

PRESS RELEASE

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ART PARTY MET AN EVENING WITH PHOENIX RISING MURAL UNVEILING, ART SHOW, CONCERT AND THEATRE

FREDERICK, MD (JULY 2, 2013) - On July 19, 2013 the **Maryland Ensemble Theatre (MET)** will host, **ART PARTY MET**, an evening of art, music, and theatre that celebrates the community of creativity and art in Frederick. Corks will be popping as **Phoenix Rising** unveils a new mural for the MET lobby, a lobby that will also be adorned with the work of over a dozen of local artists, and then following a performance of the show ***I (Am) Not My Mother***, three local bands will play the party into the wee hours. "The party is a collaborative effort that embodies the eclectic artistic offerings the MET brings to the community", said MET **Artistic Director, Tad Janes**.

Over the past several months the family-owned remodeling and repair business, Phoenix Rising has been donating their talents on a creative collaboration with Maryland Ensemble Theatre. At ART PARTY MET on the 19th the fruit of those efforts, a mural designed by MET Company/Board member **Joann Lee** and Phoenix Rising's owner **Anthony Owens** will be revealed. The mural features thousands of hand-cut and placed glass mosaic tiles. The abstract design covers 32 square feet and is truly a unique work of art. Phoenix Rising has a history of community collaborations in Frederick including work with **Habitat For Humanity**, the **Frederick Food Bank**, **The Frederick Arts Council**, and **Frederick Housing Authority** among others and the Maryland Ensemble Theatre is proud to count themselves among those partners.

The new mural will not be the only art on display in the lobby of Maryland Ensemble Theatre. Local artists will join in the celebration as the walls of the MET lobby will be displaying their work. Pieces by **Ron Young, Kai Hagen, Ed Ramsburg, David Bottini, Shayne Straytner, Andrea McCluskey, Lesa Cook, Harriet Wise, Bill Atdkins, Frank Duvall, Joe Williams, Kathleen Stark, and Whitney Bingham** among others will be shown. Each of these talented artists have donated their work to the MET for display and sale. The exhibition will be on display for one month. The proceeds from the sale will benefit Maryland Ensemble Theatre's upcoming Capital Campaign.

At 7pm the MET will present a performance of *I Am (Not) My Mother*. The show, written by the newly minted **co-producing Artistic Director of Rep Stage, Suzanne Beal**, is a collage of stories, images and songs depicting the lovely and sometimes tumultuous relationships between mothers and daughters. Beal collected stories from more than 80 women all over **Frederick County** from the **Record Street Home** to a group of sixth grade girls for the source material. It made it's world premiere at the MET last year and \$2,000 dollars of the proceeds were donated to the **Women's Giving Circle**, the show has since received productions in **Philadelphia** and **Baltimore**.

After the production, the party will continue with performances from three of Frederick's favorite local bands. **Silent Old Mtns**, the indie rock band that released their new album ***Naked Raccoon*** on June 19th will perform along with **The Dead Monks**, and **Adrienne and the Merrylanders**.

ART PARTY MET will begin at 5:30pm on July 19th. The Phoenix Rising mural unveiling and the art exhibition will take place between 5:30 and 7pm, it is free and open to the public. *I Am (Not) My Mother* will begin at 7pm, tickets \$21.50 (including service fees) and can be purchased in advance or at the door. The bands will perform beginning at 8:30pm and those performances are free and open to the public as well. The Maryland Ensemble Theatre is located at 31 W Patrick Street in downtown Frederick. For additional information or tickets to *I (Am) Not My Mother* visit **marylandensemble.org** or call **301-694-4744**.

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