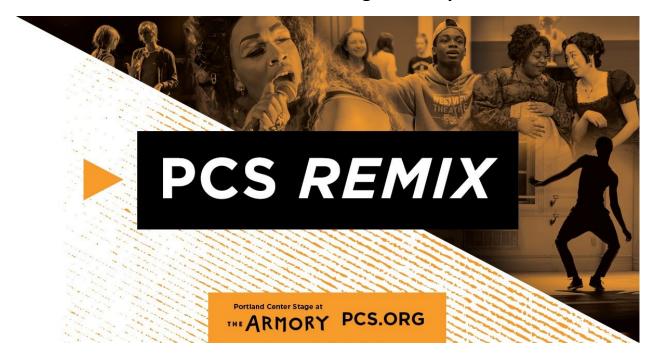
MEDIA RELEASE

PORTLAND CENTER STAGE ANNOUNCES PCS REMIX A groundbreaking initiative to bring artistic brilliance, civic enrichment, and heart-soaring theater productions



July 22, 2020 — **PORTLAND, OR.** Portland Center Stage has been recalibrating, re-imagining, and rising boldly to present <u>PCS Remix</u>, a groundbreaking initiative that offers artistic brilliance, civic enrichment, and (as soon as it's safe to gather) eight exhilarating, heart-soaring theater productions.

PCS Remix programming includes **Shows**, **Commissions**, **Original Works**, **Play Readings**, **Community Partnerships**, **Classes**, and **Youth and School Programs**. These offerings will connect audiences with incredible artists and cultural leaders in a variety of formats, including virtual and in-person. With that in mind, PCS has transformed its rehearsal hall into a recording

studio suitable for socially distanced video production and will also offer this space as a resource for local community partners.

PCS Remix breaks out of the structure of a traditional theater season to offer security and flexibility to patrons with nimble programming designed to build stronger connections with both the amazing artists creating work and the theater itself.

"Even in this incredibly unknown time, there is an abundance of beautiful, impactful work we can create with the talented artists in our community and beyond," Artistic Director Marissa Wolf said. "When we're able to gather again, I will be overjoyed to welcome audiences back to The Armory for the buoyant lineup of shows, and until that time, we're excited to connect with audiences virtually, generating a wellspring of engaging theatrical offerings."

SHOWS

PCS Remix includes seven of the plays that were previously announced: *Frida* ... A *Self Portrait, The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity,* August Wilson's *Gem of the Ocean, Emma*, the world premiere of *Young Americans, Hair*, and the return of *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*. Added to the lineup is the return of *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, after its original run was cut short due to COVID cancelations. The dates and order of shows will be announced as soon as it's possible to gather. Explore the show lineup.

COMMISSIONS

New plays are electric! They are a statement of our time, our evolution, our humanity. PCS has a robust history of commissioning and developing new plays through its NW Stories series and JAW festival. PCS Remix builds on that legacy by commissioning five new plays from some of the most exciting voices in American theater. PCS will offer the community ample chances to engage with these playwrights throughout the development process.

ORIGINAL WORKS

The Original Works series gathers generative artists from a broad spectrum of creative expressions to make innovative, short theatrical pieces. Mediums will include dance, visual art, and music and will culminate in either a virtual or live presentation. This series marks a new era

of innovation for PCS and its collaborations with artists, including an urgent and timely exploration of the relationship between theater and technology.

PLAY READINGS

This series provides the opportunity to perch on the cutting edge of theater and engage with raw, remarkable scripts before they reach PCS stages in the years to come. Following week-long workshops of new and classic plays, scene readings will be held in a playful, interactive format that includes conversations with top artists.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Bring that First-Thursday spirit into your home! This series brings joyful, engaging events, featuring music, dance, visual art, and civic conversation. Building on our long history of community partnerships and public events, these events will provide the chance to connect with an incredibly rich array of social and creative organizations that help make Portland thrive.

CLASSES

PCS Remix continues our tradition of providing robust educational offerings throughout the year, woven tightly with the artists working on our Commissions, Original Works, and New Play Readings. Taught by a diverse pool of talented professionals, these adult classes will provide inspiring immersions into creativity, theater craft, and storytelling. <u>View upcoming classes.</u>

YOUTH & SCHOOL PROGRAMS

PCS has a longstanding commitment to serving the youth in our community. We'll build on our strong programming for students, parents, and educators through creative approaches to School Workshops, Visions & Voices, and Teen Council — and, when we are able, our student matinees, tours, and post-show discussions. Explore education programs.

JOIN US

For those who want to be a part of making this innovative era possible, risk-free <u>subscriptions</u> are on sale now and <u>donations</u> continue to be essential. Subscribers and donors get special access to exclusive events. Subscription prices begin at \$101 for three shows. PCS Remix public offerings will be available at a range of prices, including many free events and special Arts for

All discounts. To stay up-to-date on <u>PCS Remix</u> activities, <u>sign up for enews</u> or follow PCS on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>YouTube</u>. View the <u>PCS Remix FAQs</u> for more information.

PORTLAND CENTER STAGE

Portland Center Stage is among the top 20 regional theaters in the country. Established in 1988 as a branch of Oregon Shakespeare Festival, the company became independent in 1994. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Marissa Wolf and Managing Director Cynthia Fuhrman, the company produces a mix of classic, contemporary, and world premiere productions, along with a variety of high quality education and community programs. As part of its dedication to new play development, the company has produced 28 world premieres, many of which were developed at its new works festival, JAW. Portland Center Stage's home is at The Armory, a historic building originally constructed in 1891. After a major renovation, The Armory opened in 2006 as the first building on the National Register of Historic Places, and the first performing arts venue in the country, to achieve a LEED Platinum rating.

Portland Center Stage is committed to identifying and interrupting instances of racism and all forms of oppression, through the principles of inclusion, diversity, equity, and accessibility (IDEA). Learn more at pcs.org/idea.

Portland Center Stage is funded in part by Season Superstars Mary and Don Blair, Lead Corporate Champion Umpqua Bank, and the Regional Arts and Culture Council. Further support comes from Tim and Mary Boyle, the Oregon Arts Commission, a state agency funded by the state of Oregon and the National Endowment for the Arts; and the National Endowment for the Arts.

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