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MONTANA REP
PRESS PACK

EDUCATIONAL
 OUTREACH
2011 TOUR



WRITING WILD

THE ADVENTURES OF JACK LONDON

A play by JAY KETTERING

PRESS PACK CONTENTS:

Below is a list of what is included in this press pack and suggestions on what to do with this material. **Remember that media agencies need to receive things as far in advance as possible.**

Press Release: Please give these to your local newspapers as a starting point for a print story on the production. You may enhance these in any way you feel is appropriate. These could also be used for newsletters, TV community calendars, etc.

Press photos: See website: <http://www.montanarep.org/edshow.html>

30-second radio ad copy: (Includes 10-second tag time at the end for local information)

If you would like a pre-recorded radio spot on CD, contact Teresa two weeks in advance. If you have no funding to purchase radio ads, try asking a local business to donate some of their yearly radio contract to your agency or school.

Copy for a 15-second PSA: If you are not fortunate enough to run radio ads, you can always get your local radio and TV stations to run short **free** PSAs for you. You need to fill in the blanks, of course, with your local information.

Posters: The poster artwork is available for you to download. Make as many copies as you need. There is white space at the bottom on which to write in local information.

Company bios and general information about Montana Rep: This is not only to acquaint you with the cast/crew before their arrival, but also to give you extra information for any longer news articles or interviews.

Programs: (for your performance's audience members) will arrive with the Stage Manager the day of the show. Programs will not be handed out at in-school performances.

WRITING WILD

THE ADVENTURES OF JACK LONDON



PRESS RELEASE:

Tickets are now on sale for *Writing Wild: The Adventures of Jack London*

With hair bristling, mouth foaming, and a mad glitter in his bloodshot eyes, Jack London sprang into the twentieth century and grabbed the complacent reader of saccharine words by the jugular.

Montana Repertory Theatre's Educational Outreach Tour is proud to announce the opening of this year's Fall touring show—***Writing Wild: The Adventures of Jack London***. Written by Jay Kettering and directed by Montana Rep Educational Outreach Coordinator Teresa Waldorf, this one-man show stars Montana Rep veteran actor Cody Hyslop as both Jack London and London's most memorable characters: Buck the dog, French Frank, White Fang, and more.

Coming to _____ on _____ at _____.

CITY

DAY and DATE

LOCATION

Ready or not, London sailed us out to the open sea, he carried us on his back through mile after mile of frozen wasteland, and with frozen fingers and a single match, he lit a fire where no other man could light one—and in our collective imagination, that fire still burns bright. This year's fifty-minute one-man-show is just such an adventure. Come hear famous London characters tell the story of America's greatest storyteller. You will feel the fangs bite deep as you run alongside the boy who by age fifteen already looked out on the world through the eyes of the wolf.

This is Cody Hyslop's third year touring with the Rep's Educational Outreach Tour. Cody hit the road last year as Rip Van Winkle in *The Real Legend of Sleepy Hollow*, and the year before that he played Edgar Allan Poe in *ThePoeProject*.

Director Teresa Waldorf earned her MFA in Acting/Directing at The University of Montana in 1991 and is an adjunct professor in UM's School of Theatre & Dance. Past UM directing credits include *Gypsy*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Bat Boy*, and *Still Life with Iris*.

This presentation follows in the Montana Rep Educational Outreach Tour tradition of bringing staged adaptations of the works of acclaimed historical writers to Montana communities. Regarded as the one of the world's best adventure writers, Jack London novels and short stories continue to influence generations of writers and readers today.

Established in 1977, Montana Repertory Theatre has become one of the most respected professional touring companies in the country today. Recent productions include the highly acclaimed *It's a Wonderful Life*, *Death of a Salesman*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, and *To Kill a Mockingbird*. The Montana Repertory Theatre has operated under the artistic direction of Greg Johnson, a member of the Acting/Directing faculty in The University of Montana's School of Theatre & Dance, for the past twenty years.

Tickets for *Writing Wild: The Adventures of Jack London* are available at _____

OUTLET

or by calling _____ . Prices range from \$ _____ to \$ _____.

PHONE

Performances are at _____ in _____.

TIME / DAY / DATE

PLACE

This Montana Repertory Theatre performance is sponsored by _____.

SPONSOR

Montana Repertory Theatre is funded in part by a grant from the Montana Arts Council (an agency of state government), with support from the Montana State Legislature, The University of Montana, the Montana Cultural Trust, Dr. Cathy Capps, and Target Corporation.

(Add local funding information if desired).

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RADIO COPY

If you would like a pre-recorded radio ad on CD, please let Teresa know two weeks in advance. (406) 243-2854 / teresa.waldorf@umontana.edu

30-SECOND RADIO SPOT:

(20 seconds of copy and 10 seconds of tag time at the end.)

