



PRESS CONTACT: Claudie Fisher
503.445.3765
claudief@pcs.org

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

Portland Center Stage Announces Change in 2014-2015 Season

Cast Favorites from NBC Series *GRIMM* to Star in *Three Days of Rain*:

Silas Weir Mitchell and Sasha Roiz take the Stage at PCS

June 5, 2014 – PORTLAND, OR. Artistic Director Chris Coleman has announced an exciting change in the season line up for 2014-2015 at Portland Center Stage. The season will now end with Richard Greenberg's lauded play *Three Days of Rain*, and will star two of the most popular cast members on the NBC hit television series *GRIMM*: Silas Weir Mitchell and Sasha Roiz. "*GRIMM* is filmed in Portland, and has been a welcome addition to the city's creative landscape," said Coleman. "Since they arrived in town, both Sasha and Silas have been visitors to Portland Center Stage, and so I've come to know them. We've been waiting for the right timing, and the right project, to work together. And the planets — also known as *GRIMM*'s shooting schedule and our season calendar — finally aligned."

In *Three Days of Rain*, three New Yorkers grapple with the puzzles of family history and the nature of creativity. A year after he disappeared on the day of his father's funeral, Walker Janeway returns to the city. He takes up temporary residence in the studio where thirty-five years earlier his father Ned and Ned's late architectural business partner, Theo, lived and designed the iconic house that would make them famous. Now Walker and his sister Nan meet in the long-abandoned space preparing to hear the reading of Ned's will, joined by Theo's son, Pip. But even as they think they have unraveled their generation's beliefs about their parents, a newly discovered journal filled with enigmatic entries begins to open a window on two strikingly different times, and the surprising connections between them. The *Los Angeles Times* wrote that "Greenberg has written a kind of generational mystery in which the past really is another country, one that the present, groping for insight into its own origins, can't help misjudging."

The unique structure of *Three Days of Rain* — playwright Greenberg plays with time and perception by having the actors play their own parents in Act 2 — means that Silas Weir Mitchell (Monroe on *GRIMM*) will play both Walker and Ned, and Sasha Roiz (Captain Sean Renard on *GRIMM*) will play Pip and Theo. The casting of the final role in the play, that of Nan/Lina, will be announced at a later date. **Biographies for Silas Weir Mitchell and Sasha Roiz are listed below.**

***Three Days of Rain* will begin previews on May 17, open on May 22 and run through June 21, 2015, on the Main Stage at the Gerding Theater at the Armory. The production of *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*, originally set for that**

slot, will move to January 10 through February 8, 2015, replacing *Mojada*, which has been postponed to a later season. “We begin season planning more than a year prior to producing a season,” noted Coleman, “so it can be challenging to remain flexible for exciting opportunities. Our audiences have weathered programming changes with us before, and we appreciate their support. We don’t make changes to an announced season lightly, but this is one of those times that we believe it to be the right decision, and one that our audience will be delighted to experience.”

Season tickets are on sale now; tickets to individual shows go on sale in mid-August, although tickets to *Three Days of Rain* will remain available only to season ticket buyers through the season ticket sales period, and will not be available for individual sale until January, 2015.

To purchase season tickets call 503-445-3700 or visit www.pcs.org. New for this year is the **Create Your Own Package, starting at \$72.90 for 3 plays**. Full season packages start at **\$231.30 for the Everything Series** and **\$145.80 for the Main Stage Series**. Flexible payment options are available. Students and patrons under the age of 35 enjoy deeper discounts for both series. Groups of 10 or more can sign up for the priority seating waiting list by calling 503-445-3794 and purchase tickets to the new season starting on July 1.

Silas Weir Mitchell Biography



Veteran television and film actor Silas Weir Mitchell currently stars in NBC’s fantastical mystery/crime show *GRIMM*, in the role of fan-favorite ‘Monroe.’ ‘Monroe’ is a reformed ‘Blutbad,’ (a big bad wolfen creature) and clandestine aid to Detective ‘Nick Burkhardt’ (David Giuntoli). ‘Detective Burkhardt’ discovers that his family line is rooted in a group of hunters (‘Grimms’) who fight to keep humanity safe from the demonic creatures of the world, and that he is one of the last of his kind. With the help of an initially reluctant ‘Monroe,’ whose vast knowledge of these foes outpaces this newly-minted ‘Grimm,’ ‘Burkhardt’ decides to take it upon himself to protect human beings from the storybook evil-doers who inhabit the real world.

