Portland Center Stage at

THE ARMORY

MEDIA RELEASE

Truman Capote's A Christmas Memory paired with Winter Song brings local favorites Merideth Kaye Clark and Leif Norby back to The Armory for cozy winter celebration Previews Begin Nov. 24 | Opening Night is Nov. 30 | Closes Dec. 30 Tickets start at \$25



Oct. 22, 2018 — PORTLAND, OR. A Christmas Memory and Winter Song, the two-show pairing BroadwayWorld called "warm, nourishing, and just exactly what you want on a cold winter's night," returns to Portland Center Stage at The Armory. The production brings Truman Capote's beloved holiday story together with a gorgeous collection of winter songs, stories, and memories created by Brandon Woolley and Merideth Kaye Clark. A Christmas Memory paired with Winter Song begins preview performances on Nov. 24, opens on Nov. 30, and runs through Dec. 30 in the Ellyn Bye Studio. Woolley returns to direct, while Clark (Elphaba in the First

National Tour of *Wicked*, Cathy in *The Last Five Years* at The Armory) and Leif Norby (*Astoria: Part One and T*wo at The Armory) reprise their roles.

"It is truly a gift to be able to return to *A Christmas Memory* paired with *Winter Song* this holiday season," Woolley said. "We hope audiences will enjoy sitting back and letting the words of Truman Capote and the lyrics of some of the best songwriters of our time fill you up during this winter season."

TICKET INFO

Regular tickets start at \$25 and are on sale now. Tickets may be purchased at 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 get 50% off the price of 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 premium tickets. Performance times are Tuesday through Sunday evenings at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m.; Thursday matinees at noon; date exclusions apply, see below for more information. Recommended for ages 12 and up. Children under 6 are not permitted at any production at The Armory. For more information visit www.pcs.org/winter-2018.

ABOUT THE SHOW

Music and stories come together in this cozy celebration of winter. In *A Christmas Memory*, Truman Capote's rural Alabama boyhood comes to life, in a touching portrait of an enduring friendship and tender holiday rituals. This gem of a story is paired with *Winter Song*, a collection of beloved tunes and tales that celebrate winter and all it represents: love, nostalgia, family, renewal, and warmth. This year's production of *Winter Song* will include new stories and songs. The cocreators are also recording a *Winter Song* concept album featuring songs and stories from the show, which will be available for purchase throughout the show's run.



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 in Astoria: Part One and Two, Wild and Reckless, and The Oregon Trail. Other recent Portland appearances include: various roles in Adroit

Maneuvers (Lighthouse Productions); Cervantes in *Man of La Mancha* (Lakewood Theatre Company), and Dr. Givings in *In the Next Room* (Profile Theatre).

THE CREATIVE TEAM

Brandon Woolley, co-creator of *Winter Song* and director of *A Christmas Memory* and *Winter Song*, previously 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* at The Armory); Scenic Designer Daniel Meeker (scenic designs for *Kodachrome* and others at The Armory); Costume Designer Paula Buchert (resident cutter/draper at The Armory); Lighting Designer Sarah Hughey (lighting designs for *Major Barbara* at The Armory); Sound Designer Casi Pacilio (The Armory's resident sound designer; most recently *A Life*); with Stage Manager Janine Vanderhoff.

TICKET AND PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

 When:
 Nov. 24 – Dec. 30, 2018*

 *Opening Night/Press Night: Friday, Nov. 30 at 7:30 p.m.

 Preview Performances: Nov. 24, 25, 27, 28, and 29 at 7:30 p.m.

Where:In the Ellyn Bye Studio at The Armory128 NW Eleventh Ave., Portland, Ore., 97209

To Purchase: Regular tickets range from \$25 to \$62. Rush tickets are \$20. Students and patrons who are 30 or younger get 50% off the price of 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 premium tickets. *Prices vary by date and time, and are subject to change.*

Online:	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: <u>www.pcs.org/winter-2018</u>

Showtimes: Tuesday through Sunday evenings at 7:30 p.m. (excluding Dec. 2, 9, 16, 18, 23 and 25); Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. (excluding Nov. 24 and 25); and Thursday matinees at noon (excluding Nov. 29 and Dec. 27).

Please Note: Recommended for ages 12 and up.

Accessibility: Learn about our accessibility options at <u>www.pcs.org/access</u>.

PORTLAND CENTER STAGE AT THE ARMORY

<u>Portland Center Stage at The Armory</u> 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 is under the leadership of Artistic Director Marissa Wolf and Managing Director Cynthia Fuhrman. Around 150,000 visitors attend The Armory annually to enjoy a mix of classic, contemporary, and world premiere productions, along with a variety of high quality education and community programs. Eleven 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 26 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 2018-2019 SEASON

The 2018-2019 season is funded in part by Season Superstars Tim and Mary Boyle, and Lead Corporate Champion Umpqua Bank. Further support comes from: Women's Series Sponsors Ronni Lacroute, Brigid Flanigan, Diana Gerding, and Tim and Mary Boyle; Studio Season Sponsors Mary and Don Blair; and the Regional Arts and Culture Council 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* paired with *Winter Song* comes from The Shubert Foundation and NW Natural. The Mark Spencer Hotel is the official hotel partner. Portland Center Stage at The Armory was selected as a participant of the Wallace Foundation's <u>Building Audiences for Sustainability</u> <u>Initiative</u>, an effort with a nationwide cohort of 26 performing arts organizations.

###