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**Exchange Your Latte for *Leave it to Beaver* in STAGEStheatre’s Production of Jordan Harrison’s *Maple and Vine* March 1-31**

Fullerton CA—STAGEStheatre is proud to present Jordan Harrison's dark comedy **Maple and Vine**, directed by Sarah Ripper March 1st-31st. Is the stress of urban striving shredding your nerves? Do you fight the odd urge to throw the BlackBerry down the nearest manhole? Had it up to here with the overscheduled, information-saturated, distraction-filled frenzy that is contemporary American life?

The smiling fellow in the slick suit, skinny tie and nifty hat has a proposition for you. Turn off the digital assistant, tune out the endless din and drop in to the friendly neighborhood depicted in Maple and Vine, where social networking is a mere matter of inviting friends over for pigs in a blanket and crab puffs.

Katha and Ryu, a Manhattan couple, have become allergic to their 21st-century lives. After they meet a charismatic man from a community of 1950s re-enactors, they forsake cell phones and sushi for cigarettes and Tupperware parties. In this compulsively authentic world, they are surprised by what their new neighbors, and they themselves, are willing to sacrifice for happiness.

“With the instant gratification of Google and finding an answer at the swipe of a finger, it can be difficult to slow down and appreciate the simpler things in life,” says director Sarah Ripper. “Have you ever daydreamed about living in the past? During a time where social media and modern technology didn’t exist? Do you think you would have less stress in your life? Would you be happier? I’ve always had a fascination with the 1950s and have pondered what life would be like during that time. How would I adapt to that time period, especially after knowing our modern technology and societal norms? Would I be able to mesh well with my new community based on my gender and race? Would the dynamics of my relationships and social interactions change? Do our online profiles reflect our authentic self?

Jordan Harrison’s ***Maple and Vine*** tells the tale of a modern day couple in search of an authenticity and connection they feel is missing in today’s modern era and big city complexity. What if they could transport themselves to a quaint, bygone era of suburban tranquility circa 1955? Can everything old be new again?

Jordan Harrison’s play ***Maple and Vine*** ran Off-Broadway at Playwrights Horizons and at American Conservatory Theater after premiering in the 2011 Humana Festival. Other plays: Doris to Darlene (Playwrights Horizons), Futura (Portland Center Stage, Theater @ Boston Court), Amazons and Their Men (Clubbed Thumb), Act a Lady (2006 Humana Festival), Finn in the Underworld (Berkeley Repertory Theatre), Kid-Simple (2004 Humana Festival, SPF), The Flea and the Professor (Arden Theatre Company), Standing on Ceremony (Minetta Lane Theatre), Fit for Feet (2003 Humana Festival), and The Museum Play. He is the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship, a Hodder Fellowship at Princeton University, the Kesselring Prize, the Heideman Award, the Loewe Award for Musical Theater, Jerome and McKnight Fellowships from The Playwrights’ Center, and a NEA/TCG Playwright-in-Residence Grant. He is a graduate of the Brown University MFA program and an alumnus of New Dramatists.

Starring in ***Maple and Vine*** are: Jason Cook, Darri Kristin, Laura Lejuwaan, Cristian Rincon, and Lee Samuel Tanng.

Tickets for ***Maple and Vine*** are $24.00, $22.00 for students and seniors.  Performances are March 1st- March 31st, Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00 p.m. and Sundays at 2:00 p.m. Please note, there is NO performance of Maple and Vine on Friday, March 8, 2019. For reservations please visit our website at [www.stagesoc.org](http://www.stagesoc.org/)

About STAGEStheatre: Celebrating its 27th year in business, STAGEStheatre is one of Orange County’s most innovative community theaters.  It produces nearly 15 productions annually, showcasing local playwriting, acting and directing talent.  STAGEStheatre is, and will continue to be, dedicated to the development of the artist.   It is located at 400 E. Commonwealth in Downtown Fullerton (between Lemon and Balcom).