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**Panic Productions Presents**

## ***Panic at the Riverside Motel***

**A Dark Comedy Written by John Pastore  
Directed by Maria Riboli**

**January 15-February 8, 2014 – 22 Performances:**

Previews: January 15th, 16th & 17th

Opening Night: **January 18th, 2014 at 8pm**

Tuesdays-Thursdays @ 7pm; Fridays & Saturdays @ 8pm; and Sundays at 3:30pm

**Stage IV Theatre**

300 West 43rd Street, 4th Floor, New York, NY NYC 10036

**Tickets are \$25. Visit [PanicAtTheRiversideMotel.com](http://PanicAtTheRiversideMotel.com) or call 866-811-4111  
Direct ticketing link: <https://web.ovationtix.com/trs/pr/929396>**

**For more information, visit: [www.panicattheriversidemotel.com/](http://www.panicattheriversidemotel.com/)**

**Runtime: 80 minutes with no intermission**

(New York – November 12, 2013) – Panic Productions presents *Panic at the Riverside Motel*, a riotous, fast-paced dark comedy written by **John Pastore** about a dead body and all the inconveniences it causes an engaged couple in a seedy motel. **Maria Riboli** directs a cast of five, including **Olivia Rose Barresi, Tom Burka, Tom Cappadona, Thom Christensen, and Michael Orlandi**. Performances will be staged at the newly remodeled Stage IV Theatre, 300 West 43rd Street, 4th Floor, New York, NY 10036 from January 15-February 8, 2014.

Soon to-be newlyweds Jake and Kaitlin are in over their heads with their upcoming lavish wedding. At the end of their financial rope, and fresh out of options, this ordinary couple resorts to an unthinkable solution. With help from Kaitlin's gangster brother, Billy, the pair finds themselves at the seedy Riverside Motel, where they intend to sell \$50,000 worth of cocaine to a potential buyer. But when this already uneasy plan unravels horrifically, their desperation for a payoff pales in comparison to what they now must deal with. This misfit pair copes with the unscrupulous Billy to clean up their mess, the possible ruination of their lavish wedding, and an idiotic detective. Can they survive the aftermath of a plan that has gone horribly awry? Or is the dead guy the lucky one?



**Maria Riboli (director)** was born and raised in Italy, has been an active performer since the age of six, and moved to New York City in 1998. She has hosted a TV show for the “Cult Network Italia” channel where she won the “Hot Bird Award.” Performing credits include *Miss Julie*, *Betrayal*, *Talk to me like the rain*, *Dolores*, *Antigone*, *The baby dance*, and *The white train*, among others. Professional Voice Over work includes Barilla, Rosetta Stone and Verizon. She has directed numerous plays both in Europe and in the United States. In 2007 she co-directed (with Stefano Genovese), produced and performed in *BAAAH!!!*, which was accepted in FringeNYC and continued at the Payan Theater and in 2008. She also brought the play to London’s historic Pleasance Theater. She produced, directed and starred in *Want & Need* ([www.want-need.com](http://www.want-need.com)) in November 2012, an acclaimed love story from a guy point of view, which enjoyed a sold out run in the heart of NYC (Stage II Theater). Maria followed that success with another sold out run, directing *Family of Strangers* by John Pastore, in March 2013. ([www.family-of-strangers.com](http://www.family-of-strangers.com)). Maria also directed (with Adam Pagdon) the webseries “Catch-30” premiering in Fall 2013. ([www.catch30.com](http://www.catch30.com)). She recently directed the video portion of the Off Broadway show *Tesla* directed by Sanja Bestic. You can catch Maria on TV (ShopHQ) as the spokesperson for Borghese. Maria is currently teaching at her own acting studio ([www.mariariboliactingstudio.com](http://www.mariariboliactingstudio.com)). [www.mariariboli.com](http://www.mariariboli.com)



**John Pastore (playwright)** was born and raised in Brooklyn, NY. While in college, he took on the daunting task of writing a sequel to Samuel Beckett’s *Waiting for Godot*, which was quickly published in the school’s best literary magazine. At just 24 years old, He began teaching English on a college level at two different CUNY schools. In 2005, he had his first full-length production titled *Death Party*, a tragicomedy about the angst of a twenty five year-old who objects to the antics at his father’s funeral, which to him seems more like a prom than an outlet for grief. His short comedy *The Calendar* was produced in 2007 about a UPS delivery gone wrong. He acted as dramaturg in a production of *The Weeping Game*, a classic Serbian comedy directed by Sanja Bestic. He wrote the highly successful dark comedy *Sidetracked* in Fall 2011, also directed by Sanja Bestic, which debuted to a sold out crowd at the Abingdon Theatre. He followed with the 2012 version of *Panic at the Riverside Motel*, and then the acclaimed drama, *Family of Strangers*, directed by Maria Riboli in March 2013. His plays are noted for their realistic dialogue and biting dark humor. Actors and directors are drawn to his off-beat style of writing.