The University of Montana's Montana Repertory Theatre proudly presents its Fall Educational Outreach Tour of **Writing Wild: The Adventures of Jack London**. Written by Jay Kettering, this production features a single actor playing the role of Jack London and as well as famous London characters from *The Call of the Wild*, *White Fang*, and more.

TAG: Please add your local information at the end of this spot...location, dates, times, and ticket information.

15-SECOND RADIO SPOT (PSA):

Don't miss the Montana Repertory Theatre Educational Outreach touring production of **Writing Wild: The Adventures of Jack London**. Meet Jack London, Buck the Dog, and White Fang...

at _____
LOCATION

on _____ at _____
DATE TIME

Call _____ for local ticket information.
PHONE

Sponsored by _____
SPONSOR'S NAME

MONTANA REP...bringing you great theatre from the Heart of the Rockies.

WRITING WILD

THE ADVENTURES OF JACK LONDON



MEET THE COMPANY

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

GREG JOHNSON

Greg has served as artistic director of Montana Rep since 1990. He brought with him a commitment to excellence developed during years of experience in the New York theatre, where he worked with the best directors, choreographers, actors, designers, and playwrights in the country. From Neil Simon and Gene Saks to Hugh Leonard, Elizabeth Ashley, Beth Henley, Christine Baranski, Andie MacDowell, Barnard Hughes, and Melvin Bernhardt, Greg has been privileged to work with the finest. He brings energy and expertise to every aspect of his involvement with Montana Rep.

Greg's Broadway credits include *Biloxi Blues*; *Crimes of the Heart*; *Is There Life After High School?*; *Da*; and *Hide and Seek*. National tours include the Broadway productions of *Steel Magnolias*, *Crimes of the Heart*, and *Biloxi Blues*. Greg spent nineteen years working in professional theatre in New York City as an actor, stage manager, and director before coming to Montana to head Montana Rep.

Since joining Montana Rep, Greg has directed *Broadway Bound*; *The Heidi Chronicles*; *Someone Who'll Watch Over Me*; *Lend Me a Tenor*; *Sex, Drugs, Rock & Roll*; *The Real Thing*; *Willi*; *The Voice of the Prairie*; and the national tours of *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *It's a Wonderful Life*, *Death of a Salesman*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *The Trip to Bountiful*, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, and *Leading Ladies*. In addition, he is responsible for development of The Missoula Colony: A Gathering of Artists in Support of the Writer's Craft at The University of Montana. Greg has served as a panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts and, with the Rep, is a member of the Theatre Communications Group, a national network of regional theatres. He serves on the faculty of The University of Montana College of Visual and Performing Arts.

DIRECTOR

TERESA WALDORF

Teresa is the Educational Outreach Coordinator for the Montana Repertory Theatre. In that stead, she books the entire tour and works as the liaison between the Rep and all the schools and community organizations that are generous enough to bring this tour to their towns. She is also an adjunct professor for the UM School of Theatre & Dance. Her UM directing credits include *Gypsy*, *Bat Boy*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, and *Still Life With Iris*.

TOUR ACTOR (JACK LONDON)

CODY HYSLOP

Cody graduated from The University of Montana's MFA Acting program in 2009. He has appeared in many UM School of Theatre & Dance productions, including *Coyote on a Fence*, *The House of Blue Leaves*, and *Big Love*. Inspired by his teaching experiences at The University of Montana and on the road with Montana Rep, Cody plans on pursuing a career as a university professor in theatre. He lives in Missoula with his wife Lisa and his sons Dakota and Hayden. Cody is honored to be working with the Rep for the third year in a row and is excited to share his love of literature and theatre with the rest of Montana. Cody travelled with the Educational Outreach Tour for the past two years as Edgar Allan Poe in *The Poe Project* and as Rip Van Winkle in *The Real Legend of Sleepy Hollow*.

STAGE MANAGER

ANNIE MARIA ROTTENBILLER

Annie is playing the role of Stage Manager both on and off stage this year, as she appears in the play as The Stage Manager as well. Annie is a Montana girl, born and raised in beautiful East Glacier and Whitefish. Annie recently graduated from the School of Theatre & Dance at The University of Montana with a BFA degree in Theatre Design/Technology. A few of her favorite stage management credits include *The Foreigner* and *Guys and Dolls*. While attending The University of Montana, Annie also served as Prop Shop Manager for two and a half years, assisting with the properties for dozens of community and university-affiliated productions. *Writing Wild* marks Annie's Educational Outreach Tour debut, but she is no stranger to life on the road. Last spring Annie had the opportunity to go out with Montana Rep's National Tour of *Bus Stop* as Assistant Stage Manager/Props and Technical Director. Annie is thrilled to be back with the Rep, and excited to bring theatre all across the state of Montana.

