

Portland Center Stage at

THE **ARMORY**

PRESS CONTACT: **Claudie Fisher**  
503.445.3765  
claudief@pcs.org

M E D I A R E L E A S E

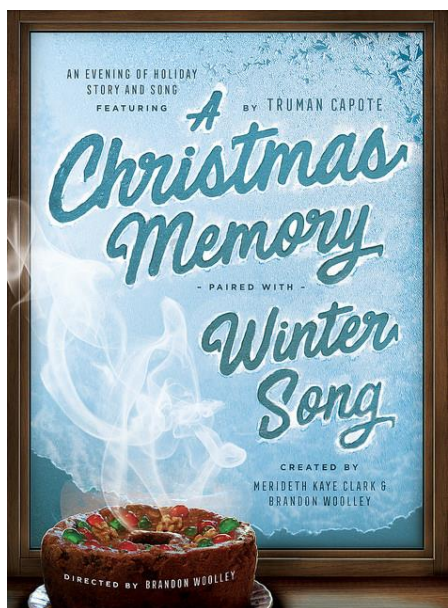
**A delightful offering of holiday story and song at The Armory:**

**Truman Capote's *A Christmas Memory***

-paired with-

**Merideth Kaye Clark and Brandon Woolley's *Winter Song***

**Previews Begin Nov. 18 | Opening Night is Nov. 24 | Closes Dec. 31**



**October 18, 2017 – PORTLAND, OR.** This winter, a delightful offering of holiday story and song will run in The Armory's Elyn Bye Studio. Truman Capote's tender holiday tale, *A Christmas Memory*, will be paired with *Winter Song*, an original presentation of music and storytelling created by the brilliant singer Merideth Kaye Clark and The Armory's own Brandon Woolley. Preview performances will begin November 18, opening night is November 24, and performances will run through December 31.

Local favorite Leif Norby will take the stage for *A Christmas Memory* and then join Merideth Kaye Clark to perform in *Winter Song*. Brandon Woolley, who previously collaborated with Clark for her concert performances of Joni Mitchell's album *BLUE*, will direct both pieces. Mont Chris Hubbard, who also collaborated on *BLUE*, will provide music direction and accompaniment.

"Winter is the most emotionally complicated season," said Clark of the inspiration behind *Winter Song*. "The music that it inspires is rich. There are, of course, holiday songs. But we were more interested in the music that captures other winter feelings. Traveling home or hunkering down in

the cold. The loneliness and isolation the darkness brings. The gatherings of families and communities.”

**Regular tickets start at \$25.** Tickets may be purchased at [www.pcs.org](http://www.pcs.org), 503.445.3700, or in-person from the box office (128 NW Eleventh Avenue, Portland, OR). Rush tickets are \$20. Students and patrons who are 30 or younger can purchase \$30 premium tickets. \$5 tickets are available for Oregon Trail Card holders through the Arts for All program. Discounts for groups of 10+. Active duty or veteran military personnel and their immediate families get 50% off the price of regular tickets. General performance times are Tuesday through Sunday evenings at 7:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. and Thursday matinees at noon (special exclusions apply, see below). A special 2 p.m. show will be offered on Thursday, December 28. Recommended for ages 10 and up.

## ABOUT THE SHOW

***A Christmas Memory***, Truman Capote's autobiographical recollection of his rural Alabama boyhood, is a tiny gem of a holiday story offering an unforgettable portrait of an odd but enduring friendship between two innocent souls — one young and one old — and their shared memories of beloved holiday rituals. ***Winter Song***, created by Merideth Kaye Clark and Brandon Woolley, is an original presentation of favorite songs that celebrate winter and all it represents: love, loss, family, solitude, renewal and friendship. More information at [www.pcs.org/winter](http://www.pcs.org/winter).



### MERIDETH KAYE CLARK

#### **WINTER SONG CO-CREATOR AND PERFORMER**

Merideth Kaye Clark performed the role of Elphaba in the First National Tour of *Wicked*, Eva Perón in *Evita* (Northern Stage) and Nancy in *Oliver!* (5th Avenue Theatre). Her Portland credits include: Cathy in *The Last Five Years* and Tzeitl in *Fiddler on the Roof* (The Armory); Clara, *Light in the Piazza* (Portland Playhouse); and Lilli/Kathryn, *Kiss Me Kate* (Clackamas Repertory Theatre). Clark is also a concert artist and multi-instrumentalist.

She debuted her acclaimed Joni Mitchell's *BLUE* concert at The Armory in 2015 and released the studio album in 2016. Her solo album *Young Stellar Object* also garnered critical praise.