***Panic at the Riverside Motel*** is presented by Panic Productions. Production Stage Manager: **Awilda Cantres**; Graphic Design: **Sara Foschi**; Publicist: **Paul Siebold/Off Off PR**.

Performances are Tuesdays-Thursdays at 7pm; Fridays & Saturdays at 8pm, and Sundays at 3:30pm from January 15-February 8, 2014. Preview performances are January 15, 16 and 17. Opening night is Saturday, January 18th at 8pm.

Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased by visiting <https://web.ovationtix.com/trs/pr/929396> or [www.panicattheriversidemotel.com](http://www.panicattheriversidemotel.com).

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## The Cast



**Olivia Rose Barresi** (Kaitlin) is an actor and theatre artist originally from the Tri-State area. She got her esteemed start on the stage playing Luciana in a fifth grade production of *The Comedy of Errors*, and has never strayed from the theatre since. She proudly earned her BFA degree from Boston University's College of Fine Arts after spending extra months buried in her First Folio at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art. She has since moved back southward to New York, and is making her Off-Broadway debut with this production. Favorite recent roles include The Queen in *Cymbeline* (Commonwealth Shakespeare Company), Chrysothemis in *Madeline Sayet's Daughters of Leda* (Mad & Merry Theatre Company), Alitheia in *The Country Wife* (LAMDA; Director Simon Scardifield), and Martin Luther in *Wittenberg* (WWNOC Productions).



**Tom Burka** (Detective Miller) most recently starred as Tchaikovsky in the Off-Broadway play of the same name. Theatrical Credits: *The Barbecue, Action, The Dumbwaiter, The Importance of Being Earnest*. Film Credits: *Burn* (Best Feature, Telluride Film Festival), *Woods Baseball, The Original Man Bat* (I know, that's a terrible title). Tom is currently shooting scenes with the Dinner For One improv group for their upcoming TV series, *Life Sucks*.



**Tom Cappadona** (Manager) – Tom's New York stage appearances include, *Tesla, Family of Strangers, Girl Group, Mafia On Prozac, Honest Arrangement, The Viy, In the Parlance, Prelude to a Hit, The Heist, The Thing That Kills Me, Common Ground, The Dreamer Examines His Pillow, Golden Boy, and Home Brew*, as well as dozens of sketches with *Dashboard Theatre*. Tom's Television credits include *Nurse Jackie, Entourage, NYPD Blue, The Sopranos*, and *Law and Order SVU, & Criminal Intent*. His films include Martin Scorsese's *Bringing Out the Dead, Sue, True Convictions, Confessions of a Dangerous Mime, Convention, The Séance, One Soul, The Pope of Jersey City, Business is Dead*, and the indie thriller *The Orchard*.



**Thom Christensen (Billy)** has trained in New York and Chicago. Selected New York credits include *Hedda Gabler* directed by John Gould Rubin, *Hope in Chaos, Romeo and Juliet, Be Careful of Words, Acts of Love, Abduction of Becky Morris (NY Fringe Festival), Company, The Alfred Hitchcock Festival* with Radio Theatre, *Bromance of the Exes (winner best actor), Straight Faced Lies* in the 2013 Planet Connections Festival, and *It Spins Twice* in the 2013 New York Fringe Festival.



**Michael Orlandi** (Jake) is a native New Yorker and a recent graduate of the American Academy of Dramatic Arts. Recently, he has made his Off-Broadway debut in *Perfectly Normal People*, as part of the FringeNYC Encore Series. His other New York credits include *Painted Woman* (Cabrini Repertory Theater), *A Month In The Country* (Parnassus Theatre Company), and *The Coincidentals*, a workshop of a new musical by Matt Patrick Walsh and Emma Jeszke. Some of his favorite Academy roles include Father Flynn in *Doubt*, Alan Raleigh in *God of Carnage*, and Mr. Collins in *Pride and Prejudice*.