



AIMÉE HAYES, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR MARIEKE GABOURY, MANAGING DIRECTOR
THEATRE NEWS * FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

October 17, 2011

**SOUTHERN REP CONTINUES ITS 2011-2012 25th ANNIVERSARY SEASON
WITH JOHN LOGAN'S 2010 TONY AWARD WINNING PLAY
RED**

"Intense and exciting." – New York Times

New Orleans – Southern Rep continues its 25th Anniversary Season with the 2010 Tony Award Winning play RED, by John Logan (screenwriter of many films including *Rango*, *Gladiator*, *Any Given Sunday*). **The production features two of Southern Rep's & New Orleans' favorite actors, Bob Edes, Jr.** (2010 Big Easy Theatre Person of the Year, Southern Rep credits include I AM MY OWN WIFE, LOVE CHILD, OPUS) **and Sean Glazebrook** (member of the NOLA Project, Southern Rep credits include WITH A BANG, THE FOUR OF US, SPEECH AND DEBATE).

Directed by Artistic Director, Aimée Hayes, Bob Edes, Jr. tackles the role of renowned abstract expressionist painter, Mark Rothko, with Sean Glazebrook as a young artist who challenges Rothko's motives in accepting a lucrative commission.

A titanic figure in the world of visual art, Mark Rothko was one of the most intellectually rigorous and demanding painters of his generation RED is a tour-de-force play for the actors playing Rothko and his put-upon assistant, Ken. In a furiously fast and funny 90 minutes we see them challenge each other with humor, philosophy, art, and ultimately personal recollections that break your heart. I chose to share this play with our audiences because it asks us to aspire, to dream, and to be true to ourselves in life and in art. No easy task! However after sharing an evening with our volcanic Rothko and his fiery assistant I have no doubt that our audiences will be inspired to rise to the challenge. –Aimée Hayes, Artistic Director

This production features an exciting collaboration with the New Orleans Contemporary Art Center, offering a first RED preview \$10 Artist Night performance and a stimulating panel discussion, *Rothko in New Orleans*, at the CAC.

I'm thrilled that RED is coming to New Orleans! I've spent time in the building located at 222 Bowery, where Rothko had his studio in New York and it was such a pleasant surprise to discover that he left a mark on New Orleans as well. The production of RED at Southern Rep will be a spectacular experience for the city and we plan to supplement it with a great panel of cultural practitioners from the local community as well as special guest Bonnie Clearwater, Director and Chief Curator of MOCA, North Miami who was curator for the Rothko Foundation from 1980 - 1986 and author of The Rothko Book: Tate Essential Artist Series and Mark Rothko: Works on Paper. – Amy Mackie, Director of Visual Arts, Contemporary Arts Center, New Orleans

PANEL DISCUSSION AT THE CONTEMPORARY ARTS CENTER: November 15 at 7pm at the CAC. Come join a spirited discussion about *Rothko in New Orleans*.



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INTERVIEWS: For photo requests or interviews with cast or Artistic Director, Aimée Hayes, please contact Marketing & Box Office Manager, Sarah Zoghbi, at szoghbi@southernrep.com.

LISTING INFORMATION: RED. By John Logan. Directed by Aimée Hayes. Featuring Bob Edes, Jr. and Sean Glazebrook.

BOOKING TICKETS, DATES & PERFORMANCE TIMES: Previews September 2-4, Opening November 5, Closing November 20. Contact: Box Office (504) 522 – 6545 or book online at www.SouthernRep.com. Performance Times: Wed-Sat 8pm, Sun 3pm

TICKET PRICES: Previews: \$20 – Thursdays & Sundays: \$29 – Fridays & Saturdays: \$35

GREAT DEALS:

- **Special \$10 ARTISTS' NIGHT: November 2nd First Preview:** \$10 tickets for those using the code "ARTIST" (hosted in collaboration with the Contemporary Arts Center)
- **2nd Thursday PAY WHAT YOU CAN:** On Thursday, November 10 – You can buy tickets in advance at the regular price of \$29, or PAY WHAT YOU CAN at the door!
- **\$10 Student Rush:** Available at the door 15 minutes before curtain. Cash only. Must have valid student ID.

SYNOPSIS: Master abstract expressionist Mark Rothko has just landed the biggest commission in the history of modern art, a series of murals for New York's famed Four Seasons Restaurant. In the two fascinating years that follow, Rothko works feverishly with his young assistant, Ken, in his studio in the Bowery. But when Ken gains the confidence to challenge him, Rothko faces the agonizing possibility that his crowning achievement could also become his undoing. Raw and provocative, RED is a searing portrait of an artist's ambition and vulnerability as he tries to create a definitive work for an extraordinary setting.

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 continues with the trials of an ambitious artist in RED, while 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*