



VANESSA MARANO AND KATIE LECLERC
PROMOTE THEIR STARRING ROLES
IN THE HIT ABC FAMILY SERIES
SWITCHED AT BIRTH
WITH AN AUTOGRAPH SIGNING AT
PLANET HOLLYWOOD TIMES SQUARE
~ MONDAY, AUGUST 1ST AT 5:00 PM ~



WHO: The hit ABC Family series ***Switched at Birth*** stars **Vanessa Marano** (*Gilmore Girls*) as **Bay Kennish** and newcomer **Katie Leclerc** as **Daphne Vasquez**.

Vanessa Marano - - is most recognized for her roles as April, the daughter of Luke in the highly popular show, ***Gilmore Girls*** and for the role of Francesca, the daughter of the Emmy® Award-winning Lisa Kudrow, in the HBO Original series ***The Comeback***. Recently, she starred in ***Scoundrels*** playing the scheming, school-skipping daughter of Virginia Madsen. She has had recurring roles in shows including ***Dexter***, ***Without a Trace***, ***Trust Me*** and ***The Young and The Restless***. Her guest-starring credits include ***Parenthood***, ***Medium***, ***Love Bites***, ***Ghost Whisperer***, ***Past Lives***, ***Six Feet Under***, ***Malcolm in the Middle*** and ***Grounded for Life***.

Vanessa starred as a young girl who becomes a quadriplegic in the critically acclaimed television movie ***The Brooke Ellison Story*** directed by Christopher Reeve. Vanessa is working with Lucy Liu on a miniseries playing the troubled foster teenager, Immy, in ***Marry Me***.

Her first film was the animated hit, ***Finding Nemo***, followed by the independent films, ***Easy***, ***The Clique***, ***Stopping Power***, ***Dear Lemon Lima*** and most recently ***The Secret Lives of Dorks***.

Vanessa speaks Italian and is enrolled in her sophomore year in college.

Katie Leclerc - - grew up in Lakewood, Colorado, the youngest of three siblings in a close-knit family. In grade school, Katie's spunky personality and megawatt smile won her the lead role in a production of ***Annie***. It was in this play that Katie discovered her passion for acting, while juggling other after-school activities such as basketball, choir and dance. When her family moved to San Diego, Katie continued to pursue theatre at Valley Center High. She started booking commercials: Pepsi, Cingular, Comcast, GE. Then she got her big break -- a role on the cult favorite TV show, ***Veronica Mars***, starring Kristen Bell.

Katie has continued to work in television. Her TV credits include ***The Riches***, ***The Ex-List***, and ***The Hard Times of RJ Berger***. She starred in the feature film ***The Inner Circle*** and was also in the feature ***Flying By*** with Billy Ray Cyrus. At home, Katie loves to cook, and is quite excellent at it. You can often find her hiking away the calories from her sinfully delicious concoctions on one of L.A.'s hidden trails.

Katie Leclerc has Ménière's disease, a disorder of the inner ear that can affect hearing and balance to a varying degree. It is characterized by episodes of vertigo and tinnitus and degenerative hearing loss. Leclerc is fluent in American Sign Language.

WHAT: **Vanessa Marano** and **Katie Leclerc** will be at **Planet Hollywood Times Square** for an autograph signing to promote their starring roles in the hit ABC Family series ***Switched at Birth***.

Switched at Birth - - a one-hour scripted drama, tells the story of two teenage girls who discover they were accidentally switched as newborns in the hospital. Bay Kennish grew up in a wealthy family with two parents and a brother, while Daphne Vasquez, who lost her hearing at an early age due to a case of meningitis, grew up with a single mother in a working-class neighborhood. Things come to a dramatic head when both families meet and struggle to learn how to live together for the sake of the girls.

***Switched at Birth* was recently nominated for 5 Teen Choice Awards
& airs Mondays at 9/8c on ABC Family**

WHERE: Planet Hollywood Times Square - - 1540 Broadway (corner of 45th Street)

WHEN: Monday, August 1, 2011 at 5:00 pm - - **YOUR COVERAGE IS REQUESTED AT 4:45 PM**

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