

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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BAY AREA PREMIERE

**MARIN THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS *BOOM*  
BY SAN FRANCISCO PLAYWRIGHT PETER SINN NACHTRIEB**

**November 12 through December 6, 2009 | Opening Night November 17**

MILL VALLEY, CA—Marin Theatre Company is delighted to present the comedy *BOOM* by award-winning Marin native Peter Sinn Nachtrieb. *BOOM* received its world premiere at Ars Nova in New York in 2008, and has been produced at Woolly Mammoth, Seattle Rep, and Cleveland Public Theatre to critical acclaim. In addition to MTC's Bay Area premiere, *BOOM* will be one of the most produced plays nationally during the 2009-10 season, with productions at 12 other theater companies around the U.S.

In this explosive comedy about the end of the world, Jo answers a casual encounter's ad for "sex to change the course of the world." She has no idea that grad student Jules actually fears the apocalypse is at hand and is looking for a partner to repopulate the species. That he's gay and she hates babies is the least of their problems.

"We are pleased to welcome Peter to MTC, and delighted to introduce the Bay Area to his funny and insightful play *BOOM*," says MTC Artistic Director Jasson Minadakis. "In Peter's brilliant hands, what starts out as an oddly quirky date play quickly transforms into a mind-bending, apocalyptic exploration of the delicate nature of our existence."

San Francisco playwright **Peter Sinn Nachtrieb** was raised in Mill Valley and is a graduate of Marin Academy. He studied both theater and biology at Brown University and draws on his experience as a biology student for *BOOM*. Last year, Encore Theatre produced the world premiere of his most recent play, *T.I.C. (Trenchcoat in Common)*. His play *Hunter Gatherers* had a sold-out three month world premiere at Killing My Lobster, and received the 2007 American Theatre Critics Association/Steinberg New Play Award for best new play, and the 2007 Will Glickman Prize for best new play in the Bay Area. Nachtrieb is currently under commission with South Coast Repertory Theatre.

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Bay Area comedic legend **Joan Mankin** returns to the MTC stage in *BOOM*. Award-winning Mankin has appeared with every major theater company in the region including A.C.T., Berkeley Rep, and Cal Shakes. She is celebrated for her work with the San Francisco Mime Troupe and the San Francisco Circus Center, and was a founding member of the Pickle Family Circus. Rounding out the cast, MTC introduces **Blythe Foster** (Jo) and **Nicholas Pelczar** (Jules) to our audiences.

## FACTS

For more information visit [www.marintheatre.org](http://www.marintheatre.org) or call 415.388.5208. Marin Theatre Company is located at 397 Miller Ave, Mill Valley CA 94941.

**Previews**—Thursday, Nov 12 through Sunday, Nov 15, 2009

**Opening Night Gala**—Tuesday, Nov 17 at 8:00 pm

## Performance Schedule

**November 12 through December 6, 2009**

- Tues, Thu, Fri and Sat 8:00 pm
- Wed 7:30 pm
- Sun 7:00 pm
- Matinees: Thu 1:00 pm | Sat and Sun 2:00 pm

*Please check [www.marintheatre.org](http://www.marintheatre.org) or call box office at 415.388.5208 for exact performance dates and times.*

## Ticket Prices \$20–51

- Previews: Thu through Sun: \$31
- Tues: \$31 (exc. Opening)
- Wed, Thu, & Sun Evenings: \$34 & \$41
- Fri: \$39 & \$46
- Sat Evenings: \$44 & \$51
- Thu, Sat & Sun Matinees: \$34 & \$41
- Opening Night (Tues) with Cast Reception: \$44 & \$51

## Discounts

- Pay What You Can Tuesdays (exc. Opening)
- Students \$20, all performances
- Rush tickets \$10 (based on availability, 1/2 hour prior to curtain)

**ABOUT MTC.** In its 43rd year, Marin Theatre Company is one of only five LORT theaters in the Bay Area, and is the largest professional regional theater company located in San Francisco's North Bay. It produces an annual season of more than 200 performances on its two stages. MTC provides a forum for contemporary, classic and emerging playwrights and, through the new Expanded Programs forum, an environment that introduces people of all ages to the transformative power of theater. Through its public performances, school tours, and various educational programs, MTC serves more than 40,000 people annually.

