

JANE KACZMAREK TAKES ON LEAD ROLE IN *GOOD PEOPLE*

*Matt Shakman Helms David Lindsay-Abaire's
Tony Nominated West Coast Premiere*

Opens April 11, 2012

LOS ANGELES, January 4, 2012 — Acclaimed stage and screen actress **Jane Kaczmarek** (Broadway's *Lost in Yonkers* and television's *Malcolm in the Middle*) takes on the role of Margie Walsh in the Geffen Playhouse production of **David Lindsay-Abaire's *Good People***. Helmed by prominent local director **Matt Shakman**, the artistic director of LA's Black Dahlia theater, the West Coast premiere of *Good People*, presented by **One West Bank**, begins in previews on April 3, 2012 and officially opens in the Gil Cates Theater at the Geffen Playhouse on **April 11, 2012**.

Margie Walsh can't catch a break. Laid off from her job at the dollar store, Margie is faced with the reality that South Boston is providing her the same level of opportunity it always has: none. Wry, rough around the edges and ready to make a change, she goes to seek out the one who got away – both from "Southie" and from her. Instead, she finds herself in the burbs and out of her element, facing the question – is opportunity granted or earned? Nominated for a 2010 Tony Award for Best Play, Pulitzer Prize winner David Lindsay-Abaire's *Good People* takes an affectionate look at the 'haves' and 'have nots' through the eyes of characters who won't be ignored.

Good People, a recipient of an Edgerton Foundation New American Play Award, was commissioned by Manhattan Theatre Club (MTC) in New York where it had its world premiere in the spring of 2011. In addition to being nominated for a Tony Award, *Good People* was named Best Play of 2010-11 by the New York Drama Critics Circle, as well as featured on the 2011 "Top Ten" theater lists of *New York Magazine*, *Newsday*, *Time Out New York* and the *Associated Press*.

Special events during the run of *Good People* include the theater's special Signature Series performances for no additional cost. These evenings include an intellectual, thought-provoking post show Q&A at Talk Back Tuesdays; a scintillating, one-of-a kind after-party at Girls Night Out; a cultural happy hour with Lounge Fridays and complimentary wine tastings during Wine Down Sundays. For more information, please view www.geffenplayhouse.com/goodevents.

GOOD PEOPLE

Written by David Lindsay-Abaire

Directed by Matt Shakman

Preview Performances: Tuesday, April 3 – Tuesday, April 10, 2012

Opening Night: Wednesday, April 11, 2012

Closing Night: Sunday, May 13, 2012

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featuring the cast of *It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia* (Beacon, NYC; Palladium, Troubadour, & Universal Amphitheater, Los Angeles, etc). Matt's television directing credits include *Mad Men*, *Six Feet Under*, *The Riches*, *It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia*, *House*, *Hung* and *Weeds*.

ABOUT THE GEFFEN PLAYHOUSE

The Geffen Playhouse has been a hub of the Los Angeles theater scene since opening its doors in 1995. Noted for its intimacy and celebrated for its world-renowned mix of classic and contemporary plays, provocative new works and second productions, the Geffen Playhouse continues to present a body of work that has garnered national recognition. Named in honor of entertainment mogul and philanthropist David Geffen, who made the initial donation to the theater, the company was founded by Gilbert Cates, and is currently helmed by Artistic Director Randall Arney, Managing Director Ken Novice and Chairman of the Board Frank Mancuso. Proudly associated with UCLA, the Geffen Playhouse welcomes an audience of more than 130,000 each year, and maintains an extensive education and outreach program, designed to engage young people and the community at large in the arts. For more information, please visit geffenplayhouse.com.

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