

WHAT: Cygnet Theatre Company presents *The Tragedy of the Commons*.

WHERE: Cygnet Theatre - The Old Town Stage
4040 Twiggs St. in Old Town San Diego State Historic Park

WHO: Written by **Stephen Metcalfe**

Director: **Sean Murray**

CAST: Jim Winker* (Dakin Adams)
Veronica Murphy^o (Macy Adams)
Manny Fernandes^o (Alan Adams)
Francis Gercke^o (Spencer Adams)
Monique Gaffney^{o*} (Diane Gerard)
Tim West^o (Carl Mendelson)
* **Member of Actors Equity Association, ^oResident Artist**

DATES: Previews begin: **Thursday, January 20th, 2010**
Press Opening: **Saturday, January 29th, 2010 at 8:00pm**
Closes: **Sunday, February 20th, 2010**

Performance Schedule

Wednesday - Thursday at 7:30pm
Friday at 8:00pm
Saturday at 4:00pm and 8:00pm
Sunday at 2:00pm and 7:00pm

PRICES: Range from \$24-\$49
Previews: \$29(Section A) / \$24(Section B)
Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday Evenings: \$39(Section A) / \$34(Section B)
Friday Evenings, Saturday and Sunday Matinees: \$42(Section A) / \$37(Section B)
Saturday Evenings: \$49(Section A) / \$44(Section B)
(Discounts are available for children, seniors, students, active-duty military and groups)

HOW: Phone: **(619) 337-1525**
Online: **www.cygnettheatre.com**
In Person: **Old Town Theatre - 4040 Twiggs St., San Diego, CA 92110**

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Marshall.) Other well-know works include *It Could Happen to You* (with Nicholas Cage and Bridget Fonda), *The Air Up There* (with Kevin Bacon) and *Mr. Holland's Opus* (with Richard Dreyfuss). His plays, which have been produced in New York and in regional theaters throughout the United States, include *Loves & Hours*, *Vikings*, *Strange Snow*, *Sorrows and Sons*, *Pilgrims*, *Half a Lifetime*, *Emily*, *White Linen*, *The Incredibly Famous Willy Rivers*, *White Man Dancing* and *The Gift Teller*. He is an Associate Artist at The Old Globe Theatre and is a member of the Playwright's Unit at The Manhattan Theatre Club in New York.

Directed by Artistic Director Sean Murray, the cast of *Tragedy of the Commons* will include many familiar faces from Cygnet's current and past seasons. Resident Artist **Francis Gercke** will take on the role of Spencer Adams. Gercke has directed several Cygnet productions including the *Man from Nebraska* and *Mauritius* and has appeared on Cygnet's stage in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, *A Number* and *Love Song*. Resident Artist **Manny Fernandes**, who has appeared in *Private Lives*, *Mauritius* and *A Christmas Carol*, among others, will play Alan Adams. Resident Artist **Monique Gaffney** will play Diane Gerard. Monique has appeared on the Cygnet stage multiple times including *The Piano Lesson*, *Man from Nebraska* and her award-winning performance in *Yellowman*. Resident Artist **Veronica Murphy**, who has performed in all five productions of *It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*, *My Fair Lady* and *The Matchmaker*, will play Macy Adams. Resident Artist **Tim West**, previously was seen in *It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*, *Communicating Doors* and *The Invention of Love*, will play Carl Mendelson.

Tragedy of the Commons will also feature **Jim Winker** in the lead role of Dakin Adams. Jim Winker has appeared as an actor at the Mark Taper Forum in Los Angeles, South Coast Repertory, the American Conservatory Theatre in San Francisco, San Diego Repertory Theatre, the Guthrie Theatre, Hartford Stage, the Actors' Theatre of Louisville, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Shakespeare Santa Cruz and the Old Globe Theatre in San Diego where he is an associate artist. His one man show, *Anthem for the Doomed Youth: The Poetry and Letters of Wilfred Owen* was performed at the Mark Taper Forum literary cabaret and at the American Conservatory Theatre.

