



Press Release  
For immediate release  
August 2017

588 Sutter Street #318  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
415.677.9596 fax 415.677.9597  
[www.sfplayhouse.org](http://www.sfplayhouse.org)

Press Inquires Contact: Anne Abrams  
goanne@comcast.net

---

**San Francisco Playhouse Presents  
the Bay Area Premiere of**

***BARBECUE***

**by Robert O'Hara**

**Directed by Margo Hall**

**Press Opening: Saturday, September 30, 2017, 8 pm**

**September 26 to November 11, 2017**

Tues, Wed, Thurs 7pm / Fri, Sat 8pm / Sat 3pm, Sun 2pm

*Preview Performances: September 26-29 at 8pm*

**San Francisco, CA** (August 2017) – **San Francisco Playhouse** (Bill English, Artistic Director; Susi Damilano, Producing Director) opens its fifteenth season with the Bay Area premiere of *Barbecue* by Robert O'Hara. In an unusual artistic feat, Margo Hall will direct and also act in the play.

The hard-partying, foul-mouthed O'Mallery family is staging an intervention for their drug-addicted sister, Barbara. With a plan inspired by reality TV, they have disguised their meeting as a family barbecue in the park—but soon it's the whole family's problems that are in the spotlight. *Barbecue* overturns our presumptions about race, poverty, and the American family in uproarious and incisive fashion. Written by Obie and Helen Hayes Award winner Robert O'Hara, this *Barbecue* serves up a healthy helping of sibling love and loathing.

"We are thrilled to present the Bay Area premiere of *Barbecue*, bringing Robert O'Hara's distinctive voice to our theatre," said Playhouse Artistic Director Bill English with the announcement. "O'Hara poses essential questions about race in America in a profound and hilarious way that will make us question our own subtle prejudices and give us a new perspective on the chasms in society."

## **SAN FRANCISCO PLAYHOUSE**

*Barbecue*

*Continued:*

The cast of ***Barbecue*** features **Jennie Brick, Edris Cooper, Susi Damilano\*, Anne Darragh\*, Margo Hall\*, Halili Knox\*, Kehinde Koyejo\*, Adrian Roberts\*, Teri Whipple, and Clive Worsley.**

San Francisco Playhouse's production of ***Barbecue*** is made possible by Executive Producer William J. Gregory, Producers Fred, Beth, & Leslie Karren; the Muir Family; and Arne and Gail Wagner, as well as Associate Producers Linda Brewer; Harry & Kay Rabin; Loni & Bob Dantzer; Margaret Sheehan; and Valerie Barth.

**Margo Hall** (Director) is an award winning actor/director/playwright. She has performed and directed in theaters throughout the Bay Area. She directed *Red Velvet* and *The Story* for SF Playhouse. She most recently directed *Brownsville Song, B-Side for Tray* for Shotgun Players, where she also co-directed *Bulrushes* with Ellen Sebastian Chang. She is a founding member of Campo Santo, and has directed, performed and collaborated on several new plays with artists such as Naomi Iizuka, Jessica Hagedorn, Phillip Kan Gotanda, and Octavio Solis. She debuted as a director with The World Premiere of *Joyride*, from the novel Grand Avenue by Greg Sarris, for Campo Santo. The production won the Critics Circle Award and SF Weekly Black Box Award for Best Director. She also co-directed *Mission Indians* with Nancy Benjamin, *The Trail of Her Inner Thigh* with Rhodessa Jones, *Hotel Angulo*, and *Simpatico* for Campo Santo. Other directing credits include *Thurgood* for Lorraine Hansberry Theater, and *Friend of my Youth* and *Sonny's Blues* for Word for Word. She is also a professor at Chabot College where she directed *Fabulation, Hamlet Blood in the Brain, The Trojan Women, It Falls, SPUNK, Ragtime, A Streetcar Named Desire, and Polaroid Stories* at UC Berkeley.

**Robert O'Hara** (Playwright) has received the NAACP Best Director Award, the Helen Hayes Award for Outstanding New Play, two OBIE Awards and the Oppenheimer Award. He directed the world premieres of Nikkole Salter and Dania Guiria's *In the Continuum*, Tarell McCraney's *The Brother/Sister Plays* (Part 2), Colman Domingo's *Wild with Happy*, as well as his own plays, *Bootycandy* and *Insurrection: Holding History*. His new plays *Zombie: The American* and *Barbecue*, world premiered at Woolly Mammoth Theater and the Public Theater, respectively.

Founded in 2003, **San Francisco Playhouse** is the only mid-sized professional venue in downtown San Francisco, an intimate alternative to the larger more traditional Union Square theater fare. Presenting a diverse range of plays and musicals, **San Francisco Playhouse**

produces new works as well as re-imagined classics, “making the edgy accessible and the traditional edgy.” And with its bold Sandbox Series, dedicated to nurturing World Premieres, the Playhouse has become a significant player in developing new works as well. **San Francisco Playhouse** is committed to providing a creative home and inspiring environment where actors, directors, writers, designers, and theater lovers converge to create and experience dramatic works that celebrate the human spirit.

*\*Actors appear courtesy of Actors' Equity Association.*

## **FOR CALENDAR EDITORS:**

**WHAT:** The hard-partying, foul-mouthed O'Mallery family is staging an intervention for their drug-addicted sister, Barbara. With a plan inspired by reality TV, they have disguised their meeting as a family barbecue in the park—but soon it's the whole family's problems that are in the spotlight. *Barbecue* overturns our presumptions about race, poverty, and the American family in hilarious and incisive fashion.

**SHOWS:** **September 26 through November 11, 2017**  
Tues, Wed, Thurs 7pm / Fri, Sat 8pm / Sat 3pm, Sun 2pm  
*Preview Performances:* September 26, 27, 28 and 29 at 8pm

**WHERE:** 450 Post Street, San Francisco, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of the Kensington Park Hotel.

**TICKETS:** For tickets (\$20-\$125) or more information, the public may contact the San Francisco Playhouse box office at 415-677-9596, or [www.sfplayhouse.org](http://www.sfplayhouse.org)