

PRESS RELEASE

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Boston Playwrights' Theatre
PRESENTS
Miss Margaret LaRue in 'Milwaukee'
written and directed by Wesley Savick
October 9 - 26, 2008

PRESS NIGHT: October 11, Saturday night at 8pm.

WHERE: Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Commonwealth Avenue.

EMAIL: mdsmith@bu.edu for press tickets.

“A great place by a Great Lake!”

Some of you younger set might not remember when Milwaukee was the Entertainment Capital of the World. Sure it was never New York or Hollywood *dat's fer sure*—but we had something that they didn't—Miss Margaret LaRue.

***Miss Margaret LaRue in 'Milwaukee'* is the kind of play Thornton Wilder would have written had he substituted the shores of Lake Michigan for Peterborough.**

A comedy that was born of Milwaukee—a couple of *dat's fer sure-ing* dock workers, a ventriloquist and her sassy pants, punny-dummy Hansel, and a young woman who has the twinkle of a real star in her eye!

Featuring an ensemble cast of Boston favorites—plus the Boston stage debut of BPT Artistic Director Kate Snodgrass.

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Wesley Savick (PLAYWRIGHT & DIRECTOR) is the founding director of The National Theatre of Allston and has served as Artistic Director of the internationally acclaimed experimental company Theatre X in Milwaukee, Interim Artistic Director of the Drama League of New York's Directors Project, Artistic Associate of Chicago's Organic Theatre and Resident Guest Director of the DARTS/Subaru Theatre in Tokyo, Japan. Savick has directed over seventy professional productions, almost all new works, and has written, co-written or adapted seventeen produced plays and one opera. His adaptation of the writings of Howard Zinn,

Shouting Theatre in a Crowded Fire, will run at Suffolk University, where Mr. Savick is Associate Professor of Theatre, from November 20th through the 22nd. He extends his deepest gratitude for the support of Kate Snodgrass and her BPT posse. He dedicates this play to his mother.

Steven Barkhimer (STOSH) has appeared at Boston Playwrights' Theatre in *The Devil's Teacup* and Russell Lees's *Monticel'*. Boston-area credits include: Peter Brook's *The Man Who*, *Van Gogh in Japan* and *The Countess* (The Nora Theatre Company). Other shows in 2008 include: *The Woman in Black* (Gloucester Stage); *Love's Labour's Lost* (Actors' Shakespeare Project); *Look Back in Anger* (The Orfeo Group); *Einstein's Dreams* (Underground Railway Theatre—to be reprised this fall); and *The Misanthrope* (New Repertory Theatre). His performance in *Monticel'*, along with the Lyric Stage Company's *Book of Days* and the Publick Theatre's *Twelfth Night*, earned him an IRNE award for Best Supporting Actor. He is a recent recipient of the MFA in Playwriting from Boston Playwrights' Theatre at Boston University.

Alice Duffy (Willa) will be appearing in her first production at Boston Playwrights' Theatre.

Shannon Garland (BRIDGET) is a junior acting major at Boston University. Her BU credits include: Agnes in *Shadow Box*, Boy Beetle in *The Butterfly's Evil Spell*, and *Candy, Corpses and Crowns*, a piece written and performed by the ensemble. She is a proud member of the Screen Actors Guild and has worked on numerous films and television commercials. This is her first performance in an Equity production.

Tom Kee (SCHMITTY) recently appeared in *The Goatwoman of Corvis County* at Shakespeare & Company. Last summer he and his wife Laura Latrielle appeared together in *Hunter Gatherer* at Wellfleet Harbor Actor's Theatre (WHAT). His previous WHAT shows include: *Pugilist Specialist* '05, and *Dog Problem* '02. Favorite regional theatre credits include: *The Blowin of Baile Gall*, and *Dinner With Friends* (Vineyard Playhouse); *A Skull in Conemara* (New Repertory Theatre); *God's Man in Texas*, *Elvis People*, and *Searching for Eden* (Mill Mountain Theatre); and *Of Mice and Men* (Stoneham Theatre). His television credits include: *All My Children*, *As The World Turns* and *Days of Our Lives*. Tom holds an MFA in Acting from Brandies University, and is a visiting lecturer at Bridgewater State College where he teaches acting.

Robert D. Murphy (DANVERS) has performed with many Boston area theatre companies including two world premieres at Boston Playwrights Theatre: *Matter Familias* by Ginger Lazarus (directed by Wesley Savick) and *King of the Jews* by Leslie Epstein, which was cited as "One of the Ten Best Productions of 2007" by the *Boston Globe*. His play *Client Number One* was produced in last year's Boston

Theater Marathon. Next month, Bob appears in *The Time of Your Life* staged at Lucky's Lounge by Fort Point Theatre Channel as well as Dr. Harden in several episodes of the upcoming season of *Brotherhood*. Bob serves on the Board of Directors for *StageSource*, the Alliance of Theatre Artists and Producers, and is a member of Actors' Equity Association.

Rick Park (HOOPS DADDY) makes his Boston Playwrights' Theatre debut. Boston-area credits include: Marie/Teddy/Mrs. Baxter in *After School Special* (Company One); Cole in *Hiding Behind Comets* and Pfeiffer in *Valhalla* (IRNE Nomination, Best Supporting Actor, Zeitgeist Theatre); Gary in *Gagarin Way* (Elliott Norton Nomination, Best Ensemble, Suga Theatre); The Transgendered Lion in *Whizzin'!* (Ryan Landry & the Gold Dust Orphans); and Tony Whitcomb in the long-running *Shear Madness*. Rick has also worked with Speakeasy Stage, Delvena Theatre, Lyric West Theatre, Centastage and many others. His next role will be that of Addison DeWitt in *All About Christmas Eve* with Ryan Landry and the Gold Dust Orphans, coming in December. Rick is also co-writing *The Super-Heroine Monologues* with John Kuntz for the Phoenix Theatre, to be performed in this spring.

Ed Peed (ELMER) is delighted to return to the Boston Playwrights' Theatre stage. He has also performed at the Merrimack Repertory Theatre, the American Stage Festival, the Lyric Stage, New Rep, Gloucester Stage, Vineyard Playhouse, the Charles Playhouse in *Shear Madness*, Suga Theatre, Wheelock Family Theatre, Stoneham Theatre, Huntington Studio Theatre and Zeitgeist Theatre among many others. He has been heard on the BBC, as well as on WGBH-FM and on various other NPR stations in numerous dramatic programs and series as well as having voiced a number of video game characters. Ed has been seen in roles on *Cheers*, *America's Most Wanted* and in the films *Mona Lisa Smile*, *The Perfect Gooseys*, *Shadow Glories* and *Ocean House* (AKA *By the Sea*). He will also appear as the Undertaker in *The Edge of Darkness*, now in production.

Evan Sanderson (RANDY) makes his Boston Playwrights' Theatre debut. Evan is a junior at Boston University's School of Theatre. His previous credits include *The Visit* (Boston University) and *Stuff Happens* (Boston University).

Kate Snodgrass (RUBY) is making her Boston stage debut, having worked in Kansas, London, and New York City in plays such as *Educating Rita*, Shaw's *St. Joan*, and *Fool for Love*. She is also the Artistic Director of Boston Playwrights' Theatre and the Boston Theater Marathon, and is a playwright, most notably *Haiku* (Heidemann Award), *Observatory* (IRNE Award) and *The Glider* (IRNE Award and ATCA Steinberg Award nominee). She is a Huntington Playwriting Fellow and a member of Actors' Equity, AFTRA, and the Dramatists' Guild.