The Tragedy of the Commons will begin previews Thursday, January 20th, 2011 at 7:30 pm on Cygnet's Old Town Stage located at 4040 Twiggs St. in Old Town San Diego State Historic Park. Opening Night is Saturday, January 29th and the show runs until February 20th. Special talk-back playwright forums are in the works with Stephen Metcalfe and other local acclaimed playwrights. These forums will immediately follow specific performances. Stay tuned for announcements.

Tickets can be purchased by visiting Cygnet's website at www.cygnettheatre.com or by calling the box office at **619-337-1525**. Tickets can also be purchased in person by visiting Cygnet's box office located at the Old Town Theatre, **4040 Twiggs St.** in Old Town San Diego State Historic Park.

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Cygnet Theatre Company is a 501(k) non-profit organization founded in 2002 by Artistic Director Sean Murray and Executive Director Bill Schmidt. In 2003, Cygnet renovated a storefront at 6663 El Cajon Blvd in the Rolando area into a 157-seat theatre. Cygnet has received over 60 awards and grown to one of the most highly regarded theatre companies in the San Diego area. In December 2007, Cygnet was awarded a 10-year lease by State of California Department of Parks and Recreation Concessions and Reservations Division of the Old Town Theatre. Located in Old Town San Diego State Historic Park, the 248-seat venue was renovated during the summer and fall of 2008 and re-opened in November.



For Immediate Release: Dec. 22nd, 2010
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CYGNET THEATRE COMPANY TO PRODUCE WORLD PREMIERE OF CELEBRATED LOCAL PLAYWRIGHT, STEPHEN METCALFE!

Cygnet Spreads its Wings with THE TRAGEDY OF THE COMMONS...

SAN DIEGO, CA - Artistic Director Sean Murray is proud to announce Cygnet Theatre's very first World Premiere - acclaimed writer **Stephen Metcalfe's** ***THE TRAGEDY OF THE COMMONS***. This production, which began as a staged-reading in Cygnet's highly-praised Playwrights in Process Series, will feature the same cast from that reading including Globe Associate Artist Jim Winker, Cygnet Resident Artists Manny Fernandes, Monique Gaffney, Francis Gercke, Veronica Murphy and Tim West and will be directed by Sean Murray. ***THE TRAGEDY OF THE COMMONS*** will run **January 20th through February 20th, 2011**. **Press Opening is Saturday, January 29th at 8pm**. The production is sponsored by Elaine Lipinsky.

The development of a world premiere marks an exciting new move by Artistic Director Sean Murray and Cygnet Theatre. Premiering new works by well-known playwrights has been a goal of Murray's and puts Cygnet more closely in line with the two major theatres in town - namely, The Old Globe and La Jolla Playhouse, which regularly produce established playwrights new productions. The creation of the Playwrights in Process Series was Cygnet's first step in searching for the perfect production to mark this move.

Stephen Metcalfe, a La Jolla resident, reached out to Cygnet with the early drafts of ***The Tragedy of the Commons*** and a **staged-reading at Cygnet in December 2009, a workshop reading at the Pasadena Playhouse in February, 2010 and further rewrites led to the script currently in rehearsals.** Murray felt the script of ***Tragedy*** was the perfect show for Cygnet, not only because the audience feedback from the reading was so enthusiastic, but also because the La Jolla setting has a neighborhood appeal. The show is stirring and beautifully surprising to any audience, but it is also moving and specifically tangible to a San Diego audience.

Stephen Metcalfe is an accomplished writer of stage, television and screen. His first produced screenplay was *Jacknife*, based on his Off-Broadway play *Strange Snow*. The film starred Robert DeNiro and Ed Harris and was directed by British stage and screen veteran, David Jones. He adapted screenplays for Paramount's *Cousins* (with Ted Danson and Isabella Rossellini) and *Pretty Woman* (with Julia Roberts and Richard Gere, directed by Gary