

Ever felt like cuddling up with Karl Lagerfeld? The Steiff company is making a teddy bear modeled on the Paris-based fashion designer. It will be offered in a limited edition of 2,500 — at a price of about \$1,450 per bear. AP

## What we're into



## Now "90210"

Most of the talk of the retooled teen drama has focused on the return of Brenda and Kelly (Shannen Doherty and Jennie Garth, respectively), but what we're most excited about is the return of Jessica "Lucille Bluth from 'Arrested Development'" Walter, above right, to the small screen.



## In two weeks Michael Phelps hosts "Saturday Night Live"

Although "SNL" has a rusty track record for Olympians delivering the funny (Look for Nancy Kerrigan clips on YouTube), the rest of the cast usually rallies to make the show funnier than usual.

METRO/PH

# 'Maguffin' takes on politics of cynicism

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In politics, there is a recurring truth: One can best lead people by identifying what the people are against. In "The Maguffin," playing through Saturday at the Second Stage at The Adrienne as part of the Philly Fringe festival, the New York-based Stone Soup Theatre Arts company has some campy fun with the concept of the politics of cynicism.

"At the heart of the play is the idea that who we are defined by what we're opposed to," says director Nadine Friedman. "Look at me. I'm a young liberal progressive and if there weren't Republicans with their insane police-state actions against reproductive rights, I don't know what I would do."

In "The Maguffin," when the gay marriage movement falters, the Republican Party scrambles to prop it up in the hope of keeping the target viable for their acrimony and attacks.

"Gays don't want to get married anymore," says Friedman of the plot. "But Republicans still want to use gay marriage as a wedge issue to get voters to the polls."

But he is quick to point



Stone Soup Theatre Arts' political comedy "The Maguffin" imagines the gay marriage movement is dead this election season.

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Friedman

out that "The Maguffin" is bipartisan in their skewering. "The Democrats are equally ridiculous," he adds.

Written by Adam Hurnault and Stone Soup, "The Maguffin" comes to the Philly Fringe after playing here last year. Local ties include Philly's George Alley, who wrote several of the songs, and resident Leigh Goldenberg, who is producing.

Friedman says they are looking forward to their return visit.

"The Chinatown bus is

an adventure," he laughs. "You're either going to see a drug deal go down or the bus is going to go up in flames. That's part of the adventure of performing in a new city."

"The Maguffin" Through Saturday Second Stage at The Adrienne 2030 Sanson St. \$10, 215-413-1318 [www.livearts-fringe.org](http://www.livearts-fringe.org)

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