

PRESS RELEASE

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THE COMEDY PIGS SKETCH & IMPROV TROUPE ANNOUNCE 21ST SEASON

FREDERICK, MD (Sep. 1, 2013) - The Comedy Pigs, Maryland Ensemble Theatre's (MET) hilarious improv troupe are returning for their 21st season with 22 performances including a shiny new sketch show. Since the Comedy Pigs debuted in 1993, they have performed over 500 shows including nationwide improv festivals, have been featured on **Comedy Central** and have been guests at the **National Pork Producers Convention**. The upcoming 21st season promises plenty of laughs with some new twists and audience favorites.

The lineup of returning Pigs this year include **Julia Williams** returning for her sophomore season, **Courtney McLaughlin** and **Jeff Schnorr** entering their third year, it's year four for **Thomas Scholtes**, **Tres Dillion** will be suiting up for the fifth time, while **Laura Stark** goes for season six and **Anne Raugh** returns for season number... we've lost count.

MET company member Laura Stark spoke about what's in store for audiences this year, "We are trying to have a lot of new games this season and still bring back the old favorites. We are also going to mix up the second act with some long form improv and some musical games as well." Also new this year is a brand spanking new sketch show that will run in late January and early February.

The first two performances are September 14 and 21 at 10:30pm following the Mainstage performance of **Completely Hollywood (Abridged)**. Tickets are just \$12 plus ticketing fees but if you bring a ticket stub from the Mainstage show to any 10:30pm Pigs show you can purchase tickets for half price. The Pigs return with four shows in October, the 4th and 5th at 9pm and the 19th and 26th at 10:30pm following the Mainstage performance of **The Importance of Being Earnest**. There are two prime-time 9pm shows in November on the 15th and 16th before taking all of December and most January off to write the big new sketch show. The sketch show will run January 24, 25, 31 and February 1 at 8pm. Following performance of **Whose Afraid of Virginia Woolf?**, you'll have another opportunity to catch the Pigs for half price with your ticket stub on February 22 or March 1 at 10:30pm. The Pigs then return to prime-time with shows on March 21 and 22 at 9pm. On April 19 and 26 you can catch the Pigs at 10:30pm after they clean the fake blood off the stage following performances of **The Lieutenant of Inishmore**. May 16 and 17 the Pigs have shows at 9pm and finally they wrap up season number 21 with shows on June 14 and 21 at 10:30pm. Those final two performances will be following the Mainstage production of **In The Next Room (Or the Vibrator Play)**.

All performances will be at Maryland Ensemble Theatre (31 W Patrick St.), located downtown in the historic **FSK Hotel**. Tickets are \$12.00 (plus a \$1.50 processing fee) or \$6 with a Mainstage ticket stub and may be purchased online at marylandensemble.org, by phone at (301) 694-4744 or in person at the MET box office.

COMEDY PIGS INFORMATION

Who: Anne Raugh, Courtney McLaughlin, Jeff Schnorr, Thomas Scholtes, Julia Williams, Tres Dillion & Laura Stark.

Where: Maryland Ensemble Theatre, 31 West Patrick Street, Frederick, Maryland 21701

When: 9/14 and 9/21 at 10:30, 10/4-10/5 at 9pm, 10/19 and 10/26 at 10:30pm, 11/15-11/16 at 9pm, 1/24-1/25 and 1/31-2/1 at 9pm, 2/22 and 3/1 at 10:30pm, 3/21-3/22 at 9pm, 4/19 and 4/26 at 10:30pm, 5/16-5/17 at 9pm
6/14 and 6/21 at 10:30pm

Ticket Prices: \$13.50 (Ticket price includes \$1.50 service fee) or \$7.50 with Mainstage ticket stub.

Box Office: 301-694-4744 or marylandensemble.org or at the MET (Tuesday - Thursday 10am - 3pm, Friday 11am - 3pm and 1 hour before each show.)