Weir Mitchell is widely known for his recurring role as one of the “Fox River Eight,” on the critically-acclaimed FOX drama series *Prison Break*. Starring alongside fellow actors Wentworth Miller, Sarah Wayne Callies and Dominic Purcell, Weir Mitchell played the tortured and compelling character of ‘Charles ‘Haywire’ Patoshik;’ a highly intelligent, schizophrenic, and unpredictable convict. He is also known for his roles as ‘Donny Jones,’ ex-con friend of the title character portrayed by Jason Lee in the NBC comedy *My Name Is Earl* and the tormented ‘James Hogan’, a recurring character on *Cold Case* as well as guest star in *Portlandia* this season. Mr. Mitchell has also made appearances on (among others) *The Mentalist*, *24*, *Law & Order: SVU*, *The Closer*, *CSI: Miami*, *CSI: NY*, *Burn Notice*, *Dexter*, *Monk*, *Six Feet Under*, *The X-Files*, *CSI*, *Boomtown*, and the seventh and final season of the FX critically acclaimed drama *The Shield*.

Weir Mitchell's film credits include starring roles in the action dramas *The Patriot* alongside Steven Segal; and *Inferno* with Jean-Claude Van Damme; the role of 'Lloyd' the keymaker in the Paramount Pictures comedy *Rat Race*; and 'Yermo' the intellectually challenged henchman in *The Whole Ten Yards* with Bruce Willis. Weir Mitchell also appeared in *Halloween II* directed by Rob Zombie.

Born and raised just outside Philadelphia, Silas' first encounter with acting came in the 3rd grade when he played 'Hansel' in his school production of *Hansel & Gretel*. After receiving degrees in both Theatre Arts and Religious Studies at Brown University, Silas went on to earn his M.F.A. at the University of California San Diego. From there, he moved back to New York where he began booking roles almost immediately. When he's not working, Weir Mitchell indulges his passion for food and wine, enjoys traveling with his wife, sailing with his brother, reading as much as possible, and cheering on his favorite Hockey teams, the L.A. Kings and the Philadelphia Flyers. In addition, he actively supports The Sierra Club, the National Resources Defense Council, Children's Hospital Los Angeles and Doctors Without Borders.

Sasha Roiz Biography



Sasha Roiz has been busy this year filming season 3 of NBC's hit drama *GRIMM* from the executive producers of *Angel* and *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*. Roiz plays the mysterious 'Captain Renard' chief of police. Renard appears to be the trustworthy superior and ally to 'Nick Burkhardt' (the 'Grimm'), but is in fact a descendant of a royal line, wielding great influence and intent on reestablishing his authority. This dynamic character follows Roiz's groundbreaking series regular role as 'Sam Adama' — a brutal mob enforcer, gay married man and devoted uncle, on the critically acclaimed Syfy series *Caprica*, the prequel to *Battlestar Galactica*. Roiz also stars in the forthcoming action packed feature film *Pompeii* from celebrated director Paul W. Anderson. The film depicts the final days of Pompeii leading to the catastrophic eruption of Mount Vesuvius. Roiz plays the formidable soldier 'Proculus,' the embodiment of Rome's might and corruption. The film stars Kit Harrington, Carrie-Anne Moss and Kiefer Sutherland.

His introduction to feature films began with supporting roles in Roland Emmerich's blockbuster *The Day After Tomorrow*, *16 Blocks* opposite Bruce Willis and *Man of the Year* alongside Robin Williams. Roiz was later seen opposite Samuel L. Jackson in the film *Unthinkable*, also starring Carrie-Anne Moss and Michael Sheen. Roiz's first starring role was in the independent science fiction thriller *Extracted*, which premiered at SXSW in 2012. As 'Tom Jacobs,' he plays a scientist whose work on a memory machine leads him to become trapped inside the memories of a convicted killer.

