

Rising Moon
Marketing & Public Relations

For Immediate Release

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**Thumbprint Theatre Company Kicks Off with John Kolvenbach's *Fabuloso*,
a Fast-Moving Farce at Stage Werx, Oct 31-Nov 11**

**New theatre company to focus on new and nearly new works by
playwrights making their mark**

"Kolvenbach keeps you guessing while you're laughing." – Eye Weekly

San Francisco. September 27, 2012. Thumbprint Theatre jumps into the Bay Area theatre scene with its production of John Kolvenbach's *Fabuloso*, a domestic farce, but one with a twist. This laugh-out-loud comedy moves from madcap to contemplative, from two-handed sparring to intimate confessions, from the absurd to the downright practical. As playwright Kolvenbach says, "it stops being a slumber party when your guests stay for a month."

Fabuloso previews October 31 and opens on November 3 at Stage Werx, 446 Valencia St., San Francisco, 94103. Tickets are \$25, and the Preview is pay-what-you-can. fabuloso.brownpapertickets.com.

The show is directed by Loretta M. Janca. The cast includes Sabrina De Mio, Sean Garahan, Suzanne Nason, and Christopher M. Nelson.

The story goes like this: Kate and Teddy are trapped in a soggy, lifeless marriage. Then Teddy's childhood friend Arthur, whom he hasn't seen in 20 years, arrives bringing chaos, knives, songs, and a his new and colorful fiancée. It's a high-energy farce that succeeds where so many others fail because of an unusually effective emotional twist that's just touching enough.

Kolvenbach is a clever writer, and the Thumbprint cast is well up to the task he sets, making this production a must see!



Suzanne Nason and Christopher Nelson (kneeling); Sabrina De Mio and Sean Garahan (prone and supine) in the Thumbprint Theatre production of John Kolvenbach's Fabuloso. Photo: David Allen.

Kolvenbach has a bit of a history in the Bay Area. Two of his earlier plays, *Goldfish* and its companion piece entitled *Mrs. Whitney*, were presented in repertory at the [Magic Theatre](#) in San Francisco in the Fall of 2009.

His *Love Song* (2007) premiered at Chicago's Steppenwolf Theatre in 2007. The following year, it played on London's West End and was nominated for an Olivier Award as best new comedy.

Fabuloso premiered on Cape Cod at the Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theater in the summer of 2008, directed by the author.

Loretta Janca (Director) Loretta Janca comes to Kolvenbach for the second time, having directed his *Love Song* in 2010. She has been active in the Bay Area theatre community since 1987 as a performer, director, choreographer and writer with groups including Lamplighters, New Conservatory Theatre Center, Willows Theatre, Piedmont Light Opera Theatre, SF Symphony Chorus, SF Chamber Singers (now Volti), George Coates Performance Works, Bracebridge Dinner Singers (Yosemite Nat'l Park), Center Rep Walnut Creek, SF Shakespeare Festival, Network Theater Company, Contra Costa Civic Theater, Allegro Music Productions, Masquers, California Shakespeare Theatre, Altarena Theatre, Exit Theatre, Woodminster Summer Amphitheater, Marin Civic Light Opera, and San Leandro Players. Further afield, she has performed Off-Broadway and on the high seas with NYC Village Light Opera Group, and the Great American Melodrama & Vaudeville. She has performed at Dallas Summer Musicals, Milwaukee Melody Top, Music Theatre of Wichita, and recently returned to her Louisiana roots to direct at Artists Civic Theatre and Studios.

Christopher M. Nelson (Teddy) most recently played the role of Polpoch in Thrillpeddler's *Marat/Sade*. He has been seen in New Conservatory Theatre Center's production of *Waiting for Giovanni*; *Boys Will Be Boys* and in the Bay Area Theatre Critic's Circle Award winning production of *Dames at Sea*. He played in Theatre Rhino's *A Necessary Evil* and *Falsettos* and in 42nd Street Moon's *Ben Franklin in Paris* and *The Student Gypsy*. He appeared in the world premiere of *Friends Are Forever* at NCTC. He understudied the role of the father in Bill Cain's *How to Write a New Book for the Bible* at Berkeley Rep. Before moving to San Francisco, he performed on many stages in San Diego including the La Jolla Playhouse, La Jolla Stage Company, and Lamb's Players Theatre in productions of *The Secret Garden*, *Dracula, the Musical*, *Into the Woods*, *Oklahoma!*, *Godspell*, *Closer Than Ever*, and others. He is a member of the

Dramatists Guild of America and the Playwrights' Center of San Francisco. Next May, he will be seen in the Custom Made Theatre production of Craig Lucas' *Prelude to a Kiss*, directed by Stuart Bousel.

