



The Purple Rose Theatre Company
137 Park Street
Chelsea, MI 48118-1038

Administration: (734) 433-PRTC (7782)
Box Office: (734) 433-ROSE (7673)
Fax: (734) 475-0802
Web Site: www.purplerosetheatre.org

For interviews, contact:
Alan Ribant
Managing Director
ribant@purplerosetheatre.org

For photographs, contact:
Quintessa Gallinat
Publicity & Programs Manager
gallinat@purplerosetheatre.org

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ESCANABA IN LOVE PREMIERES AT THE PURPLE ROSE THEATRE COMPANY
Prequel To Jeff Daniels' Original Is Eleventh New Play For PRTC Executive Director

The Purple Rose Theatre Company is proud to announce the World Premiere of *Escanaba In Love* by Jeff Daniels this fall. The production will enjoy a limited engagement from Thursday, September 28 through Saturday, December 23, 2006.

Seven low-price previews of *Escanaba In Love* will be performed from Thursday, September 28, through Thursday, October 5, with a Gala Premiere Benefit on Friday, October 6, and Press Opening Night on Saturday, October 7. Regular performances for the duration of the engagement are Wednesdays through Saturdays at 8:00 PM with Saturday matinees at 3:00 PM and Sunday matinees at 2:00 PM. (*Editor's Note: Please find a daily performance calendar, including ticket prices and added performance dates, on page 3*). All performances are held at The Purple Rose Theatre Company, 137 Park Street, Chelsea, Michigan.

Jeff Daniels' eleventh new play, *Escanaba In Love*, is a hilarious prequel to the legendary *Escanaba in da Moonlight*, set in the Soady deer camp during World War II and outfitted with a whole new cast of Wacky Yoopers. Eighteen-year-old Albert Soady, Jr. is celebrating his final hunting season before he becomes a sharpshooter for the U.S. Army when he falls head-over-heels for the legendary Big Betty Balou - the woman destined to become Reuben and Remnar's mother. The question is, does she have what it takes to become part of Escanaba's "royal" family?

"Writing the prequel was like putting on a pair of your old, favorite shoes," says *Escanaba* playwright, Jeff Daniels. "For years, I wasn't interested. Never even thought about it. Once I started writing it, though, it was just a matter of going back into that world, hearing their voices. I never intended to write a companion piece to *Escanaba In Da Moonlight*. It wasn't until about three years ago that I got the idea to write a prequel." Daniels goes on to say, "What's big with me, too, is wanting to spend time with the characters I'm writing. I need to stay interested in them, otherwise, forget it. I mean, if you're going to be in my head for many, many months, I have to want to be with you. The thing is, with the Soadys, I never wanted to leave."

Escanaba
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Directed by PRTC Artistic Director Guy Sanville, the cast of *Escanaba In Love* will include Paul Hopper (*The Late Great Henry Boyle, And The Winner Is*), Wayne David Parker (*Honus And Me, Escanaba in da Moonlight*), Will David Young (*Across The Way, Months On End*) and the professional acting debuts of former PRTC apprentices Jake Christensen as Albert Soady, Jr. and Charlyn Swarhout, as Big Betty Balou (*Editors' Note: Cast interviews and biographies are available for hometown stories by calling 734.433.PRTC*).

This production of *Escanaba In Love* includes set design by Daniel C. Walker, lighting design by Reid G. Johnson, costume design by Ivan Ingermann, prop design by Danna Segrest and sound design by Quintessa Gallinat. Katie M. Doral stage manages with Stefanie Din and Alexis S. Cain as assistant stage managers.

This PRTC production is generously underwritten by Chelsea Rhone L.L.C., Leslie & Richard Helppie / Helppie Family Charitable Foundation and THE MOSAIC FOUNDATION (of Rita & Peter Heydon), ADR North America L.L.C. and Dow Automotive.

Ticket reservations can be made by calling the PRTC Box Office at 734.433. ROSE; Box Office hours are Monday through Friday from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

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Meet the Playwright
Jeff Daniels

Daniels has written eleven plays for The Purple Rose Theatre Company: *Shoe Man, The Tropical Pickle, The Vast Difference, Thy Kingdom's*

Coming, Escanaba in da Moonlight, Apartment 3A, Boom Town, Across The Way (2002 Best New Play nomination by the American Theatre Critics Association), *Norma & Wanda* and *Guest Artist*. Jeff tripled as actor-writer-director on Purple Rose Films' *Escanaba in da Moonlight* and *Super Sucker* (Best Feature at the 2002 U.S. Comedy Arts Festival). His two CDs, capturing his critically-acclaimed live performances, are available for purchase in the PRTC lobby or online at jeffdaniels.com; all proceeds benefit the Purple Rose.



Meet the Director
Guy Sanville

Sanville has been Artistic Director of the PRTC since 1996. He has directed over twenty productions for the PRTC; favorites include *Across The*

Way and *Escanaba in da Moonlight* by Jeff Daniels, *Book of Days* and *Rain Dance* by Lanford Wilson and *Bus Stop* by William Inge. He has received the *Detroit Free Press* Award for Best Director four times. He has appeared in seven PRTC plays, most recently in *Born Yesterday* and *Boomtown*. He is a proud member of the SSDC, AEA and SAG; he also currently serves as Great Lakes Regional Vice President of the Literary Managers & Dramaturgs of the Americas. He resides in Chelsea with his wife Nancee and daughter Rose.

Escanaba In Love



"Dere's a war on, eh?
Let's go fishin'!"