Roiz was born in Israel and was raised in Montreal, Canada. He grew up speaking Russian, French and English. Roiz studied theater at England's prestigious Guildford School of Acting. Upon returning to Montreal, he began to work consistently in theater, culminating in a nomination at the esteemed "Masques Awards" (Quebec's Theater Awards) for his performance in Michel Tremblay's *Past Perfect*. Roiz then moved to Toronto, amassing significant experience as a

film and TV actor. In his first series regular television role, Sasha starred in ESPN's debut hit series *Playmakers* and later in the Canadian dramatic miniseries *Across the River to Motor City*. Roiz has guest starred on some of television's most notable programs, including Emmy nominated shows such as *House*, *The Mentalist*, *CSI* and *NCIS*. Fans of his dramatic work had the opportunity to see him score laughs when he guest starred on *Castle* playing an eccentric host of a beauty contest, as well as a recurring role on the cult comedy *It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia*, portraying one of the cool popular kids who reunites with the cast at their high school reunion.

Before becoming an actor, Roiz played the drums and sang back up vocals in the Canadian indie rock band *Tricky Woo*. They released four albums and several singles. Their album *Sometimes I Cry* was nominated for *Best Indie Album* at the 2000 JUNO Awards (Canadian Grammy Awards). When he is not working, Roiz enjoys travel, food, adventure and family.

PORTLAND CENTER STAGE'S 2014-2015 SEASON*

*Please note: Date ranges include preview performances.

ON THE MAIN STAGE

Dreamgirls

Music by Henry Krieger

Book and Lyrics by Tom Eyen

September 20 – November 2, 2014

Opening night: September 26

Winner of 6 Tony Awards, including Best Book of a Musical

This groundbreaking musical, loosely based on the career of The Supremes, takes you to a revolutionary time in American music history when rhythm and blues blended with other styles of popular music and created a new American sound—Motown. In the '60s, three friends form The Dreamettes and get their big break at an amateur competition, and begin singing backup vocals for a major star. As their own fame grows, however, things begin to spin out of control when their agent's business maneuvers trump their friendship, and fortune and success take them down a path of heartbreak and turmoil. Over two decades The Dreams, as they become known, learn hard lessons about love, trust and the changing tastes of the American public.

The Second City's A Christmas Carol: Twist Your Dickens

By Peter Gwinn and Bobby Mort

November 22 – December 24, 2014

Opening Night: November 28

Back for a second year of unpredictable mayhem! This complete send-up of the holiday classic, fully festooned with

the improvisational genius behind the legendary comedy troupe The Second City, is never the same show twice! Scrooge, Tiny Tim and those know-it-all ghosts find themselves hopelessly mixed up in zany holiday sketches with anachronistic characters, uproarious improv and an ever-changing stable of drop-in local celebrity guests. Updates for 2014, and the audience's input, means this show changes with every performance and will be a fresh experience for the new season.

Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike

By Christopher Durang

January 10 – February 8, 2015

Opening Night: January 16

Winner of the 2013 Tony Award for Best Play

Vanya and his stepsister Sonia (where have we heard those names before?) have only known their family's farmhouse as home; they've lived here their entire lives. Sister Masha, however, lives the glamorous life of a famous movie star, traipsing around the globe and living her life in gossip magazines. When Masha descends upon the family home, her boy toy Spike in tow, the dire predictions of cleaning woman Cassandra (ring a bell?) may be about to come true. In this hysterical mash up of Chekhov's four major plays with *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, Ingmar Bergman, The Beatles, *The Oresteia* and even a little Maggie Smith thrown in, "you're likely to find plenty to make you laugh even if you've never read a word of Chekhov" (*The New York Times*).

Other Desert Cities

By Jon Robin Baitz

February 21 – March 22, 2015

Opening Night: February 27

"All family reunions should be this satisfying ... The Best New Play on Broadway!"