Sabrina De Mio (Samantha) came to the Bay Area after receiving her degree in Math from Sarah Lawrence College in New York. She has performed with various Bay Area theater, dance and light opera companies, including Shotgun Players, San Francisco's Lamplighters, and the new On The Mark Productions. She previously worked with director Loretta Janca in the 2010 production of Kolvenbach's *Love Song*. Sabrina has studied acting with Bobby Weinapple & Michael Mohammed & studies classical voice with Jonathan Smucker. She pays the rent as a bike messenger.

Suzanne Nason (Kate) has performed in Long Story Shorts at the Alcove Theatre and at the San Francisco Theatre Festival. She has trained with Catherine Castellanos and Martin A. David and at Shelton Studios. Currently, she is training with Bobby Weinapple at Seydways Studios. In her early years she traveled across the US and to Scandinavia as a musician (keyboards) in a show that played over 80 performances. Suzanne is also Thumbprint's designer. An honors graduate of the prestigious Art Center College of Design, she runs a design firm called Tw!st Studio and is known for her clever and witty design. She has designed for the likes of Expedia, Pepsi, Turner Entertainment and Target.

Sean Robert Garahan (Arthur) is a San Francisco actor and teaching artist. He was seen recently in the SF Shakespeare Festival's production of *Henry V*, as Dad in *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing* with the Pleasanton Civic Arts Stage Company, and as Demetrius in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Phoenix Theatre. Sean also teaches acting and Shakespeare with the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival and to wee little kindergartners at Mission Prep charter school. He is a graduate of Emerson College in Boston with a BA in Acting. In Boston, he performed with the Actor's Shakespeare Project and Centastage.

About Thumbprint Theatre

Mission

Thumbprint Theatre's mission is to allow new and nearly new plays to make their mark. The company showcases new writers and new work as well as focuses on plays that have had limited previous production. Thumbprint Theatre is committed to challenge, amaze, entertain, and educate audiences and performers through training and a variety of presentations.

Thumbprint is led by disciplined artists whose diverse backgrounds and decades of experience in their art forms coalesce to expand and enhance the company's vision and potential. The common thread through all of the performances is an uncanny "twist" that amuses and entertains. The company was started by Martin A. David and was originally called...And Still..., and had its roots as a modern dance troupe for dancers and choreographers. The company performed throughout the Bay Area, including several successful seasons at the ODC Theatre. The transition from pure dance to a more theatrical focus happened slowly and eventually the company's name was changed to reflect the new direction.

Martin A. David Artistic Director, Emeritus

Martin calls himself an "Arts Practitioner". He's a working actor whose first professional role was in Joseph Papp's Shakespeare company in New York. He is a modern dancer and choreographer who has directed modern dance companies overseas and in the U.S. His teaching and coaching uses an amalgam of approaches based on his studies at the HB Studios in New York as well as with Jean Shelton and Matt Shelton in San Francisco.

Over the years he has developed a unique personal method designed to achieve maximum artistic expression by combining eclectic sources including physical theatre, improvisation, traditional modern dance, and avant-garde explorations. Martin speaks English, Spanish, Danish, and French, as well as conversational Italian, German, and a smattering of Russian. Mr. David has published three books and over 1,200 magazine, newspaper, and online articles, as well as seven book-length translations. He also writes plays, and his *Leaden Skies*, a holocaust-themed work, is being prepared for a San Francisco Bay Area production.

Show Information

WHAT: *Fabuloso*, by John Kolvenbach, a production of Thumbprint Theatre

WHERE: Stage Werx, 446 Valencia St., San Francisco, 94103

WHEN & TICKETS:

Preview Pay What You Can, Oct. 31, 7:00 pm

Showtimes: Saturday Nights, Nov 3 & 10, 8:00 pm

Sunday Matinees: Nov. 4 & 11, 2:00 pm

FOR CALENDAR EDITORS

Fabuloso. A domestic farce by John Kolvenbach. “It stops being a slumber party when your guests stay for a month.” Directed by Loretta M. Janca. Presented by Thumbprint Theatre at Stage Werx, 446 Valencia St., San Francisco, 94103. Preview Oct 31 at 7:00 p.m. Runs Sat Nights, Nov 3 & 10, 8:00 pm; Sunday Matinees: Nov. 4 & 11, 2:00 pm. Tickets: Preview, pay-as-you-can; all other performances \$25. fabuloso.brownpapertickets.com.
www.thumbprinttheatre.com

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