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## ARTIST BIOS

**Peter Sinn Nachtrieb** (Playwright) is a San Francisco-based playwright whose works include *BOOM*, *Hunter Gatherers*, *Colorado*, *T.I.C. (Trenchcoat In Common)*, and *Multiplex*. His work has been seen in the Bay Area at Encore Theatre, Killing My Lobster, Magic Theatre, Impact Theatre, and the Bay Area Playwrights Festival. His plays have also been produced off-Broadway and across the country at Ars Nova, SPF, Woolly Mammoth, Seattle Repertory Theatre, Actors Theatre of Louisville, Humana Festival of New American Plays, Cleveland Public Theatre, Brown/Trinity Playwrights Rep, the Bailiwick Theatre, Wellfleet Harbor Actor's Theatre, and Dad's Garage. *Hunter Gatherers* received the 2007 American Theatre Critics Association/Steinberg New Play Award for best new play to premiere outside of New York, and the 2007 Will Glickman Prize for best new play in the Bay Area. He is under commission from South Coast Rep and is a Resident Playwright at the San Francisco Playwrights Foundation. Peter holds a degree in theater and biology from Brown University, and an MFA in Creative Writing from San Francisco State University. He likes to promote himself online at [www.peternachtrieb.com](http://www.peternachtrieb.com).

**Ryan Rilette** (Director) is in his second season as Producing Director at MTC, where he directed the world premiere of *Magic Forest Farm*, managed the theater's transition to the League of Resident Theaters, led last season's facelift to the theater's exterior and lobby, and helped establish the Poutiatine Fund for Leadership. From 2002–2008, Rilette served as Producing Artistic Director of Southern Rep Theatre, the premier professional theater of New Orleans, where he directed the world premieres of *The Breach*, *Rising Water*, *The Sunken Living Room*, *The Vulgar Soul*, and *The House of Plunder*, and *Kimberly Akimbo*, *The Goat, or Who Is Sylvia?*, and *In Walks Ed*. During his tenure, Southern Rep received the Governor's Arts Award for "Outstanding Arts Organization" and was named "Theater of the Year." He is the Vice President of the National New Play Network, co-founder and former Executive Artistic Director of Rude Mechanicals Theatre Company in New York, and a former professor at Tulane and Loyola Universities.

**Blythe Foster** (Jo) makes her MTC debut with *BOOM*. She recently played Gretchen in *Faust* and Lady Macbeth in *Macbeth*, both directed by Mark Jackson at Shotgun Players. She has worked with Berkeley Rep, the Playwrights' Center, and foolsFURY. In New York, she has worked at Classic Stage Company, the Lion Theatre, and Theatre of the Riverside Church. Music projects include the botticellis and kuma/koshka. Blythe trained in Poland with Gardzienice Theatre, in Vermont with Bread and Puppet, and holds an MFA in Acting from Columbia University.

**Joan Mankin** (Barbara) returns to MTC where she has performed featured roles in *Morning's At Seven*, *Beggar's Holiday*, and *The Pavilion*. Recent credits include Mrs. Gottlieb in *Dead Man's Cell Phone* at S.F. Playhouse; Miss Prism in *The Importance of Being Earnest* at Marin Shakespeare Company; Lady Markby in *An Ideal Husband* and Marya in *Uncle Vanya* at Cal Shakes; Henny in *Bosoms and Neglect* at the Aurora Theater (Critics Circle Award); Bobchinsky in *The Government Inspector* at A.C.T.; and The Mother in *Black Rider* at the Ahmanson Theater. She is on the faculty of the San Francisco Circus Center, and spent five weeks in China last year, teaching clowning to professional acrobats. She has also taught at the A.C.T. Conservatory, UC Santa Cruz, San Francisco State University, and the Dell'Arte School of Physical Theater.

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**Nicholas Pelczar** (Jules) makes his MTC debut in *BOOM*. He has appeared at A.C.T. in *War Music*, *Rock 'n' Roll*, and *A Christmas Carol*. Other Bay Area credits include *A Midsummer Night's Dream* for San Francisco Shakespeare Festival; *Marius* and *Dublin Carol* for Aurora Theatre; Daniel Handler's *4 Adverbs* for Word for Word; and *The Life and Adventures of Nicholas Nickleby*, *Othello*, *All's Well That Ends Well*, and *The Importance of Being Earnest* at Cal Shakes. He is a recent graduate of the A.C.T. MFA acting program where he appeared in many student productions including *Romeo and Juliet*, *Servant of Two Masters*, *Overruled*, *La Ronde*, *Our Lady of 121<sup>st</sup> Street*, and *Escape from Happiness*. In addition to A.C.T. Nick has trained at The Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London, Prima del Teatro in Italy, and Michael Howard Studios in New York. He is a graduate of the University of Virginia.

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