- Ben Brantley, The New York Times

Polly and Lyman Wyeth are a quintessential California success story. Well-connected politically, comfortable financially, and enjoying their retirement years in Palm Springs, where they can still move in the Republican, old Hollywood social circle of their working years. So what if Polly's sister and former screenwriting partner is a just-out-of-rehab liberal, and their grown children are also ideological opposites from their parents? Well, families accept these differences, don't they? But then the Wyeth's children join them for the holidays, and daughter Brooke announces to her family that she is about to publish a memoir dredging up a pivotal event in the family's history that they would prefer stayed buried. This time, a line is drawn in the desert sands that neither side may be ready to cross. ***From the award-winning playwright (Substance of Fire) and creator of the hit television series "Brothers and Sisters."***

Cyrano

By Edmond Rostand

Translated by Michael Hollinger

Adapted by Michael Hollinger and Aaron Posner

April 4 – May 3, 2015

Opening Night: April 10

The romantic comedy classic *Cyrano de Bergerac*, in a fresh translation and adaptation by Michael Hollinger (*Opus*) and Aaron Posner (*Sometimes a Great Notion, The Chosen*). Set in 17th century France, *Cyrano* tells the story of a great swordsman with a beautiful soul, who is handicapped by a huge nose that makes him believe he is incapable of being loved by the beautiful Roxane. When he learns that Roxane and a handsome young soldier named Christian are infatuated with each other, he writes beautiful love letters for her suitor that lead to a tragic love triangle. Filled with swordplay and wordplay, *Cyrano* is beloved for its affirmation of love, friendship, and the power of a well-developed sense of humor.

Three Days of Rain

By Richard Greenberg

May 17 – June 21, 2015

Opening Night: May 22

“Greenberg has written a kind of generational mystery in which the past really is another country, one that the present, groping for insight into its own origins, can’t help misjudging.” – Los Angeles Times

Three New Yorkers grapple with the puzzles of family history and the nature of creativity in Greenberg's Pulitzer Prize-nominated play. A year after he disappeared on the day of his father's funeral, Walker Janeway returns to the city. He takes up temporary residence in the studio where thirty-five years earlier his father Ned and Ned's late architectural business partner, Theo, lived and designed the iconic house that would make them famous. Now Walker and his sister Nan meet in the long-abandoned space preparing to hear the reading of Ned's will, joined by Theo's son, Pip. But even as they think they have unraveled their generation's beliefs about their parents, a newly discovered journal filled with enigmatic entries begins to open a window on two strikingly different times, and the surprising connections between them.

IN THE ELLYN BYE STUDIO

The Typographer's Dream

By Adam Bock

October 4 – November 16, 2014

Opening Night: October 10

A Stenographer, a Geographer, and a Typographer want to share what they do for a living. In their presentations, variably energetic and dispassionate, focused and distracted, it becomes clear that these three may not be strangers ... but what is their relationship? What seems to be a simple panel discussion becomes something “funny, provocative, psychologically revealing, intellectually stimulating and thoroughly enjoyable” (*San Francisco Chronicle*). From the author of *The Receptionist* and *A Small Fire*, *The Typographer’s Dream* is a “smart, hilarious and thoroughly unexpected treat.”

Threesome

By Youssef El Guindi

January 24 – March 8, 2015

Opening Night: January 30

A World Premiere

Leila and Rashid attempt to solve their relationship issues by inviting a relative stranger into their bedroom to engage in a threesome. What begins as a hilariously awkward evening soon becomes an experience fraught with secrets and tension, raising issues of sexism, possession and independence. El Guindi’s play *Pilgrims Musa and Sheri in the New World* was the winner of the prestigious Steinberg/American Theater Critics Association’s New Play Award in 2012, and he is also the recipient of the 2010 Middle East America Distinguished Playwright Award. *Threesome* was a JAW selection in the summer of 2013.

The Lion

Written and performed by Benjamin Scheuer

May 2 – June 14, 2015

Opening Night: May 8

One man, six guitars, and a true story of love, loss, family loyalty, and the redemptive power of music. Direct from an award-winning run at the 2013 Edinburgh Fringe Festival, writer/performer Benjamin Scheuer (winner of the ASCAP Cole Porter Award for songwriting) shares his gripping coming-of-age tale. Directed by Sean Daniels, whose work has been seen at The Kennedy Center and Actor's Theatre of Louisville, *The Lion* is a candid, poignant, charming offering from a next-generation troubadour.

SPECIAL ENGAGEMENTS IN THE ELLYN BYE STUDIO

Not part of a season ticket package. Season ticket holders get special pricing.

