

MEDIA RELEASE

**Isaac Lamb Returns to Portland Center Stage for the Holidays
to Helm New Original Work *The Bells That Still Can Ring***

Streaming On Demand Dec. 15, 2020 – Jan. 3, 2021



**“Ring the bells that still can ring/ Forget your perfect offering/ There is a crack in everything/
That's how the light gets in.” –Lyrics from “Anthem” by Leonard Cohen**

November 24, 2020 — PORTLAND, OR. After triumphant appearances in some of Portland Center Stage’s most popular holiday productions, actor Isaac Lamb returns to PCS to helm a new and altogether different kind of seasonal offering, *The Bells That Still Can Ring*. This devised theater piece will strive to honor the unique times at hand through a series of short

and unexpected filmed vignettes. On demand streaming will be available from December 15, 2020 to January 3, 2021. Pay What You Will tickets are on sale now.

The Bells That Still Can Ring is the latest offering in the PCS Remix: Original Works series. Lamb will be joined by a multidisciplinary group of local artists, including Cindy Im, Claire Rigsby, Samson Syharath, Julana Torres, Tara Velarde, and music director Mont Chris Hubbard. As the lead artist, Lamb penned the title based on inspiration from Leonard Cohen's song "Anthem."

"There are so many questions swirling at the heart of this project. In the darkest time of the year — in one of the darkest years we can remember — how do we find joy? How do we find light? That's essentially what we're after," Lamb said of the project.

"In the headwinds of a global pandemic, socio-political upheaval, racist violence, and a growing climate crisis," Lamb continued, "what is the appropriate way to find grace, provide comfort, or celebrate resilience? How do we do that communally if we can't all be together? We may still be on the journey for these answers, but I'm sure there will be music, dancing, and laughter along the way — and I can't think of a better group of collaborators for this journey."

THE BELLS THAT STILL CAN RING

Let the light of warm holiday connections lift your spirits and brighten the darkest of winter days. Music and movement merge to center grace, love, and friendship in a series of filmed vignettes that enable us to hold space together, even as we must stay apart. Join us to share in this celebration of community and resilience, as we invite the light to shine brightly within us all.

THE ARTISTIC TEAM

Lead Artist Isaac Lamb was most recently seen at PCS in *Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley* and *Twist Your Dickens*. Cindy Im starred alongside Lamb last season in *Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley* and returns for this new holiday show. They'll be joined by several local artists

new to PCS: Claire Rigsby (*The Thanksgiving Play* at Artist Repertory Theatre), Samson Syharath (Managing Artistic Director of Theatre Diaspora), Julana Torres (*Crowns* at Portland Playhouse), and Tara Velarde (*Once* at Broadway Rose Theatre Company). Completing the creative team are Jennifer Lin (Designer), Maggie Heath (Designer), Chip Miller (PCS Associate Artistic Director), Kamilah Bush (PCS Literary Manager), and Dana Peterson (Stage Manager).

PAY WHAT YOU WILL — WATCH WHEN YOU WANT

Tickets can be purchased at [pcs.org](https://www.pcs.org) or by calling the box office at 503.445.3700, Monday through Thursday, from 10 a.m to 4 p.m. Once a ticket is purchased, the viewer can watch the show anytime between December 15, 2020 and January 3, 2021. *The run time for this film is approximately 25 minutes.* More information at www.pcs.org/the-bells-that-still-can-ring.

ABOUT PCS REMIX: ORIGINAL WORKS

The PCS Remix: Original Works series gathers generative artists from a broad spectrum of creative expressions to make devised, short theatrical pieces. Mediums include dance, visual art, and music, and projects culminate in either a virtual or live presentation.

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

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