Coming Soon!

Check out our NEW Google Calendar for complete performance listings including ticket availability. The link at www.purplerosetheatre.org will appear by the end of September. And while you're there, sign up for our NEW email newsletter.

PREVIEW PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

Thursday, September 28	8 PM	\$20	Talk Back
Friday, September 29	8 PM	\$25	Talk Back
Saturday, September 30	3 PM	\$25	Talk Back
Saturday, September 30	8 PM	\$25	Talk Back
Sunday, October 1	2 PM	\$25	Talk Back
Wednesday, October 4	8 PM	\$20	
Thursday, October 5	8 PM	\$20	

REGULAR PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

Friday, October 6	8 PM	\$200	Gala Premiere Benefit
Saturday, October 7	3 PM	\$30	Press Opening Night
Saturday, October 7	8 PM	\$35	
Sunday, October 8	2 PM	\$30	Added Performance
Tuesday, October 10	8 PM	\$25	
Wednesday, October 11	8 PM	\$25	
Thursday, October 12	8 PM	\$25	
Friday, October 13	8 PM	\$35	
Saturday, October 14	3 PM	\$30	
Saturday, October 14	8 PM	\$35	
Sunday, October 15	2 PM	\$30	
Wednesday, October 18	3 PM	\$25	Added Performance
Wednesday, October 18	8 PM	\$25	
Thursday, October 19	8 PM	\$25	
Friday, October 20	8 PM	\$35	
Saturday, October 21	3 PM	\$30	
Saturday, October 21	8 PM	\$35	
Sunday, October 22	2 PM	\$30	
Wednesday, October 25	3 PM	\$25	Added Performance
Wednesday, October 25	8 PM	\$25	
Thursday, October 26	8 PM	\$25	
Friday, October 27	8 PM	\$35	
Saturday, October 28	3 PM	\$30	
Saturday, October 28	8 PM	\$35	
Sunday, October 29	2 PM	\$30	
Wednesday, November 1	3 PM	\$25	Added Performance
Wednesday, November 1	8 PM	\$25	
Thursday, November 2	8 PM	\$25	
Friday, November 3	8 PM	\$35	
Saturday, November 4	3 PM	\$30	
Saturday, November 4	8 PM	\$35	
Sunday, November 5	2 PM	\$30	
Wednesday, November 8	3 PM	\$25	Added Performance
Wednesday, November 8	8 PM	\$25	
Thursday, November 9	8 PM	\$25	
Friday, November 10	8 PM	\$35	
Saturday, November 11	3 PM	\$30	
Saturday, November 11	8 PM	\$35	
Sunday, November 12	2 PM	\$30	
Wednesday, November 15	3 PM	\$25	Added Performance
Wednesday, November 15	8 PM	\$25	
Thursday, November 16	8 PM	\$25	
Friday, November 17	8 PM	\$35	
Saturday, November 18	3 PM	\$30	
Saturday, November 18	8 PM	\$35	
Sunday, November 19	2 PM	\$30	
Tuesday, November 21	3 PM	\$25	Added Performance
Wednesday, November 22	8 PM	\$25	
Thursday, November 23	Thanksgiving Day		No Performances
Friday, November 24	3 PM	\$25	Added Performance
Friday, November 24	8 PM	\$35	
Saturday, November 25	3 PM	\$30	
Saturday, November 25	8 PM	\$35	
Sunday, November 26	2 PM	\$30	
Wednesday, November 29	3 PM	\$25	Added Performance
Wednesday, November 29	8 PM	\$25	
Thursday, November 30	8 PM	\$25	
Friday, December 1	8 PM	\$35	
Saturday, December 2	3 PM	\$30	
Saturday, December 2	8 PM	\$35	
Sunday, December 3	2 PM	\$30	
Wednesday, December 6	3 PM	\$25	Added Performance
Wednesday, December 6	8 PM	\$25	
Thursday, December 7	8 PM	\$25	
Friday, December 8	8 PM	\$35	
Saturday, December 9	3 PM	\$30	
Saturday, December 9	8 PM	\$35	
Sunday, December 10	2 PM	\$30	
Wednesday, December 13	3 PM	\$25	Added Performance
Wednesday, December 13	8 PM	\$25	
Thursday, December 14	8 PM	\$25	
Friday, December 15	8 PM	\$35	
Saturday, December 16	3 PM	\$30	
Saturday, December 16	8 PM	\$35	
Sunday, December 17	2 PM	\$30	
Tuesday, December 19	3 PM	\$25	Added Performance
Wednesday, December 20	3 PM	\$25	Added Performance
Wednesday, December 20	8 PM	\$25	
Thursday, December 21	8 PM	\$25	
Friday, December 22	8 PM	\$35	
Saturday, December 23	3 PM	\$30	
Saturday, December 23	8 PM	\$35	Closing Night



Coming Soon!

the American classic

The Subject Was Roses

by Frank D. Gilroy

Directed by Quintessa Gallinat

February 8
through March 17, 2007

Winner of the Pulitzer Prize, the NY Drama Critics' Circle Award and the Tony Award for Best Play in 1965, this play is a subtle portrait of a family in the wake of WWII. A son who left as a pampered boy returns from the war as a man in his own right. His parents compete for his affection while trying to mask the tension in their marriage. Finally, both mother and father must face the choice between clinging to their child or recognizing the man he's become.

Advance donor sales

December 18, 2006

General ticket sales

January 2, 2007

Call for more information
or to arrange a complimentary press package

734.433.PRTC 7782