



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Will Eno's *The Realistic Joneses* Presented at CATCO March 7-25

Contemporary dramatic comedy explores life's big questions through witty, insightful dialogue

Welcome to the Joneses' neighborhood – where suburbanites Bob and Jennifer and their new neighbors, John and Pony, discover they have even more in common than their identical homes and their shared last names. As their relationships begin to irrevocably intertwine, the Joneses ponder some of life's big questions and must decide between their idyllic fantasies and their imperfect realities.

“Designated the voice of his generation, playwright Will Eno's dramatic comedy, is packed with pithy dialogue that is packed with substance,” said Joe Bishara, CATCO associate producing director and the director of *The Realistic Joneses*. “We are all bound to connect with the characters on some level as they maneuver through life just like the rest of us.”

“Plays as funny and moving, as wonderful and weird as *The Realistic Joneses* ... do not appear often on Broadway. Or ever, really,” says *The New York Times*. From *Time Out New York*: “Eno's dialogue is a marvel of compression and tonal control, trivial chitchat flipping into cosmic profundity with striking ease ... Life in Enoland isn't what you'd call realistic – it's more real than that.”

CATCO will present *The Realistic Joneses* March 7-25, 2018, at the Vern Riffe Center, Studio One Theatre.

Performing in *The Realistic Joneses* are Ralph E. Scott (Bob Jones), and three newcomers to CATCO – Shenise Brown (Pony Jones), Bobby Loyd (John Jones) and Ella Palardi (Jennifer Jones). In addition to numerous regional and national commercial work, Scott is active in independent movies locally and throughout the Midwest. CATCO credits include *Ken Ludwig's Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes' Mystery*, *The Three Trials Of Oscar Wilde*, *The Final Table*, *Next Fall*, *Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo*, *My Name Is Asher Lev*, *Evie's Waltz*, *The Foursome* and *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*.

Columbus native Brown studied theater at Columbia College in Chicago, and is the director of the theater department at A+ Arts Academy. She performs in local theaters. Loyd's acting credits include *Footloose*; *Love, Sex, and the I.R.S.*; *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*; *Macbeth*; *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. Palardi is part of the morning team at Kool 101.7 FM. Her acting credits include *Crimes of the Heart*, *Seminar*, *Twelve Angry Women*, and *The Innocents*.

Bishara has worked at regional theatres in Ohio, Tennessee, Virginia, and Florida as an actor, director, producer, and administrator. At CATCO, he directed *Madeline's Christmas*, *Shakespeare and Star Wars: Verily, A New Hope*; *Anne of Green Gables*, *Sex With Strangers*,

James and the Giant Peach JR., *The Kabuki Sleeping Beauty*, *Hansel and Gretel*, *Elephant and Piggie's "We are in a Play!"*, *The Seussification of Romeo and Juliet*, [title of show], *Master Class*, *A Christmas Carol*, *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*, and *Forbidden Broadway's Greatest Hits: Vol. 1*, and appeared in *Daddy Long Legs*, *I Do! I Do! Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *Forbidden Broadway*, *The Story of My Life* and *Evil Dead: The Musical*. Other acting credits include *Titanic*, *Forbidden Broadway: SVU*, *The Rocky Horror Show* and *The Last Five Years*. Additional directing credits include *The Spitfire Grill*, *Bat Boy: The Musical*, and *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie*, *The House at Pooh Corner*, *Wind in the Willows*, *Encyclopedia Brown*, *Peter and the Wolf*, *Beauty and the Beast (Isabella e la Bestia)*, and *School House Rock Live!*

Preview (Discounted Tickets)/Opening Night Performances

There are two previews for *The Realistic Joneses*, Wednesday, March 7, at 11:00 a.m., and Thursday, March 8, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for the 11 a.m. performance, and \$30 for the 7:30 p.m. show. The opening performance is Friday, March 9, at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$40.

Wednesday Morning Matinees

For *The Realistic Joneses*, there will be three 11 a.m. matinee performances: Wednesday, March 7, 14 and 21. Tickets are \$20.

Ticket/Parking Information

Tickets for all other performances are Thursdays, \$30; Sundays, \$35; and Fridays and Saturdays, \$40.

For *The Realistic Joneses*, student tickets can be purchased for \$15 for any performance based on availability and valid I.D. All tickets can be purchased at the box office at 39 E. State St. next to the Ohio theatre, at the theatre box office two hours before each show, by calling 614.469.0939, visiting ticketmaster.com or calling or visiting any central Ohio Ticketmaster location. Performances are in the Studio Theatres at the Vern Riffe Center, located at 77 S. High St., in Downtown Columbus at the corner of State and High streets. Attached parking is available in the Riffe Center garage, which is entered from Front Street.

Presenting sponsor for *The Realistic Joneses* is The Robert Weiler Company.

CATCO's 33rd season is sponsored by support from The Ohio Arts Council, which helps fund the theatre with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, education excellence, and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans, and supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.

The theatre organization also appreciates the support of the James W. Overstreet Fund of The Columbus Foundation, assisting donors and others in strengthening our community for the benefit of all of its citizens, and the Greater Columbus Arts Council, supporting the city's artists and arts organizations since 1973. Other supporters include The Shubert Foundation Inc. and Nationwide Foundation.

CATCO's and CATCO is Kids' season sponsor is L Brands; season partner is the Columbus Metropolitan Library. Media Sponsor is WOSU Public Media.

For more information, visit catcoistheatre.org.

CATCO's remaining shows for the 2017-18 season are:

- ***Educating Rita***
By Willy Russell
April 11-29, 2018
Studio Two, Riffe Center
77 S. High St.
- ***Aspects of Love***
Book and music by Andrew Lloyd Webber
Lyrics by Don Black and Charles Hart
From David Garnett's novel
May 30-June 17, 2018
Studio One, Riffe Center
77 S. High St.

CATCO is Kids' remaining shows for the 2017-18 season are:

- ***Garfield: The Musical with Cattitude***
Book by Michael J. Bobbitt and Jim Davis
Music and lyrics by John L. Cornelius II
March 2-11, 2018
Van Fleet Theatre, CPAC
549 Franklin Ave.
- ***The Throne of Oz***
Based on Frank Baum's *The Marvelous Land of Oz*
Adapted by Chris Leyva
May 4-13, 2018
Shedd Theatre, CPAC
549 Franklin Ave.

About CATCO

CATCO is central Ohio's professional Equity theatre company, providing quality theatre and educational programs for all ages. The theatre organization has adopted an innovative strategy, building creative alliances that can sustain growth and development. For more information, visit catcoistheatre.org. Together, CATCO and CATCO is Kids provide quality theatre and educational programs for all ages. The theatres have adopted an innovative strategy, building creative alliances that can sustain growth and development. www.catcoistheatre.org

CATCO Mission Statement

Theatre is a shared experience that illuminates the mysteries of our humanity. Its magic has the power to transform us whether on stage, in the classroom or in our diverse communities. CATCO creates theatre that delights, challenges, and transports.

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