

IMPOSSIBLE MARRIAGE

by Beth Henley

Directed by Stephen Wadsworth

**pacific
stages**

presents The Salon Staged Readings

Producer
Jeryll W Adler

Associate Producer
Jelayne Miles

Cast of Characters
in order of appearance

Sidney Lunt Matthew Patrick Davis
Floral Whitman Maggie Welsh
Kandall Kingsley Holland Taylor
Jonsey Whitman.....Michael Medico
Pandora Kingsley Melanie Lora
Reverend Jonathan Larence Matt McGrath
Edvard Lunt Stephen Wadsworth
Stage Directions..... Lauren Lovett

Matthew Patrick Davis* Theatre credits include: L.A. Theatre Works' national tour of *The Great Tennessee Monkey Trial* starring Ed Asner, James Cromwell, and Mike Farrell; Feste in *Twelfth Night*, directed by Brendon Fox (New Village Arts); Richard Henry Lee in *1776* (Lamb's Players); Emcee in *The Buddy Holly Story* (San Fran Post Street Theatre / Regional Tour); Leander in *Scapin* (Andak Stage Co); Albert Peterson in *Bye Bye Birdie* (CCT). Television credits: *Joan of Arcadia*; national commercials.

Melanie Lora Los Angeles: *Dead End* (Ahmanson Theatre), *Ohmland Live!* (Geffen Playhouse), *Red Light Green Light* (Evidence Room) *Orlando, Embedded, The Seagull* (Actors Gang), *Dreamplay* (BoTH Theatre, performed in and around a swimming pool), *Marat Sade* (Theatre of NOTE) and numerous others. Regional: *Many Happy Returns* (Laguna Playhouse, US Premiere), *Arms and the Man* (Avo Playhouse), *Sideways Stories* (South Coast Rep). Film and TV: *Numbers*, *Gilmore Girls*, *Call Me* (MOW), *United States of Leland*, *Self Storage*, the recently-wrapped *Noise* with Tim Robbins. Melanie is currently filming the indie feature *The Appearance of Things* through August 2006. Member of the Actors Gang and the Antaeus Company.

Matt McGrath most recently starred in Robert Wilson's *The Black Rider* with the music of Tom Waits and text by the late William S. Burroughs at the Ahmanson Theatre in downtown Los Angeles. Broadway credits include *A Streetcar Named Desire* and *Cabaret* (Emcee). Off Broadway: *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* (Jane St.Theatre) Film: *The Notorious Bettie Paige*, *The Anniversary Party*, *The Broken Hearts Club*, *Boys Don't Cry* and the upcoming *Full Grown Men* (2006).

Michael Medico Credits include LA Theatre: *All in the Timing* (Rubicon Theatre,) and *Three Grooms and a Bride* (The Coast Playhouse). Off Broadway: The US premier of *Murder in Mind* (La Mama). Regional theatre: Old Globe, San Jose Rep, Huntington Theatre Co., McCarter Theatre, Arden Theatre, The Shakespeare Theatre, The Caldwell Theatre, and Saratoga Shakespeare Co.. Television: *Will and Grace*, *The New Adventures of Old Christine*, *Threshold*, *Frasier*, *Sex and the City*, *Law and Order:SVU*, *Roswell*, *Angel*, and *Good Morning Miami*. Films: *Grace*, *Vanessa*, *Life's Too Good*, *Pro-Choice!* and the spoof *Queer Eye for the Homeless Guy*.

Holland Taylor came to NY by way of Philadelphia and then Bennington College, enjoyed twenty years in New York, On Broadway, off, and regional work, before bicoastal living became a necessity. Some titles; Broadway: *Butley*; *Something Old, Something New*; *The Devils*; *Murder Among Friends*; *We Interrupt this Program*; *Moose Murders* (legendary), and *Breakfast with Les and Bess*. Off B'Way: *The Cocktail Hour*; *Vagina Monologues*, *The Poker Session*, *Drinks Before Dinner*. Film: *Romancing the Stone*; *Jewel of the Nile*; *One Fine Day*; *George of the Jungle*; *The Truman Show*; *Keeping the Faith*; *Next Stop Wonderland*; *The Wedding Date*; *Happy Accidents*; *Legally Blonde*. Television: *Bosom Buddies*, *The Powers That Be*; *The Lot* (Emmy nomination): *The Naked Truth*; *The Practice* (Emmy award); *The Day Reagan was Shot*; *Two and a Half Men* (Emmy nomination).

Stephen Wadsworth [see back of program]

Maggie Welsh was nominated last season for a Lucille Lortel Award for her seven roles in A.R. Gurney's *Big Bill* at Lincoln Center Theatre. She has worked at the Geffen (*Under The Blue Sky*), The Old Globe (*Twelfth Night*, *As You Like It*), McCarter Theatre (*Private Lives*, *The Game Of Love And Chance*), Hartford Stage (*The Rivals*, *Arms And The Man*), Intiman (*Arms And The Man*), Long Wharf, the Huntington, and in New York at Playwrights Horizons, Manhattan Class Company and Classic Stage Company. TV work includes recurring roles on *Jake In Progress* and *Grey's Anatomy* and appearances on *Without A Trace*, *The Practice*, *Boston Legal* And *NYPD Blue*. Film work includes *Mr. And Mrs. Bridge*, *American Heart* and *Smooth Talk*.

Actors appear courtesy of Actor's Equity Association - * Member of Pacific Stages Artists Company.

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The Salon Series

July 23rd, 2006

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Our July '06 Salon features *IMPOSSIBLE MARRIAGE* by Beth Henley. Set in the beautiful and mysterious garden of Kandall Kingsley, this is the funny and moving story of how two families struggle with the impossibility of finding an allegiance between their civilized duties and primitive desires.

Playwright, screenwriter, and actress Beth Henley first entered the critical spotlight in 1978 when *Crimes of the Heart*—a black comedy about three maladjusted sisters set in the small town of Hazlehurst, Mississippi—won the Great American Play Contest sponsored by the Actors Theatre of Louisville. This work went on to win several more awards, including the New York Drama Critics Circle Award for best new American play and the Pulitzer Prize for drama, both in 1981. Henley then received a Tony Award nomination for best play and, five years later, an Academy Award nomination for best adapted screenplay. The play and subsequent film version showcased Henley as one of a new breed of American dramatists dedicated to preserving regional voices on the stage. Other plays by Ms. Henley include *Am I Blue*, *The Miss Firecracker Contest*, and *The Wake of Jamey Foster*.

Stephen Wadsworth, an acknowledged master of the classical repertoire from Aeschylus to Wilde, directed the first production of *IMPOSSIBLE MARRIAGE* at the Roundabout in New York. His translations of plays by Moliere and Marivaux, which he directed around the country in the 1990s, earned him many honors including the Chevalier of the Order of Arts and Letters from the French government. He is one of the leading opera directors of the day and has directed at the Metropolitan Opera, La Scala Milan, the Vienna State Opera and London's Royal Opera, among many others. He wrote the opera *A Quiet Place* with Leonard Bernstein.

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A very special thanks to all who have donated their hard work and heart to this Salon series, and to the wonderful actors and directors who have so graciously shared their talent.

We applaud your vision and generosity.

We also thank Melanie & Richard Lundquist, and Continental Development Corporation. You are home to our dreams, and an exceptional example of the best our community has to offer.

We welcome you all.

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