## **LEIF NORBY**

### ***A CHRISTMAS MEMORY AND WINTER SONG* PERFORMER**

Leif Norby was most recently seen at The Armory as The Dealer in *Wild and Reckless*; Astor and others in *Astoria: Part One*; Voice of The Oregon Trail and others in *The Oregon Trail*; and Professor Willard/Joe Stoddard in *Our Town*. Other recent Portland appearances include: Cervantes in *Man of La Mancha* (Lakewood Theatre Company), Dr. Givings in *In the Next Room* (Profile Theatre) and Tom in *The God Game* (Brandon Woolley prod).

## **THE CREATIVE TEAM**

Brandon Woolley, co-creator of *Winter Song* and director of *A Christmas Memory* and *Winter Song*, most recently directed *Mary's Wedding* and *Sex with Strangers* at The Armory. He leads a creative team featuring Music Director/Accompanist Mont Chris Hubbard (music director for Merideth Kaye Clark's concert performances of Joni Mitchell's *BLUE*); Scenic Designer Daniel Meeker (scenic designs for *The People's Republic of Portland* and others at The Armory); Costume Designer Paula Buchert (resident cutter/drapery at The Armory in her costume design debut); Lighting Designer Sarah Hughey (lighting designs for Steppenwolf Theatre, Lookingglass Theatre and others); Sound Designer Casi Pacilio (The Armory's resident sound designer; most recently *Every Brilliant Thing*); with Stage Manager Janine Vanderhoff.

## **TICKET AND PERFORMANCE INFORMATION**

**When:**            **November 18\* – December 31, 2017**

\*Opening Night/Press Night: Friday, November 24 at 7:30 p.m.

Preview Performances: November 18, 19, 21 and 22 at 7:30 p.m.

**Where:**           In the Ellyn Bye Studio at [The Armory](#)

128 NW Eleventh Ave., Portland, Ore., 97209

**To Purchase:**   **Reserved seating is now available in the Ellyn Bye Studio. Regular tickets range from \$25 to \$60. Rush tickets are \$20. Students and patrons who are 30 or younger**

may purchase tickets for \$35. \$5 tickets are available for Oregon Trail Card holders through the Arts for All program. Discounts for groups of 10+. Active duty or veteran military personnel and their immediate families get 50% off the price of regular tickets. *Prices vary by date and time, and are subject to change.*

**Online:** [www.pcs.org](http://www.pcs.org)

**By Phone:** 503.445.3700, 12–6 p.m.

**In Person:** The box office is at 128 NW Eleventh Avenue  
12 p.m. to 8 p.m. on performance days  
12 p.m. to 6 p.m. on non-performance days

**Groups:** Discounts available for groups of 10+ by calling 503.445.3794.

**More Info:** [www.pcs.org/winter](http://www.pcs.org/winter)

**Showtimes:** Tuesday through Sunday evenings at 7:30 p.m. (excluding November 23 and December 3, 17, 19, 26 and 31); Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. (excluding November 18, 19 and 25 and December 9 and 23); Thursday matinees at noon (excluding November 23); and a special 2 p.m. on Thursday, December 28.

**Please Note:** Recommended for ages 10 and up.

**Accessibility:** Learn about our accessibility options at [www.pcs.org/access/](http://www.pcs.org/access/).

## **PORTLAND CENTER STAGE AT THE ARMORY**

[Portland Center Stage at The Armory](#) is the largest theater company in Portland and among the top 20 regional theaters in the country. Established in 1988 as a branch of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, the company became independent in 1994 and has been under the leadership of Artistic Director Chris Coleman since 2000. Around 150,000 visitors attend The Armory annually to enjoy a mix of classical, contemporary and world premiere productions, along with a variety of high quality education and community programs. 11 productions are offered each season, in addition to roughly 400 community events created — in partnership with 170+ local organizations and individuals — to serve the diverse populations in the city. As part of its dedication to new play development, the company has produced 23 world premieres and presents an annual new works

festival, JAW: A Playwrights Festival. Home to two theaters, The Armory was the first building on the National Register of Historic Places, and the first performing arts venue, to achieve a LEED Platinum rating.

### **THE 2017-2018 SEASON**

The [2017-2018 season](#) is funded in part by Season Superstars Tim and Mary Boyle and Lead Corporate Champion Umpqua Bank. Further support comes from Season Sponsors the Regional Arts and Culture Council, The Wallace Foundation and Oregon Arts Commission, a state agency funded by the state of Oregon and the National Endowment for the Arts. Support for *A Christmas Memory* and *Winter Song* comes from Judy Carlson Kelley and Dr. Curtis Thompson & Associates. Mark Spencer Hotel is the official hotel partner for the company. Portland Center Stage at The Armory was selected as a participant of the Wallace Foundation's [Building Audiences for Sustainability Initiative](#), a four-year effort with a nationwide cohort of 26 performing arts organizations.

###