



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 2 – October 9, 2011

CENTER REP PRESENTS THE SONGS OF LEIBER AND STOLLER IN

SMOKEY JOE'S CAFÉ

The all-singing, all-dancing celebration of chart topping hits!

Words and Music by

Jerry Leiber & Mike Stoller

Directed and Choreographed by

Robert Barry Fleming

Musical Directed by

Sean Kana

***Starring: Dave J. Abrams, Noel Anthony*, Isaiah Tyrelle Boyd,
Brittany Danielle*, Taylor Jones, Constance Jewell Lopez*,
Rondrell McCormick*, Eva Rebane*, Anthony Rollins-Mullens***

Walnut Creek, CA, July 21st, 2011 -- Center REPeritory Company is proud to present: ***Smokey Joe's Cafe***, September 2 – October 9, 2011. Directed and choreographed by **Robert Barry Fleming**, *Smokey Joe's Cafe* is the first production of Center REP's 45th subscription season. This Tony Award-winning tribute to legendary songwriters Leiber and Stoller is a fast-paced nostalgic trip through 39 of rock-and-roll's greatest hits from "Stand by Me" and "Fools Fall in Love" to "Spanish Harlem" and "Yakety Yak." Award-winning Director Robert Barry Fleming returns to Center REP where he previously helmed such REP hits as *Ain't Misbehavin'*, *All Shook Up*, *She Loves Me* and *Blues in the Night*. *Smokey Joe's Cafe* is made possible by the generous support of **Chevron, Contra Costa Times** and **The Diablo Regional Arts Association**.

ROBERT BARRY FLEMING (Director/Choreographer) directing and choreography credits include: ALL SHOOK UP (Center Rep - SF Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle Award for Best Direction of a Musical), THE LITTLE DOG LAUGHED (The Diversionary), AIN'T MISBEHAVIN' (Center REP - Shellie Award for Best Direction of a Musical), THE GAME OF LOVE AND CHANCE (San Jose Rep), THUNDER KNOCKIN' ON THE DOOR (ACT-Seattle), TWELFTH NIGHT (Alabama Shakespeare Festival), Erik Ehn's THE SAINT PLAYS including ASSENT/IRISH LOVE RAY (world premiere - University of San Diego),

MARAT/SADE (University of San Diego MFA/BA joint production) *SHE LOVES ME* and *BLUES IN THE NIGHT* (Center REP). He has served as dialect and vocal coach at The La Jolla Playhouse for projects as diverse as *BONNIE AND CLYDE* directed by Jeff Calhoun, *THE ADDING MACHINE* directed by Daniel Aukin, *MOST WANTED* directed by Michael Grief and *THE WIZ* directed by Des MacAnuff. He served as dialect consultant for the Arthur Miller rotating-rep productions of *A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE* and *DEATH OF A SALESMAN* at the Arena Stage and *SIGHT UNSEEN* and Duncan Sheik's *WHISPER HOUSE* at the Old Globe. His professional acting credits include *RAGTIME* and *STAND-UP TRAGEDY* (Broadway), *INSURRECTION: HOLDING HISTORY* (The Public/NYSF), *GOOD BOYS* (Mo'olelo Performing Arts Company) and productions at the Old Globe, The Mark Taper Forum, and the Guthrie. Film/TV credits include *L.A. CONFIDENTIAL*, *TWILIGHT OF THE GOLDS*, a series regular on the Disney Channel's *ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND*, and numerous guest spots. Robert won a 2008 Craig Noel Award for Outstanding Featured Performance by a Male in a Musical for his performance in *AIN'T MISBEHAVIN'* at the San Diego Rep. He is an Associate Professor and Chair of the Theatre Arts Department at the University of San Diego.

Center REPeritory Company, the resident professional theatre company of the **Lesher Center for the Arts** (LCA), will be celebrating its 45th Subscription Season of high-quality theatrical productions during 2011-2012. **Center REPeritory Company's mission is to celebrate the power of the human imagination by producing emotionally engaging, intellectually involving, and visually astonishing live theatre and, through our outreach and education programs, to enrich and advance the cultural life of the communities we serve.**

FREE AT THE CENTER!

Director's Night. Join Center REP's Artistic Director, Michael Butler, for an engaging discussion of the evening's performance. Michael often enlists some of the show's designers to add their perspectives to this always lively dialogue.

Teacher's Night Out. Center REP hosts area teachers from elementary schools, middle schools, high schools and colleges for a night out at the theatre! This is a great way to honor teachers. By participating in the Director's Pre-Show discussion and then enjoying the performance, teachers are provided tools to broaden their students' understanding of live theatre. Call 925-295-1420 and press 1 for more information or to reserve a ticket.



FACT SHEET

WHO: Words and Music by: **Jerry Leiber & Mike Stoller**
Directed and Choreographed by: **Robert Barry Fleming**
Musical Directed by: **Sean Kana**

WHAT: *Smokey Joe's Café* is a Tony Award-winning tribute to legendary songwriters Leiber and Stoller including 39 of rock-and-roll's greatest hits from "Stand by Me" and "Fools Fall in Love" to "Spanish Harlem" and "Yakety Yak."

WHERE: **Center REPeritory Company**
Leshner Center for the Arts,
Leshner Stage
1601 Civic Center Drive, Walnut Creek

WHEN:

FRIDAY - September 2, 8:00PM
SATURDAY - September 3, 8:00PM
SUNDAY- September 4, 2:30PM

TUESDAY – OPENING September 6, 7:30PM
WEDNESDAY - September 7, 7:30PM
THURSDAY - September 8, 8:00PM
FRIDAY - September 9, 8:00PM
SATURDAY - September 10, 8:00PM
SUNDAY – September 11, 2:30PM

WEDNESDAY - September 14, 7:30PM
THURSDAY - September 15, 8:00PM
FRIDAY - September 16, 8:00PM
SATURDAY - September 17, 2:30PM & 8:00PM
SUNDAY - September 18, 2:30PM

WEDNESDAY - September 21, 7:30PM
THURSDAY - September 22, 8:00PM
FRIDAY - September 23, 8:00PM
SATURDAY – September 24, 2:30PM & 8:00PM
SUNDAY - September 25, 2:30PM

WEDNESDAY - September 28, 7:30PM
THURSDAY - September 29, 8:00PM
FRIDAY - September 30, 8:00PM
SATURDAY - October 1, 2:30PM & 8:00PM
SUNDAY - October 2, 2:30PM

WEDNESDAY - October 5, 7:30PM
THURSDAY – October 6, 8:00PM
FRIDAY – October 7, 8:00PM
SUNDAY - CLOSING October 9, 2:30PM

HOW MUCH: \$40-\$47

PHOTOS: http://www.centerrep.org/season1112/about_photos/about_smokeyjoes_photos.php

TICKET INFO: (925)943-SHOW (7469) – www.centerrep.org