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### <u>Embargoed for Release – Wednesday, September 7, 2011:</u>

## LUKE MACFARLANE, OF ABC'S BROTHERS AND SISTERS, TO STAR IN CITY THEATRE'S SAM BENDRIX AT THE BON SOIR

Macfarlane to play title role in world premiere by Keith Bunin

Featuring Songs by Cole Porter, Leonard Bernstein, the Gershwins, and more

November 12 - December 18, 2011

PITTSBURGH, PA (September 7, 2011)—City Theatre has announced that Luke Macfarlane, star of ABC's hit series *Brothers and Sisters*, will perform the title role in the world premiere of Keith Bunin's Sam Bendrix at the Bon Soir. Mark Rucker will direct the play, also featuring music by legendary songwriters like Cole Porter, Leonard Bernstein and the Gershwins. Sam Bendrix at the Bon Soir plays on City Theatre's intimate Hamburg Studio Stage November 12 - December 18, 2011. The Opening Night performance is Friday, November 18 at 8 pm.

Mr. Macfarlane recently played Scotty Wendell on ABC's *Brothers and Sisters* and appeared in the 2011 Broadway production of *The Normal Heart*. Audiences will also recognize him from FX's *Over There* and the feature film *Kinsey*.

"Sam Bendrix requires an actor loaded with charisma and charm," states City Theatre **Artistic Director Tracy Brigden**, "someone who can tell an emotional story, and – most importantly – someone who can perform these wonderful songs. Luke's magnetic star power on the very intimate Hamburg stage is going to make for an unforgettable evening of theatre."

City Theatre will announce the entire production team, including musicians and designers, shortly.

The drinks and the music flow at the legendary Bon Soir. In 1958 Greenwich Village, a young singer and his band take the stage for a final performance before he quits New York City forever.

While a chair he's holding for a special someone sits empty all night, Sam Bendrix tells a classic tale of an era not yet ready for the revolutionary changes on the horizon.

# CITY THEATRE PRESENTS THE WORLD PREMIERE OF

#### Sam Bendrix at the Bon Soir

When: November 12 – December 18, 2011

#### **Preview Schedule**

Saturday, November 12 at 5:30 pm; Sunday, November 13 at 7pm; Tuesday, November 15 and Wednesday, November 16 at 7pm; Thursday, November 18 at 8 pm

# PRESS / OPENING NIGHT Friday, November 18 at 8 pm

#### **Regular Run Schedule**

Tuesday and Wednesday at 7 pm; Wednesday at 1 pm; Thurs. and Fri. at 8 pm; Sat. at 5:30 & 9 pm; Sun. at 2 pm

Where: City Theatre, 1300 Bingham Street on Pittsburgh's South Side

Single tickets start at \$30.

Students and age 26 and younger may reserve \$15 tickets, subject to availability.

**Seniors** (age 60 and older) may purchase \$22 rush tickets at the Box Office beginning two hours before show time, subject to availability.

**Groups** of 10 or more are eligible for discounts. Call Kari Shaffer at 412.431-4400 x286.

Tickets are available at 412.431.CITY (2489) or CityTheatreCompany.org.

<u>City Theatre</u> is Pittsburgh's largest producing company located outside of downtown's Cultural District. Now in its 37<sup>th</sup> year and settled on Pittsburgh's historic South Side, City Theatre specializes in contemporary and new plays and has brought to Pittsburgh playwrights such as Adam Rapp, Christopher Durang, Eric Simonson, and Jeffrey Hatcher. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Tracy Brigden, Managing Director Mark R. Power, and a 45-member Board of Directors, City Theatre's mission is to provide an artistic home for the development and production of contemporary plays of substance and ideas that engage and challenge a diverse audience. <a href="https://www.citytheatrecompany.org">www.citytheatrecompany.org</a>