

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 26, 2005

Falcon Theatre

Presents

Wrong Turn at Lungfish

Written by Garry Marshall and Lowell Ganz

Directed by Garry Marshall

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

Opening May 12th for a Special 12-Performance Engagement

This May the FALCON THEATRE reprises its critically-acclaimed comedy hit, *Wrong Turn at Lungfish*, written by Garry Marshall and Lowell Ganz, directed by Garry Marshall and starring Emmy Award-winner Hector Elizondo.

An elitist and irascible college dean (**Hector Elizondo**) has suddenly gone blind. His only enjoyment comes from tormenting his beleaguered nurse (**Joanna Canton/Christine Lakin**) until he is assigned Anita Merendino (**Ana Ortiz**) to read to him. Anita is a young blue collar girl, both sexy and manipulative, with a jealous boyfriend (**Jason Gedrick**). In this poignant comedy our intellectual odd couple soon finds that within each other lies the missing link in their own personal evolution.

Also starring **Ana Ortiz** (NBC's *A.U.S.A.* and Off-Broadway's *In Arabia We'd All Be Kings* directed by Philip Seymour Hoffman), **Jason Gedrick** (television's *Boomtown* and Broadway's *Our Town* with Helen Hunt), **Christine Lakin** (television's *Step by Step*) will play the nurse for the first weekend and **Joanna Canton** (television's *That 70's Show*) of the original Falcon cast will return for the following 2 weekends.

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Hector Elizondo started on the New York stage in the Equity Library Theatre's production of *Mister Roberts* (1961). After doing Off-Broadway and Off-off Broadway productions, he then went on to do repertory theatre with the Theatre Company of Boston, and to the Arena Stage in Washington for his role in *The Great White Hope*, which moved to Broadway in 1968. His portrayal of 'God' in the guise of a Puerto Rican steam room attendant in *Steambath* (1970) earned him an Obie Award. Other Broadway work includes Neil Simon's *Prisoner of Second Avenue* (1973), Strindberg's *The Dance of Death* at Lincoln Center (1974), *Sly Fox* (1976), and the Broadway revival of Arthur Miller's *The Price* (1992) at the Roundabout Theatre. Television work includes *Popi* (1976), *Freebie and the Bean* (1980), *Casablanca* (1983) and *Foley Square* (1985). Ten years later he was still lighting up TV sets playing Dr. Phillip Watters on the immensely popular show *Chicago Hope* (1994). He earned 5 Emmy nominations, with a win in 1997 for Best Supporting Actor. Mr. Elizondo has appeared in over 80 films and television shows, including *The Taking of Pelham One Two Three* (1974) and 14 films directed by Garry Marshall. The most popular Marshall/Elizondo collaborations include *The Flamingo Kid* (1984), *Nothing in Common* (1986) and *Pretty Woman* (1990) for which he was nominated for both a Golden Globe and an American Comedy Award, and won the CBS Movie Award for Best Supporting Actor. Mr. Elizondo was recently seen in *Raising Helen* and *The Princess Diaries 2*, both collaborations with Mr. Marshall. Throughout his career Mr. Elizondo has been especially proud of his involvement in the prestigious LA Theatre Works Radio Company, of which he is a founding member. He recently received the Diversity Award's prestigious Integrity Award as well as the Imagen Foundation's Lifetime Achievement Award.

Garry Marshall is a veteran producer, director and writer of film, television and theater. He directed *Wrong Turn at Lungfish* originally in Los Angeles, Chicago and Off-Broadway in the early '90s. *The Roast*, which he wrote with Jerry Belson, ran at the Wintergarden Theatre in New York, and as a solo playwright, his play *Shelves* ran at the Pheasant Run Playhouse in St. Charles, Illinois. In addition to ***Wrong Turn at Lungfish***, Mr. Marshall directed *Crimes of the Heart* at the Falcon Theatre with Morgan Fairchild, Crystal Bernard and Faith Ford. A graduate of Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism, Mr. Marshall began his career as a writer for *The Tonight Show* with Jack Paar. He went on to writing and producing some of television's most beloved situation comedies. In 1997, Mr. Marshall built the Falcon Theatre with his daughter, Kathleen. He has directed 14 movies, all of which include Hector Elizondo. Among them are *Pretty Woman*, *The Princess Diaries* and, most recently, *The Princess Diaries 2: Royal Engagement*. They've played basketball together and play on the same softball team, but ***Wrong Turn at Lungfish*** marks his first time with Mr. Elizondo on the stage.

Lowell Ganz began writing for college shows at Queens College in New York City. With his former partner, Mark Rothman, he landed a job in television writing for *The Odd Couple*. They produced *Happy Days* and created *Laverne and Shirley*, among other series and pilots. During his tenure on *Laverne and Shirley*, Lowell and writer Mark "Babaloo" Mandel formed a screenwriting team. Together they have eighteen produced screenplays to their credit, including *Night Shift* (1982), *Splash* (1984), *Gung Ho* (1986), *Parenthood* (1989), *City Slickers* (1991), *A League of Their Own* (1992), *Mr. Saturday Night* (1992), *Ed TV* (1999) and, currently in production, *Robots* and *Fever Pitch*. Lowell is married and has three children.

Ana Ortiz made her professional stage debut in a regional theatre production of *Dangerous Liaisons*. Additional stage credits include the Off-Broadway hit, *In Arabia, We'd All Be Kings*, directed by Philip Seymour Hoffman. She has guest-starred on the series *NYPD Blue*, *Everybody Loves Raymond* and, most recently, *North Shore*. Her feature film credits include *King of LA* and the soon-to-be-released *Tortilla Heaven*.

Jason Gedrick got his first acting break as an extra in the film *Bad Boys* alongside Sean Penn. He soon landed leading roles in several films including *Iron Eagle I*, *Promised Land*, and *The Last Don*. He also was featured in *Backdraft* and *Summer Catch*. Between film roles he kept busy with stage work, starring with Helen Hunt and Don Ameche in the Broadway production of *Our Town* as well as an Off-Broadway production of *Mrs. Dally Has a Lover* with Judith Ivey. He is also known for his work on such TV series as *Boomtown*, *Murder One* and *Falcone*.

Joanna Canton has had a recurring role on the television series *That 70s Show* as Fez's girlfriend. Her more recent television appearances include *The King of Queens*, *Crossing Jordan*, *The Division*, *Freaks and Geeks*, *J.A.G.*, *Spin City*, *Once and Again*, and *Bob Patterson*. She starred in the horror thriller *The Convent* and had a supporting role in the film *New Best Friend*.

Christine Lakin recently starred as 'Cindy' in the Falcon Theatre production of *Cindy and the Disco Ball* and originated 'Darla/Sissy' in the play *Sneaux*. Best known for her role as 'Al' on the hit series *Step by Step*, other television credits include: *3rd Rock from the Sun*, *Boston Public*, *7th Heaven*, *Touched by an Angel*, *Opposite Sex*, and *Rodney and Veronica Mars*. Film credits include: *Whatever It Takes*, *Who's Your Daddy*, and Showtime's musical *Reefer Madness* (now playing).

WHEN:	OPENS	Thursday, May 12th, 2005
	RUNS THRU	Sunday, May 29th, 2005
	PERFORMANCES	Thursdays through Saturdays at 8pm and Sundays at 4pm
	PRICES	Tickets range from \$30.00 - \$37.50

THE FALCON THEATRE is located at 4252 RIVERSIDE DRIVE, in Burbank.

For ticket reservations, call 818.955.8101

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