

Falcon Theatre presents

the Hit Romantic Comedy Southern Comforts

Written by Kathleen Clark

Directed by Jules Aaron

Previews begin October 12

OPENS Friday, October 21 at 8pm

September 8, 2011, Burbank, CA – Falcon Theatre is proud to present the hit romantic comedy *Southern Comforts*, written by **Kathleen Clark** and directed by **Jules Aaron**, the second production of its 2011-2012 Subscription Season. This sweet and sexy comedy stars **Michael Learned** (*The Waltons*, *One Slight Hitch*) and **Granville Van Dusen** (*The Memoirs of Abraham Lincoln*, *Darwin in Malibu*, *Jonny Quest*).

This Off-Broadway hit romantic comedy follows the enchanting romance between New Jersey widower Gus (Granville Van Dusen) and Southern widow Amanda (Michael Learned). While waiting out a thunderstorm, their opposite natures collide to create a sweet and intoxicating romance filled with perceptive humor and unpredictable tribulation, proving that it's never too late to find the love of your life. *The New York Times* calls this must-see-show "a delightful and sneakily sexy romance!"

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PREVIEWS: October 12-15 at 8pm; October 16 at 4pm

October 19 & 20 at 8pm

OPENING NIGHT: Friday, October 21, 2011 at 8pm

SHOW CLOSES: Sunday, November 13 at 4pm

PERFORMANCES Wed. – Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 4pm

PRICES **Previews** \$29.50 - \$32.00

Opening Night \$52.00 - \$57.00 Weekdays (Wed/Thurs) \$34.50 - \$37.00 Weekends (Fri/Sat/Sun) \$39.50 - \$42.00

Student Rate (valid student ID) \$27.00

Tickets on sale September 14, 2011 Season Subscriptions on sale to October 2, 2011

Tickets can be purchased online at www.FalconTheatre.com or call the FALCON THEATRE BOX OFFICE at (818) 955-8101.

To arrange PRESS SEATS, schedule interviews or request additional editorial information or photos, please contact Chelsea Sutton at (818) 955-8004 ext. 133.

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Kathleen Clark (Playwright) Ms. Clark's romantic comedy, *In the Mood*, was developed and produced this past summer on the main stage of the Berkshire Theatre Festival and, subsequently, produced at The Invisible Theatre of Tucson. Her plays *Southern Comforts* and *Secrets of a Soccer Mom* were produced Off-Broadway. Ms. Clark was twice selected to attend the O'Neill National Playwrights Conference and was a finalist for the Susan Smith Blackburn Award. Her other plays include *Banner* and a new play, *An Evening With...*

Jules Aaron (Director) has directed over 250 productions, including over seventy-five world premieres. He has worked at the Public Theatre (New York), South Coast Repertory, Actors Theatre of Louisville (Humana Festival), the Pasadena Playhouse, Philadelphia Theatre Company, Utah Shakespearean Festival, McCoy/Rigby Entertainment at LaMirada Theatre of the Performing Arts, International City Theatre, Colony Theatre, Hudson Theatre, Odyssey Theatre, and Victory Theatre among many others. He has directed Julianne Moore, Don Cheadle, Bruce Davison, Carrie Snodgress, Zelda Rubinstein, Greg Itzin, Sam Anderson, Mercedes Ruehl, Lee Meriwether, Jeff Demun, Ralph Waite, Marian Mercer, Michael Learned among many others. He directed Robert Mandan and Katherine Helmond in the world premiere of Mayo Simon's *A Twilight Romance* at the Falcon Theatre. He has won 20 Drama-Logue Awards, three Garland Awards, an LA Drama Critics Award (with several nominations), Special Chair at UC Davis. He has a PhD in Dramaturgy, Theatre History and Criticism from NYU. He has been Artistic Director of the Unit Theatre (in NY and LA), as well as Artistic Director at Grove Shakespeare Theatre. He was head of the MA program at UC Riverside and head of the MFA Directing Program at California Institute of the Arts for seventeen years. He is now on the Adjunct Faculty at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts.

Michael Learned (*Amanda*) has appeared in many stage productions on Broadway, Off-Broadway, and elsewhere, including in the national touring production of *On Golden Pond* with Tom Bosley and *One Slight Hitch* with Granville Van Dusen at the Falcon Theatre. In the summer of 2010 she starred in a production of *Driving Miss Daisy* playing the title role of 'Daisy Werthen' opposite to Walter Borden as 'Hoke'. Her many film and TV credits include *The Waltons*, *Gunsmoke*, *St. Elsewhere*, *All My Sons*, *All My Children*, *Scrubs*, *Cold Case* and *General Hospital*.

Granville Van Dusen (Gus) is a forty year veteran of stage, screen, and television. Recently, he made the choice to move away from television and film and re-commit to his first love: the theater. Since then he has performed at the Old Globe in San Diego, the Asolo in Sarasota, the Pantages in LA, the Manitoba Theatre Co., Cerritos CFTPA, the Rubicon in Ventura, and the Matrix in Hollywood. This is his fifth appearance at the Falcon Theatre where he has appeared in One Slight Hitch, Golf With Alan Shepard, Darwin in Malibu (Ovation nomination), and The Memoirs of Abraham Lincoln. He has won Dramalogue Awards for Otherwise Engaged and for Undiscovered Country at the Mark Taper Forum, and has starred in over 200 TV shows, and has narrated close to a thousand commercials, as well as voicing the role of 'Race Bannon' in the cartoon classic Jonny Quest.

The Falcon Theatre is a 130-seat performing arts space located in the Burbank, California media district. Built by Director/Writer/Producer Garry Marshall and his daughter Kathleen Marshall LaGambina, the Falcon offers a 5-play subscription series from August through April, in addition to summer productions. The Falcon Theatre is located at 4252 Riverside Drive in Burbank, California. www.FalconTheatre.com