



NEWS RELEASE

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COMMONWEAL THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS
PICASSO AT THE LAPIN AGILE

LANESBORO, MINN. — The Commonweal Theatre Company presents Steve Martin’s wild and crazy comedy *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, May 22nd through September 25th with special \$15 tickets available for previews May 14th to May 21st. Call the box office at 800-657-7025 or visit Commonweal Theatre online at www.commonwealththeatre.org for exact performance dates and times.

What happens when two guys walk into a bar, order one part Einstein, one part Picasso, and a splash of some of the zaniest characters ever to hit the Commonweal stage “all shook up”?

One of the great comedians of all time, Steve Martin, takes you to Paris of 1904. The twentieth century is a story yet to be written, and Pablo Picasso and Albert Einstein meet in a bar – two men destined to be famous...but not quite yet. First, they must battle one another to decide whether art or science will be the force that guides the world for the next hundred years.

Picasso’s director, Zach Curtis, makes his directing debut for The Commonweal, but has been a fixture in the Twin Cities theatre scene for more than 15 years. As an actor and director, his work has been seen at the Guthrie, Park Square Theatre, Mixed Blood Theatre, and Theatre Latte Da. “I love Steve Martin,”

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Commonweal Theatre Company
Picasso at the Lapin Agile, p.2

he says, “and when someone told me that he’d written a play, it was like my two great loves coming together. The first time *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* came to the Twin Cities, I was in the front row!”

Portraying the iconic figures of Pablo Picasso and Albert Einstein are last season’s Felix and Oscar from *The Odd Couple* - Commonweal’s founder and Managing Director, Eric Bunge, and Artistic Director Hal Cropp. *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* also features Commonweal Resident Artists Laura Depta, Scott Dixon, Sarah Kathryn Hawkins, David Hennessey, Tim Sailer, Jerome Yorke with Commonweal Apprentice Company member Michael Van Schoick as The Visitor.

Jason Underferth serves as stage manager and designs the lighting for the show. He leads the production team consisting of designers Kit Mayer (sets), Stan Peal (sound), Stela Burdt (props) and Jeffrey D. Stoltz (costumes).

Thanks to support from F&M Community Bank, special weekday matinee performances are available for school groups at only \$3 per person which includes a study guide, pre-show classroom workshop, and post-performance discussion with the actors. The production is underwritten by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

All performances are at the Commonweal Theatre, 208 Parkway Avenue North in downtown Lanesboro. Ticket prices are \$25, with discounts available for students, and groups of ten or more. There will be a sign language interpreted performance on Saturday, September 18th with half-price tickets for the hearing impaired. For ticket reservations or information about any Commonweal events or programs, call 800-657-7025 or 507-467-2905, or email tickets@commonwealtheatre.org.

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