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

THE ULTIMATE TALE OF FORBIDDEN LOVE COMES TO PORTLAND CENTER STAGE

Anna Karenina opens April 6, 2012 on the Main Stage.

March 16, 2012 – PORTLAND, ORE. Portland Center Stage is poised to begin performances for its upcoming world premiere production of [Anna Karenina](#). Adapted by Kevin McKeon, adaptor of 2010's *Snow Falling on Cedars*, *Anna Karenina* is directed by PCS Artistic Director Chris Coleman. The production begins preview performances on Tuesday, April 3, opens on **Friday, April 6** and runs Tuesday through Sunday through **April 29, 2012**. Tickets **start at \$34**, with student and under-30 discounted tickets available for \$20. Rush tickets are \$20.

Show times are 7:30 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday, with 2 p.m. matinees on Saturdays and Sundays and matinees at noon on select Thursdays. See the show calendar at www.pcs.org/anna/ for the complete performance schedule. Tickets can be purchased online at www.pcs.org, by phone at 503.445.3700 or by visiting the box office located at 128 NW Eleventh Avenue.

Tolstoy's classic story of love and marriage in Imperial Russia has been called by some the greatest novel ever written. When Anna's husband refuses to release her from their marriage to pursue her love for Count Vronsky, the wheels are set in motion for the ultimate sacrifice. It's about uncontrollable passions, and emotional and sexual betrayal, set against one of the most romantic periods of world history. This world premiere adaptation was an audience favorite at the 2011 JAW Playwright's Festival.

The lead role of Anna will be played by Katy Selverstone, who was also Anna in the JAW staged reading. The irresistible Count Vronsky will be played by Michael Sharon. Gretchen Corbett, Penuel Corbin, R. Ward Duffy, James Farmer, Keith Jochim, Val Landrum, Kayla Lian, Lauren Luiz, Michael Mendelson, Leif

Norby, Maureen Porter, Laura Faye Smith, Matthew Snyder, Robert M. Thomas and Zach Virden all play numerous roles in the hard-working ensemble that conjures the epic scale of Tolstoy's novel.

Scenic Designer **G.W. Mercier** will create the visual world of Tolstoy's Russia, supported by Lighting Designer **Ann Wrightson**. Lavish period costumes will be designed by **Miranda Hoffman**. Sound Designer **Casi Pacilio**, Choreographer **Eric Skinner** and Stage Manager **Jeremy Eisen** round out the creative team.

Additional support for this production has been provided by **Perkins Coie, NW Natural and Curtis Thompson, M.D. and Associates, LLC**. Portland Center Stage's 2011/12 season is funded in part by **Umpqua Private Bank**, our lead corporate champion; the **Regional Arts & Culture Council** and **Work for Art**; the **Oregon Arts Commission**; the **Paul G. Allen Family Foundation**; **Helen and Jerry Stern**; and **Tim & Mary Boyle**. The Mark Spencer Hotel is the official hotel partner for Portland Center Stage.

[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 a 599-seat Main Stage and the 200-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.

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