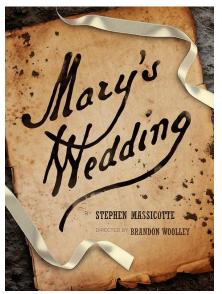
Portland Center Stage at

THE ARMORY

MEDIA RELEASE

A young love and the Great War collide within a dream in Stephen Massicotte's play *Mary's Wedding*, opening at The Armory on April 21 Previews Begin April 15 | Opening Night is April 21 | Closes May 28 TICKETS STARTING AT \$25



March 31, 2017 – PORTLAND, OR. *Mary's Wedding*, Stephen Massicotte's dream-centered love story set during World War One, opens in The Armory's Ellyn Bye Studio on April 21, with preview performances beginning April 15 and regular performances running through May 28. Brandon Woolley will direct this tender story, starring Lexi Lapp and Alex J. Gould in their company debuts. Lapp will play Mary, the English dreamer we meet on the eve of her wedding day, and "Flowers," a commanding officer in WWI. Gould will play Charlie, the Canadian farm boy turned soldier.

"In *Mary's Wedding*," said director Brandon Woolley, "all we really know for sure is that we are entering the subconscious of a young woman who is trying to remember, reimagine and revisit a relationship with her beloved as she prepares for her wedding day. Ultimately, I hope her dream will take audiences on a journey that is enlightening, cathartic and whimsical."

Regular tickets start at \$25. Tickets may be purchased at www.pcs.org, 503.445.3700, or inperson 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 tickets for all dates/times. \$5 tickets are available for Oregon Trail Card holders through the Arts for All program. Showtimes are Tuesday through Sunday evenings at 7:30 p.m. (excluding April 30; May 6, 14, 16, 23, 28); Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. (excluding April 15, 16, 22; May 6, 20) and Thursday matinees at noon (excluding April 20, 25). Recommended for ages 12 and up. Contains mature language and battle sound effects; an actor will use one tobacco-free herbal cigarette.

ABOUT THE PLAY

When Mary and Charlie unexpectedly find one another sheltering in a barn during a thunderstorm, a tentative love is born. But the year is 1914, and they must surrender their fates to the uncertainties of the tumultuous times during the First World War. In this award-winning Canadian play, their love story unfolds against the most devastating conflagration of war that the world had yet seen, as the playwright weaves time, dreams and memory together to remind us that the heart is beautifully resilient. *Mary's Wedding* had its world premiere in 2002 at Alberta Theatre Projects' playRites Festival and has since received more than a hundred productions in Canada, the United States, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom. More information at <u>www.pcs.org/maryswedding</u>.



ALEX J. GOULD (CHARLIE)

Off-Broadway: *The Woodsman* (New World Stages, 59E59 Theaters, and featured on PBS and BroadwayHD). Other recent credits include *The Radicalization of Rolfe* (New York International Fringe Festival Best Overall Play, 2016); *Last Cigarette* (Ensemble Studio Theatre); *Student Body, The Mysteries, a cautionary tail, Job* and *#serials@theflea* (Flea Theater); *Whaddabloodclot* (Williamstown Theatre Festival); and Edinburgh Festival Fringe, 2015.

LEXI LAPP (MARY/"FLOWERS")

Off-Broadway: *STET* (Abingdon Theatre Company/The Muse Project). Other recent credits include *Alligator* (New Georges/The Sol Project); *I Will Be Gone, That High Lonesome Sound, So Unnatural a Level* (Humana Festival of New American Plays); *Luna Gale, At The Vanishing Point* and *The Markers* (Actors Theatre of Louisville). Film: *Love* & *Everything in Between* and *Cut Shoot Kill*.



ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT

Stephen Massicotte's play *Mary's Wedding* won the 2000 Alberta Playwriting Competition, the 2002 Betty Mitchell Award and the 2003 Alberta Book Award. It has also been translated into French and adapted into an opera by Pacific Opera Victoria. His play *The Oxford Roof Climber's Rebellion* premiered as a co-production between Tarragon Theatre and Great Canadian Theatre Company and was a hit Off-Broadway. It won the 2007 Canadian Author's Association Award for Best English Language Play and the 2007 Alberta Book Award for Drama. His most recent play, *The Clockmaker*, premiered at the Alberta Theatre Projects' 2009 playRites Festival and won the 2009 Betty Mitchell Award for Best New Play and the 2011 Toronto Theatre Critics Award for Best English Language Play. He wrote the feature films *The Dark* and *Ginger Snaps Back: The Beginning*, for which he won the award for Best Script/Drama Over 60 Minutes at the 2004 Alberta Media Production Industries Association Awards. He also wrote the award-winning short film *June* and, most recently, Historica Canada's *Winnipeg Falcons* and *Nursing Sisters* Heritage Minutes.

THE CREATIVE TEAM

Brandon Woolley most recently directed *Sex with Strangers* at The Armory. His other recent directing credits include *International Falls* and *The Few* (CoHo Productions). Joining Woolley to create the dream-like world of *Mary's Wedding* are scenic and costume designer **G.W. Mercier** (most recently *A Streetcar Named Desire, Dreamgirls* and *Fiddler on the Roof* at The Armory); lighting designer **Kristeen Willis Crosser** (*Sex with Strangers* at The Armory; *Invisible Hand* at Seattle's ACT Theatre); sound designer **Em Gustason** (*The Few* with Coho Productions; *Marjorie Prime* at Artists Repertory Theatre); projection designer **Kwame Braun** (debut at The Armory; *The Lasso of Truth* at Marin Theatre Company; *Chavez Ravine* at UC Berkeley); dialect coach **Mary McDonald-Lewis** (most recently *Astoria: Part One* at The Armory); production dramaturg **Mary Blair** (dramaturgical credits include *Our Town* and *The Oregon Trail* at The Armory); with stage manager **Mark Tynan** and production assistant **Bailey Anne Maxwell.**

NEXT PAGE: TICKET AND PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

TICKET AND PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

When:April 15* – May 28, 2017*Opening Night/Press Night: Friday, April 21 at 7:30 p.m.Preview Performances: April 15, 16, 18, 19 and 20 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 \$55. \$25 tickets are available on Tuesday and Sunday night performances only, in select quantities, first-come, first-served. Rush tickets are \$20. Students and patrons who are 30 or younger may purchase tickets for \$30 (available for all dates/times). \$5 tickets are available for Oregon Trail Card holders through the Arts for All program. Discounts for groups of 10+. *Prices vary by date and time, and are subject to change.*

Online:www.pcs.orgBy 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 daysGroups:Discounts available for groups of 10+ by calling 503.445.3794.

More Info: <u>www.pcs.org/maryswedding</u>.

- Showtimes: Showtimes are Tuesday through Sunday evenings at 7:30 p.m. (excluding April 30; May 6, 14, 16, 23, 28); Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. (excluding April 15, 16, 22; May 6, 20) and Thursday matinees at noon (excluding April 20, 25).
- **Please Note:** Recommended for ages 12 and up. Contains mature language and battle sound effects; an actor will use one tobacco-free herbal cigarette.

Accessibility: Learn about our accessibility options at 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 May, 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.

2016-2017 SPONSORS

The <u>2016-2017 season</u> 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 *Mary's Wedding* comes from Cupcake Jones, Blue Hour and Footwear Specialties International. 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 Initiative</u>, a four-year effort with a nationwide cohort of 26 performing arts organizations.

###