointly by the A.R.T. and the A.R.T. Institute.

To learn more about these productions, the A.R.T.'s summer plans and upcoming season, log onto the A.R.T. website at www.americanrepertorytheater.org or call the *A.R.T. InfoLine* at (617) 547-8300. The *InfoLine* is also available 24 hours a day to provide directions to the theater; to order brochures, calendars, and newsletters; and to allow direct access to the A.R.T. Box Office (hours are noon to curtain time on performance days, noon to 5 pm on non-performance days, closed on Mondays).

The AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATER (A.R.T.) is one of the country's most celebrated resident theaters and the winner of numerous awards — including the Tony Award, the Pulitzer Prize, and numerous local Elliot Norton and I.R.N.E. Awards; it was recently named one of the top three theaters in the

country by *Time* magazine. Over its twenty-eight-year history the A.R.T. has welcomed major American and international theater artists whose singular visions generate and define the theater's work, presenting a varied repertoire that includes new plays, progressive productions of classical texts, and collaborations between artists from many disciplines. The Company has performed throughout the country, and worldwide in twenty-one cities in sixteen countries on four continents. A.R.T. Artistic Director, Diane Paulus recently unveiled her plans for the 2009-10 Season, the Company's 30th in Cambridge.

The A.R.T., located at the Loeb Drama Center at 64 Brattle Street, and at the Zero Arrow Theater at the corner of Arrow Street and Massachusetts Avenue, Harvard Square, Cambridge, are accessible to persons with special needs and to those requiring wheelchair seating or first-floor restrooms. Deaf and hard-of-hearing patrons can also reach the Theater by calling the toll-free N.E. Telephone Relay Center at 1-800-439-2370.

Public transportation and discount parking are available nearby.

FACT SHEET — CALENDAR AND RELATED EVENTS AT A GLANCE

WHAT:

ROMANCE

by	David Mamet
Directed by	Scott Zigler
Set Design	J. Michael Griggs
Costume Design	Miranda Hoffman
Lighting Design	D.M. Wood
Sound Design	David Remedios

CAST

The Prosecutor	Thomas Derrah*
The Defendant	Remo Airaldi*

The Defense Attorney	Jim True-Frost*
The Judge	Will LeBow*
The Bailiff	Jim Senti
Bernard	Carl Foreman
The Doctor	Doug Chapman

(*) Members of Actors' Equity Association.

WHEN:

Sa May 9	8:00pm (preview) HOT DATE
Su May 10	2:00pm (preview) HOT DATE
Tu May 12	7:30pm (preview) HOT DATE
We May 13	7:30pm Press opening
Th May 14	7:30pm Under 35 Night
Fr May 15	8:00pm HOT DATE
Sa May 16	2:00pm & 8:00pm (Talkback: post play discussion after matinee performance)
Su May 17	2:00pm & 7:30pm HOT DATE (7:30pm only)
Tu May 19	7:30pm
We May 20	7:30pm
Th May 21	7:30pm
Fr May 22	8:00pm Out at A.R.T.

Sa May 23 2pm & 8:00pm (Talkback: post play discussion after matinee performance)

Su May 24 2pm & 7:30pm

Tu May 26 7:30pm

We May 27 7:30pm

Th May 28 7:30pm

Fr May 29 8:00pm

Sa May 30 2pm & 8:00pm (Talkback: post play discussion after matinee performance)

Su May 31 2pm & 7:30pm

Tu Jun 2 7:30pm

We Jun 3 7:30pm

Th Jun 4 7:30pm

Fr Jun 5 8:00pm

Sa Jun 6 2pm & 8:00pm (Talkback: post play discussion after matinee performance)

Su Jun 7 2pm & 7:30pm

WHERE: Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle Street, Harvard Square.

TICKETS: \$25-79

Students: \$25 Student rush: \$15

Seniors: \$10 off ticket price

HOT DATE: \$25 tickets available at these performances.

Tickets may be charged to American Express, Visa, or MasterCard.

Group discounts are available.

Box Office Phone and **A.R.T. InfoLine:** (617) 547-8300
www.americanrepertorytheater.org

Web address: **www.americanrepertorytheater.org**

MEDIA INFORMATION:

E-mail address: **press@amrep.org**

Rehearsal photos of *Romance* are currently available on
www.americanrepertorytheater.org/media

Production photos can be downloaded beginning May 11, 2009.

Katalin Mitchell
Director of Press and Public Relations
American Repertory Theater

64 Brattle Street, Cambridge, MA 02138
617-495-2668
<http://www.americanrepertorytheater.org>