



**MPC
THEATRE
COMPANY**

MPC THEATRE COMPANY TO PRESENT "I HATE HAMLET"

MEDIA CONTACTS:

Sky A. Rappoport, 831-649-4495, SRappoport@mpc.edu (Theatre Manager)

Peter DeBono, 831-646-4209 (Director)

BOX OFFICE: 831-646-4213 (Weds – Friday 3:00 – 7:00 & 2hrs prior to all performances)

For information visit www.mpctheatreco.com

PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MONTEREY - The Monterey Peninsula College Theatre Department presents Paul Rudnick's hilarious comedy "I HATE HAMLET". Performances are Thursday at 7:00 PM, Friday & Saturday at 8:00 PM, and Sunday at 2:00 PM, October 18 – 28 on the Morgan Stock Stage, on the Monterey Peninsula College campus. MPC is located at 980 Fremont Street, downtown Monterey. "I HATE HAMLET" is directed by Theatre Department co-chairman Peter DeBono.

Actor Andrew Rally (Greg Falge) has it all: a career on television; a rich, beautiful girlfriend (Taylor Thorngate); a glamorous agent named, Lillian (Nancy Kocher) who once had an affair with actor John Barrymore, and the perfect New York apartment, once owned by John Barrymore. Now, he's landed the lead in Hamlet. The problem is Andrew hates the play with a passion, even though his girlfriend loves it. On top of that, Gary (Bob Colter) an old friend and Hollywood Producer offers Andrew his own television series with a million dollar contract. Now Andrew must decide between Classical Theatre and Hollywood. If all of this weren't enough, a séance conducted by Andrew's real Estate Agent, Felicia (Carol Daly) manifests the swashbuckling ghost of actor John Barrymore (Jeffrey T. Heyer), who appears in full Shakespearian garb, to mentor Andrew in acting and in the ways of love. Shakespeare, séances, seductions, and sword fights lead to nonstop laughs, as Barrymore tries to convince Andrew to accept the role of Hamlet, and fulfill his destiny as an actor

Peter DeBono, Co-Chair of the MPC Drama Department, received his Master's Degree from UCLA and made a living in the LA area as an actor, before returning to the MPC Drama Department. In 1982 he became Chairman of the department, replacing founding Chairman Morgan Stock. Some of Peter's 145 directing credits include *Laughter on the 23rd Floor*, *Broadway Bound*, *Front Page*, and *The Odd Couple* at MPC; *King and I* and *I'm Not Rappoport* at the Western Stage in Salinas. Most recently he directed



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last season's production of *Our Town*. *I Hate Hamlet* marks his 146th directorial achievement. In 2008 he will direct *Plaza Suite & Death of a Salesman*.

About Paul Rudnick

American playwright, novelist, and screenwriter, Paul Rudnick is a humorist who regularly writes for a variety of publications. His subversive wit punctures pretensions, and lays bare hypocrisies, yet it is also typically forgiving and healing. Rudnick initially supported himself with a variety of odd jobs--copy writer, stage set painter, and the like--until his first play *Poor Little Lambs* was produced in 1982, featuring Kevin Bacon. After penning the satirical novels *Social Disease* (1986), and *I'll Take It* (1989), he returned to the theater with *I Hate Hamlet* in 1991.

In 1993 Rudnick wrote the original off-Broadway production *Jeffrey*, which won an Obie Award, an Outer Critics Circle Award, and the John Gassner Award for Outstanding New American Play. More recently, he contributed the screenplay for the star-studded comic remake of *The Stepford Wives*, in 2004. In 2008, Lincoln Center Theater will present Paul Rudnick's *The New Century*, a group of four one-act plays.

"I HATE HAMLET" performs 7:00 PM Thursday (October 18 & 25); 8:00 PM Friday & Saturday (October 19, 20, 26, 27); and 2:00 PM Sunday (October 21 & 28). Advance Tickets are \$18; \$15 if purchased online; Day of show tickets are \$25 General Admission, \$20 Senior, \$15 Young Adult (16-25), and \$10 for children age 15 & under. Tickets may be purchased from the MPC Box Office (831-646-4213) Wednesday 3:00 – 7:00 PM & 2 hrs prior to any performance, or online at www.TicketGuys.com.

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*** Production photos will be available Monday October 8, 2007.