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For Immediate Release

Contact: Tara Wibrew, Associate Producer

Telephone: (541)953-1038

Email: tara@octheatre.org

**Oregon Contemporary Theatre Returns to In-Person Performances with
Tony Award-Winning Comedy 'ART' by Yasmina Reza**

Live, in-person performances June 4-12; streaming on demand June 7-12

EUGENE, OR — Oregon Contemporary Theatre returns to live, in-person performances with the award-winning comedy **ART by Yazmina Reza**, translated by Christopher Hampton and directed by Michael Malek Najjar. **ART** runs June 4 through June 12 at Oregon Contemporary Theatre, 194 West Broadway in downtown Eugene. Live performance tickets start at \$20; the production will also be available to stream on demand, June 7-12, for \$15. Tickets are available online at www.octheatre.org or by calling 541-465-1506.

How much would you pay for a painting that was a white canvas? Would it be "art"? What would your friends think of it — and of you, for buying it?

When Serge (Brian Haimbach, last seen at OCT in *Fun Home*) purchases an all-white painting for €200,000, his longtime friendship with Marc (OCT newcomer Rich Brown) and Yvan (Kelly Oristano, *The Curious Incident of the Dog In The Night Time*) is put to the test. As the arguments quickly go from theoretical to personal to confrontational and friendship hangs in the balance, the question becomes: how much is a painting worth?

"We're very excited to welcome audiences safely back to Oregon Contemporary Theatre," said OCT Producing Artistic Director Craig Willis. "Yasmina Reza's biting Tony and Olivier Award winning comedy is a great vehicle for live theatre performed with social distancing. **ART** has only three actors on stage, no intermission, and our seating will put groups of four or two seats together, with no more than one group in each aisle so patrons can enter and leave safely," explained Willis.

ART is directed by Michael Malek Najjar, leading a production team that includes: scenic designer Amy Dunn, costume designer Erin Wills, lighting designer Janet Rose, sound designer Madison Fung, assistant sound designer Bradley Branam and video and streaming consultant Eric Hadley. Colleen Rooney is the production stage manager.

Yasmina Reza (*Playwright*) is an award-winning French playwright, novelist and memoirist. Her work has been translated into more than 30 languages and produced

worldwide, achieving both critical praise and popular international success. Her work includes the plays *Conversations After a Burial*, *Winter Crossing*, *The Unexpected Man*, *Life x3*, *A Spanish Play* and *God of Carnage*; the novels *Desolation*, *Adam Haberberg* and *On Arthur Schopenhauer's Sledge*; the memoirs *Hammerklavier* and *Nulle part; Dawn, Dusk or Night*, a nonfiction account of a year she spent trailing French president (then-candidate) Nicolas Sarkozy on the campaign trail; and a dramatic translation of Kafka's *Metamorphosis*.

Tickets for **ART** start at \$20 for live, in-person performances or \$15 for streaming on demand. In-person seating is limited, and tickets will be made available on a rolling basis. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.octheatre.org or call the OCT Box Office: (541)465-1506.

Critical praise for **ART**:

"Wildly funny, naughtily provocative" — *NY Post*

"A nonstop cross-fire of crackling language" — *Newsweek*

"Anyone looking for a play that is funny, sophisticated, stylish, stimulating and moving should go to **ART**." — *The Independent*

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ART Performance Calendar

Friday, June 4	7:30pm	Live performance, tickets start at \$20
Saturday, June 5	7:30pm	Live performance, tickets start at \$20
Sunday, June 6	2:00pm	Live matinee, tickets start at \$20
Thursday, June 10	7:30pm	Live performance, tickets start at \$20
Friday, June 11	7:30pm	Live performance, tickets start at \$20
Saturday, June 12	7:30pm	Live performance, tickets start at \$20
Monday, June 7 – Saturday, June 12		Streaming performance on-demand, \$15