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TWO RIVER THEATER CONCLUDES ITS 2015/16 SEASON WITH THE AMERICAN CLASSIC *I REMEMBER MAMA*, DIRECTED BY JACK CUMMINGS III

The cast of 10—all veteran actresses over the age of 60—includes Barbara Andres, Alice Cannon, Lynn Cohen, Rita Gardner, Marjorie Johnson, Mia Katigbak, Susan Lehman, Heather Mac Rae, Louise Sorel, and Dale Soules

Performances: Saturday, June 4 - Sunday, June 26, 2016
Opening: Friday, June 10, 2016 at 8pm

RED BANK, NJ — Two River Theater, under the leadership of Artistic Director John Dias and Managing Director Michael Hurst, announces the full cast and creative team for its production of *I Remember Mama*, directed by **Jack Cummings III**. This version of the play was originally produced in New York by the Transport Group Theatre Company. *I Remember Mama* is written by **John Van Druten**, based on *Mama's Bank Account* by Kathryn Forbes. Performances will begin in Two River's Rechnitz Theater, 21 Bridge Avenue, on **Saturday, June 4** and continue through **Sunday, June 26**. The opening night performance is **Friday, June 10 at 8pm**. Tickets are available from 732.345.1400 or tworivertheater.org. The lead production sponsor is Springpoint Senior Living Foundation at The Atrium at Navesink Harbor.

A group of 10 veteran actresses—all in their 60s, 70s, and 80s—perform all 25 roles in this beloved classic about a working-class Norwegian family in turn-of-the-century San Francisco. The Transport Group's production of *I Remember Mama* was celebrated as one of the best theater productions of 2014 in *The New York Times* and *The New Yorker*.

The ensemble includes **Barbara Andres** (Drama Desk nomination for the Transport Group's *I Remember Mama, Cabaret*), **Alice Cannon** (*James Joyce's The Dead*), **Lynn Cohen** (*The Hunger Games, Sex and the City*), **Rita Gardner** (*The Fantasticks*), **Marjorie Johnson** (*Dot*), **Mia Katigbak** (*Awake and Sing!*), **Susan Lehman** (*70, Girls*,

70), **Heather Mac Rae** (*Falsettos*), **Louise Sorel** (*Days of Our Lives*), and **Dale Soules** (*Orange Is the New Black*).

“When I saw the Transport Group production of *I Remember Mama*, I was overwhelmed by the collective talent of those actresses assembled by Jack Cummings III, led by the extraordinary Barbara Andres as ‘Mama.’ And, we are delighted now to welcome Marjorie Johnson and Mia Katigbak to the cast in *Red Bank*,” says Artistic Director John Dias. “These 10 masterful women breathe a fresh, new life into this marvelous old classic and make it feel young again.”

Jack Cummings III (Director) is Co-Founder and Artistic Director of Transport Group Theatre Company, where his many credits include the world premiere of Michael John LaChiusa’s *Queen of the Mist* and revivals of *Hello Again*, *First Lady Suite*, *Once Upon a Mattress*, *Almost, Maine*, *The Dark at the Top of the Stairs*, *The Boys in the Band*, *All the Way Home*, and *Our Town*.

The creative team includes scenic designer **Dane Laffrey**, costume designer **Kathryn Rohe**, and lighting designer **R. Lee Kennedy**. The casting is by **Adam Caldwell** and the production stage manager is **Ben Andersen**.

Ticket Information

Ticket prices range from \$37 to \$65, with discounts available for groups, seniors, and U.S. military personnel, their families, and veterans. A limited number of \$20 tickets are available for every performance; \$20 tickets may be partial view. Tickets for patrons under 30 are \$20 and include the best available seats at every performance. Tickets are available from tworivertheater.org or 732.345.1400.

Inside Two River

Inside Two River is a series of events specially curated for each Two River Theater production. For more information or to reserve seats, patrons should visit tworivertheater.org or call 732.345.1400. Please note that several of these events are off-site from Two River Theater.

An Afternoon of Tea & Heirlooms, Wednesday, May 18 from 3pm-5pm in the Victoria Mastrobuono Library

Members of the public are invited to join Two River for a cozy afternoon of tea and light refreshments. Participants will be able to “show and tell” about an heirloom from their own families, and hear about the cherished belongings of others. This event is free, but spots are limited; to reserve, call 732.345.1400 or visit www.tworivertheater.org

Book Club: *Go Set a Watchman* by Harper Lee, Sunday, June 19 at 5:30pm in the Victoria Mastrobuono Library (following the 3pm performance)

Literary Manager Anika Chapin will lead a discussion of *Go Set a Watchman* by Harper Lee. In conjunction with *I Remember Mama*, the Book Club will discuss growing up and the relationship between adult children and their parents.

