



**THEATRE and PUBLIC RADIO NEWS
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: szoghbi@southernrep.com**

December 5, 2011

**SOUTHERN REP AND WWNO PRESENT
THE WORLD PREMIERE BROADCAST OF
NEW ORLEANS NOIR**

TWO LIVE-RECORDED RADIO PLAYS BY GREG HERREN AND JULIE SMITH

New Orleans – Southern Rep and WWNO are thrilled to announce the World Premiere Broadcast of NEW ORLEANS NOIR on Sunday, December 11th at 9pm on WWNO 89.9FM or online at wwno.org. This hour of radio theatre, commissioned by Southern Rep and WWNO and recorded live at Southern Rep last December, consists of two radio plays by local writers Greg Herren (fiction writer of the Chanse MacLeod Mysteries and the Scotty Bradley Mystery Series) and Julie Smith (fiction writer of New Orleans Noir short stories).

The cast of NEW ORLEANS NOIR features local favorites James Bartelle, Kesha Bullard, Kerry Cahill, Andrew Farrier, James Kirkpatrick, Vatican Lokey, John Neisler, Matthew Mickal, Wendy Miklovic, and Mandy Zirkenbach with live foley artist, Sarah Zoghbi.

WWNO is excited to be collaborating with Southern Rep to bring together great talent for this uniquely New Orleans performance and broadcast. – Paul E. Maassen, WWNO

At its core New Orleans is a great place for Noir stories-from French Quarter dames with secrets to hide to late night cocktails on a steamy summer evening. Greg Herren and Julie Smith are masters of the form, which will make NEW ORLEANS NOIR the hottest show in town! – Aimée Hayes, Artistic Director, Southern Rep

This project has been generously supported by the Louisiana Cultural Economy Foundation. For more information, call (504) 522 – 6545.

Greg Herren is the author of seventeen novels and editor of eleven anthologies. His young adult novel, Sleeping Angel, won the Moonbeam Gold Medal for Best Young Adult Mystery of 2011. **Julie Smith** is a former journalist and the author of 20 mysteries featuring three female sleuths and one neglected guy. New Orleans Mourning, the first book in her Skip Langdon series (about a New Orleans cop), won the Edgar Award for Best Novel. Her second New Orleans series features Talba Wallis, a PI who also happens to be a poet and computer genius. She lives in the Faubourg Marigny.

This broadcast immediately precedes a new collaboration between Southern Rep and WWNO, the live recording of LOUISIANA BELLES on Tuesday, December 13th at 7pm. BELLES, a celebration of holidays in New Orleans, is the next installment of Southern Rep's LOUISIANA CYCLE, commemorating the 200th anniversary of Louisiana's statehood. The one-night-only event features the stellar cast Margarita Bergen, Maureen "Mo" Brennan, Leslie Castay, Madelaine Feldman, Peggy Scott Laborde, Tari Hohn Lagasse, Diane Mack, Barbara Motley, Nell Nolan, Joyce Pulitzer, Janet Shea, Carol Sutton, and Ros Wingerter. The live recording of LOUISIANA BELLES has been generously supported by Symmetry Jewelers and Designers. **Tickets start at \$25 and are available online at www.SouthernRep.com or by calling the Box Office at (504) 522 – 6545.**



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WWNO is the listener-supported NPR radio station for New Orleans and eleven parishes of southeast Louisiana, broadcasting on 89.9 FM, and on KTLN 90.5 FM in the Houma-Thibodaux area. Known as “the source for NPR news and great classical music,” WWNO’s programs also include jazz and other musical styles, thought-provoking information, lively entertainment, and local news and culture, presented on three separate schedules: the familiar 89.9/90.5 (news, classical, and more) digital WWNO2 (classical, news, talk), and digital WWNO3 (jazz). All can be heard online at wwno.org. WWNO is a public service of the University of New Orleans.

Southern Rep enters its 25th season as the region’s premiere professional theatre, continuing to produce bold world and regional premieres under the leadership of Artistic Director, Aimée Hayes and Managing Director, Marieke Gaboury. In addition to Southern Rep’s ongoing commitment to new play development with exciting programs like 6X6, PlayLab, and DEBAUCHERY, a host of evocative main stage shows are taking the stage for this important Southern Rep anniversary. The season began with the underlying animalisms of seemingly civilized parents in GOD OF CARNAGE, and continued with the trials of an ambitious artist in RED. Spring brings a fresh production of the American and New Orleanian classic, A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE. We are also thrilled to welcome so many of our friends and neighbors to the Southern Rep this season in the return of the popular CITY SERIES, featuring productions from Ricky Graham, Running With Scissors, Theatre13 and the New Orleans Bingo! Show. Southern Rep offers educational programs such as free student matinees, \$10 student rush tickets and Academy SRT; as well as providing an artistic home to new works in development in the annual New Play Bacchanal.

Southern Rep continues to show that it is staging the most important, challenging, and downright mesmerizing pieces of theater New Orleans audiences are graced to experience.

- Theodore P. Mahne, *The Times-Picayune Lagniappe*

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