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MEET THE DESIGNERS

COSTUME DESIGNER

LISA MARIE HYSLOP

Lisa Marie holds a BA in Theatre with emphases in Acting and Directing from Boise State University and a master's degree with a focus on Production Management from The University of Montana. She currently serves as both adjunct faculty and the costume shop manager for the School of Theatre & Dance at UM. She has worked in many capacities for several different regional theatres. Positions she has held include: director, stage manager, production manager, wardrobe crew, run crew, lighting designer, sound designer, props assistant, community-service manager, costume designer, first hand, and actor. Lisa Marie's favorite professional work includes varied jobs with Montana Repertory Theatre, Montana Rep Missoula, Idaho Shakespeare Festival, Rosalie Sorrel's Folk Music Festival, Boise Contemporary Theatre, ID Theatre Company, and Bruce Willis's Company of Fools in Hailey, Idaho. Lisa Marie is thrilled to have the honor of designing costumes for the Rep's Educational Outreach Tour this year and delighted to work with her very talented husband Cody.

SCENIC DESIGNER

TREVOR MULLER-HEGEL

Born and raised in Missoula, Trevor attended Big Sky High School, where he was introduced to theatre and all of its elements from acting to staging to fight choreography, to being a playwright. Trevor began his studies at UM in the acting BFA track but was soon drawn into the Design/Technology program. He has been a part of the Montana Rep summer build for the past couple of years and is employed by the Scene Shop, constructing sets since 2008. Trevor will graduate in December of this year, so this is both his first and last realized design with The University of Montana and Montana Repertory Theatre.

LIGHTING DESIGNER

RUSSELL HOMAN

Russell is in his final year in the UM School of Theatre & Dance BFA Design/Technology program. He has designed lighting for *The Curious Savage* and *State Fair* at the Huron Playhouse in Huron, Ohio, as well as shows at The University of Montana, the most recent being *The Lion in Winter*. He also did the lighting design for a faculty piece entitled "Echo" for UM's *Dance In Concert*. Russell is thankful for the encouragement and support from the faculty, staff, and students of the UM School of Theater & Dance.

PROPERTIES DESIGNER

RYAN LUWE

Ryan is a senior pursuing a BA in Theatre. This is his second show as Properties Designer. His first was *The Lion in Winter* which was produced in February of this year. He has spent the last two years working in technical theatre. He is currently working for Montana Rep as a Carpenter for the summer build of the upcoming touring show *Doubt*. He intends to graduate in December.

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MONTANA REP TOURING SINCE 1968

MONTANA REPERTORY THEATRE was established as a professional touring company in 1968 to provide professional theatre to our own and neighboring Western states at an affordable cost. Montana Rep is one of the oldest and most respected touring companies in the country. Our mission is to tell the great stories of our world to enlighten, develop, and celebrate the human spirit in an ever-expanding community.

Montana Rep delivers a theatrical experience in its entirety, bringing with it everything from lighting to sound design. Completely self-contained, the Rep offers presenters large and small—in facilities ranging from new performing arts centers to high school gyms—the opportunity to enjoy first-class theatre.

Mainstage productions are supplemented by audience talkbacks, professional theatre workshops, and a one-hour performance suitable for high schools.

THE PROFESSIONAL ENSEMBLE

Montana Rep is pleased to showcase the talents of principal actors, directors, and designers with prestigious credits and awards from the worlds of Broadway, national and international tours, film, and television. The company operates under an agreement with Actors' Equity Association and the University/Resident Theatre Association.

Montana Rep has been touring nationally since 1996, when we presented our first production of *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Following that highly successful tour and building on its success were *It's a Wonderful Life*, *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *Death of a Salesman*, *The Miracle Worker*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *The Trip to Bountiful*, *Lost in Yonkers*, and *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*.

Montana Rep is proud to present the very best of the American theatre tradition, as we continue examining the heart of the American character through the medium of live theatre.

Montana Repertory Theatre is funded in part by a grant from the Montana Arts Council (an agency of state government), with support from the Montana State Legislature, The University of Montana, the Montana Cultural Trust, Dr. Cathy Capps, and Target Corporation. This funding helps us maintain the most affordable fees of any comparable theatre on the road today.

A COMMITMENT TO ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

As the professional theatre-in-residence at The University of Montana, Montana Rep offers theatre students unique educational opportunities. UM is one of very few universities in the nation to house a professional touring company, and the only one that incorporates students and faculty into that company. Students touring with Montana Rep work alongside seasoned actors, directors, designers, and technical crew members, gaining experience that other academic programs cannot offer.

To learn more about our theatre seasons and academic programs, please visit these websites:

MONTANA REPERTORY THEATRE

www.montanarep.org
montana.rep@umontana.edu

SCHOOL OF THEATRE & DANCE

www.umt.edu/theatredance
www.umtheatredance.org
umtheatredance@umontana.edu

COLLEGE OF VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

www.umt.edu/umarts

THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

www.umt.edu