The Santaland Diaries

By David Sedaris

Adapted for the stage by Joe Mantello

November 23 – December 28, 2014

Opening Night: November 26

Based on the outlandish and true chronicles of David Sedaris' experience as Crumpet the Elf in Macy's Santaland display, this hilarious cult classic features comic encounters during the height of the holiday crunch. Portland favorite Darius Pierce returns as Crumpet! Reserve your tickets early—this show consistently sells out.

The People's Republic of Portland

By Lauren Weedman

March 21 – April 19, 2015

Opening Night: March 27

Return engagement after a 9-week sold out run in the spring of 2013!

Portland is garnering lots of attention lately—for our leadership in sustainability; for our food scene; for being, well, weird. And now we've caught the attention of writer/actor Lauren Weedman. In the few months she spent here in the spring of 2011 performing her play *BUST*, Lauren's imagination was captured by all things Portland. And so we asked her to write a play. About Portland. How will this former *Daily Show* faux-spondent treat us? What does Portland look like through Weedman's unique lens? Are we brave enough to find out? Lauren is currently a co-star on the new HBO hit series *Looking*, but returns to Portland for this limited run.

SEASON TICKET INFORMATION

The 2014-2015 season is on sale now!

To purchase season packages or learn more call 503-445-3700 or visit www.pcs.org.

Season ticket packages start at \$231.30 for the Everything Series and \$145.80 for the Main Stage Series. Students and those 35 and under enjoy special pricing for both series. An 8-play Flexpass is available for \$450. New for this year is the Create Your Own Package, starting at \$72.90 for 3 plays. Flexible payment options are available.

Season ticket holders get the best seats, great savings, complimentary beverages for the Ellyn Bye Studio shows, ticket exchange flexibility, a designated patron services representative and much more.

GROUP SALES INFORMATION

Groups of 10 or more can sign up for the priority seating waiting list today and purchase tickets to the new season starting on July 1. Groups receive up to 30% off regular ticket prices, and every 11th ticket is complimentary. For more information call 503-445-3794 or visit www.pcs.org/groups.

ACCESSIBILITY

PCS is committed to making our performances and facilities accessible to all of our patrons. For every production here at PCS, we are happy to accommodate wheelchairs and walkers, as well as provide large print programs, professional audio description and sign interpretation. For specific program questions and ticket information, or if you need assistance, please contact the box office at 503-445- 3700 or email access@pcs.org.

AGE RECOMMENDATION

Most productions at PCS are recommended for high school age and up. Children under 6 are not permitted.

For Tickets: 503.445.3700 or pcs.org

Press Contact: Claudie Fisher cfisher@pcs.org, 503.445.3765

PCS Newsroom: www.pcs.org/inside-pcs/newsroom

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[Portland Center Stage](#) inspires our community by bringing stories to life in unexpected ways. Established in 1988 as a branch of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, PCS became an independent theater in 1994 and has been under the leadership of Artistic Director Chris Coleman since May 2000. The company presents a blend of classic, contemporary and original productions in a conscious effort to appeal to the eclectic palate of theatergoers in Portland. PCS also offers a variety of education and outreach programs for curious minds from six to 106, including discussions, classes, workshops and partnerships with organizations throughout the Portland metro area.

[The Gerding Theater at the Armory](#) houses the 590-seat Main Stage and the 190-seat black box Ellyn Bye Studio. It was the first building on the National Register of Historic Places, and the first performing arts venue, to achieve a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Platinum certification. The Gerding Theater at the Armory opened to the public on Oct. 1, 2006. The capital campaign to fund the renovation of this hub for community artistic activity continues.

Portland Center Stage's 2014-2015 season is funded in part by Season Superstars Tim and Mary Boyle and Lead Corporate Champion Umpqua Bank; Season Sponsors the Paul G. Allen Family Foundation, Oregon Arts Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts, the Regional Arts and Culture Council and Work for Art, and Season Supporting Sponsor KINK FM. The Mark Spencer Hotel is the official hotel partner for Portland Center Stage. Portland Center Stage is a participant in the Audience (R)Evolution Program, funded by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and administered by Theatre Communications Group, the national organization for the professional not-for-profit American theater.