



Friday, Aug. 16, 2013

Renee Marino to play Mary Delgado in 'Jersey Boys' film

Broadway World has learned that Renee Marino, who currently plays Mary Delgado in "Jersey Boys" on Broadway, will play the role in the upcoming big screen adaptation, which is to be directed by Clint Eastwood. Her other Broadway credits include "Wonderland" and "Chaplin." [Renee Marino is a 2004 Wagner College Theatre graduate from Linden, N.J.]

As Broadway World previously reported, Broadway's John Lloyd Young, Erich Bergen, Michael Lomenda and "Boardwalk Empire's" Vincent Piazza are under consideration to star in the movie musical. All of the actors, with the exception of Piazza, have previously appeared in a stage production of the musical. Although no offers have been instigated or confirmed, sources tell Variety that Warner Bros. has approved the four actors as its top choices. If cast, Young would play Frankie Valli, Bergen would play Bob Gaudio, Piazza would play Tommy DeVito and Lomenda would play Nick Massi. Donnie Kehr, will star as Norm Waxman, Joey Russo as Joe "Joey" Pesci, Jeremy Luke as Donnie and Christopher Walken as Angelo "Gyp" DeCarlo.

The "Jersey Boys" film adaptation is written by John Logan and is currently slated to begin shooting this summer in Los Angeles.

"Jersey Boys" is the journey of how a group of blue-collar boys from the wrong side of the tracks became one of the biggest American pop music sensations of all time: Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons. They wrote their own songs, invented their own sounds and sold 175 million records worldwide — all before they were 30.

"Jersey Boys" is the winner of the 2006 Best Musical Tony Award, the 2006 Grammy Award for Best Musical Show Album and the 2009 Olivier Award for Best New Musical. Directed on Broadway by two-time Tony Award winner Des McAnuff, "Jersey Boys" is written by Academy Award-winner Marshall Brickman and Rick Elice, with music by Bob Gaudio, lyrics by Bob Crewe and choreography by Sergio Trujillo.

In other Wagner College Theatre alumni news:

MATT BAN '09 (Hometown: West Milford, N.J.) will have his Broadway debut performing the role of Dennis in "Rock of Ages" for 11 performances starting Oct. 31 — "and I couldn't have done it without you and everyone else at Wagner!" he told WCT's Felicia Ruff.

ALEX BONIELLO '13 (Hometown: Wood-Ridge, N.J.) is in the national tour of "American Idiot" (ensemble and understudy for Johnny and St. Jimmy).

ROBBY HALTIWANGER '13 (Hometown: Setauket, N.Y.) plays Chris Bruner in the national tour production of "Ghost: The Musical."