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OLD GLOBE BOOTS UP ROLIN JONES' HILARIOUS
THE INTELLIGENT DESIGN OF JENNY CHOW
IN CASSIUS CARTER CENTRE STAGE

San Diego – The Tony Award®-winning Old Globe is pleased to present *The Intelligent Design of Jenny Chow* by **Rolin Jones**, directed by 2003 Critics Circle Award-winner **Kirsten Brandt**, playing in the Cassius Carter Centre Stage **June 12 – July 18** (press opening: Thursday, June 17 at 8:00pm).

This hilarious new play centers on 22-year-old Jennifer Marcus, an obsessive-compulsive, agoraphobic young woman with an IQ off the charts. She spends her entire life in her room in front of a computer screen, with only her adoptive parents, her online companions, and an occasional visit from the pizza delivery guy for company. In a quest to learn more about her biological parents, she builds a fully functioning robotic replica of herself, “Jenny Chow,” who helps Jennifer make the “virtual” connections she needs to discover her Chinese birth mother, and ultimately her own sense of self.

A witty, computer-age comedy, *The Intelligent Design of Jenny Chow* has been hailed by critics. The *L.A. Times* wrote “an exciting new script...a dazzling display of stagecraft that harvest many laughs and finally a few tears,” while the *Orange County Weekly* called it an “intricately composed and sharply written play...Jones’ script is wonderful.”

Rolin Jones is in his third year at the Yale School of Drama’s Master of Fine Arts playwriting program where he is the recipient of the Eugene O’Neill Memorial Scholarship. His full length plays include *Time of No Reply*, *The Jammer*, and *Last of the Chatterbox Wolves*. He has been commissioned by South Coast Repertory and was one of four American playwrights chosen to participate in this year’s Old Vic/New Voices Festival in London. His play, *The Intelligent Design of Jenny Chow*, won Orange County Weekly’s Best New Play Award and the American Theater Critics Association’s 2004 Elizabeth Osborne Award for an Emerging Playwright. Most recently he received an NEA/TCG Playwright-in-Residence Grant.

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Kirsten Brandt has won countless awards for her work as director, writer and producer in San Diego, including the 2003 San Diego Critics Circle Award for Creative Achievement. Her Sledgehammer Theatre production of *Berzerkergang* also won a 2003 KPBS Patte Award. Artistic Director of Sledgehammer since 1999, she recently directed its world-premiere production of *Nu*, which she conceived and directed with Jessa Watson, and La Jolla Playhouse's production of *The Burning Deck*, starring Diane Venora. Brandt studied playwriting at the University of Birmingham, England (with David Edgar and Clair McIntyre) and graduated with a B.A. in directing from the University of California, San Diego. She is one of the founders of DURGA, the women's performance festival of San Diego and serves on the advisory board for the Coronado School of the Arts. She has also been a guest artist at the Lincoln Center Director's Lab West. Brandt has produced fifteen theatrical events for Sledgehammer and created its first ever education program, STEP, promoting literacy through drama in San Diego schools. She has also trained with the SITI Company in Los Angeles and completed the National Arts Marketing Project Advanced Audience Development Training & Granting Program.

The cast of *The Intelligent Design of Jenny Chow* includes **Jordan Baker** (*The Merry Wives of Windsor*) as *Adele Hartwick*, **Steve Pickering** as *Mr. Marcus*, **Seema Sueko** as *Jennifer Marcus*, **Kelly VanKirk** as *Preston/Terrence/Col. Hubbard/Dr. Yakunin/Computer Translator*, **Michelle Wong** as *Jenny Chow* and **Zachary Quinto** as *Todd*. The production team includes Kirsten Brandt, director; Michelle Riel, scenic design; Mary Larson, costume design; David Cuthbert, lighting design; Paul Peterson, sound design; and Diana Moser, stage manager.

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The internationally-acclaimed, Tony® Award-winning Old Globe is one of the most renowned regional theaters in the country and has stood as San Diego's flagship arts institution for over 68 years. The Old Globe produces a year-round season of 12-14 plays and musicals on its three stages, including the highly-regarded Shakespeare festival. The Globe has become a gathering place for leading theater artists from around the world, as exemplified by Tom Stoppard, Daniel Sullivan, Tina Landau, Nora Ephron and John Goodman, among many others. Numerous Broadway-bound premieres and revivals, such as Imaginary Friends, The Full Monty, Pride's Crossing and Damn Yankees, have been developed at The Old Globe and have gone on to enjoy highly successful runs in New York and at regional theatres across the country. Under the leadership of Artistic Directors Jack O'Brien and Craig Noel and Executive Director Louis G. Spisto, the Globe is at the forefront of the nation's leading performing arts organizations, setting the standard for excellence in American theater.