“The Importance of Ancestry & Antiques” with guest speaker Bill Ditto of West Farm Antiques, on Thursday, June 23 at 6:30pm in the Victoria Mastrobuono Library

This event is presented as part of the Conversation + Play salon series curated by The Navesink (producers of the TEDxNavesink conference) and Two River Theater. Tickets for this event are \$50 and include the salon

(exclusive pre-show event with talk, food, and drink) and the 8pm performance of *I Remember Mama*; to purchase tickets, patrons should call 732.345.1400 or visit www.tworivertheater.org and use the promo code NAVESINK50.

Audience Extras

Before Play and Lobby Display

Audiences will learn more about *I Remember Mama* in Two River's Before Play lecture series, which takes place 45 minutes prior to every performance, and Lobby Display.

Post-Play Conversations

Discussions with the cast and a member of Two River Theater's Artistic staff will take place on Wednesday, June 15 at 7pm; Sunday, June 19 at 3pm; and Wednesday, June 22 at 1pm.

Accessibility

Working with Google, Two River has created and launched a virtual tour of its facility, which lives on Google Maps and [tworivertheater.org](http://www.tworivertheater.org). This virtual tour provides an additional level of support and benefit for patrons who use wheelchairs or require other assistance by allowing them to virtually come through the theater's front doors and view the space in detail in advance of their visit.

An audio-described performance is scheduled for Wednesday, June 22 at 1pm, and an **open-captioned performance** is scheduled for Saturday, June 25 at 3pm. Tickets are available at a discounted rate of \$25 for patrons using these services. To reserve wheelchair-accessible seating or tickets to a performance listed above, patrons should call 732.345.1400 or e-mail boxoffice@trtc.org.

Calendar

Saturday, June 4 at 8pm
Sunday, June 5 at 3pm
Wednesday, June 8 at 1 pm and 7pm
Thursday, June 9 at 8pm
Friday, June 10 at 8pm (**Opening Night**)
Saturday, June 11 at 3pm and 8pm
Sunday, June 12 at 3pm
Wednesday, June 15 at 1pm and 7pm
Thursday, June 16 at 1pm and 8pm
Friday, June 17 at 8pm
Saturday, June 18 at 3pm and 8pm
Sunday, June 19 at 3pm
Wednesday, June 22 at 1pm and 7pm
Thursday, June 23 at 1pm and 8pm
Friday, June 24 at 8pm
Saturday, June 25 at 3pm and 8pm
Sunday, June 26 at 3pm

Sponsorship

The production sponsors for *I Remember Mama* include Lead Sponsor Springpoint Senior Living Foundation at The Atrium at Navesink Harbor and the Visiting Nurse Association of Central New Jersey. *Inside Two River* is sponsored by The William T. Morris Foundation. The *Before Play* series is sponsored by Zager Fuchs, PC.

Two River Theater is supported in part by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation, Monmouth University, The Shubert Foundation, The Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, Meridian Health/Riverview Medical Center, The Stone Foundation of New Jersey, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, Saker ShopRites, Investors Foundation, The Horizon Foundation for New Jersey, Springpoint Senior Living Foundation at the Atrium at Navesink Harbor, Bank of America Charitable Foundation, Wells Fargo, William T. Morris Foundation, US Trust, Brookdale Community College, and many other generous foundations, corporations and individuals.

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Two River Theater, under the leadership of Artistic Director John Dias and Managing Director Michael Hurst, creates great American theater performed by award-winning artists. We produce American and world masterpieces, and new plays and musicals. Two River Theater offers new-play commissions and artistic development activities that support the most adventurous artists in the American theater; invites its audience to be part of the creative process through readings and open rehearsals; and cultivates students and young people to participate in innovative arts-education programs and become a new generation of theatergoers. Founded in 1994 by Joan and Dr. Robert M. Rechnitz, Two River Theater is easily accessible by car, train, or bus, with great restaurants and shopping within walking distance of the theater. For more information, visit tworivertheater.org or call 732.345.1400.