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

ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST COMES HOME TO OREGON

Don't miss the much-anticipated theatrical production of the most celebrated literary work ever to emerge from Oregon.

Playing February 22 – March 27 on the Main Stage.



February 7, 2011 – PORTLAND, OR. It boils down to one insistent refrain: Authority Must Always Be Questioned. [*One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*](#) pits trickster convict Randle Patrick McMurphy against icy, authoritative Nurse Ratched. A band of crazies gets half-inspired, half destroyed by McMurphy's rebellion and the question remains... was it worth it anyway? [*One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*](#), by Dale Wasserman from the Ken Kesey novel, previews on Tuesday, February 22, opens on **Friday, February 25** and runs **Tuesday** through **Sunday** through **March 27, 2011**. Tickets **start at \$33**, with student and under 30 discounts available. Rush tickets are \$20. Show times are 7:30 pm Tuesday

through Sunday, with 2:00 pm matinees on Saturdays and Sundays. See the show calendar at www.pcs.org/cuckoos-nest for the complete performance schedule.

[*One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*](#) is written by **Dale Wasserman**, from the novel by **Ken Kesey**. Wasserman also wrote the Tony-award winning musical *Man of La Mancha*.

[*One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*](#) is directed by Associate Artistic Director **Rose Riordan** and the cast features **PJ Sosko** (last seen at PCS as Hank in *Sometimes a Great Notion*) as Randle McMurphy. Tim Sampson joins the cast as Chief Bromden; the role his father, Will Sampson, played in the Milos Forman film. Tim also played the role of Bromden in the Steppenwolf Theatre production of *Cuckoo's Nest* that played in Chicago and on Broadway in 2001. Local acting veteran **Gretchen Corbett** plays the formidable Nurse Ratched. The remaining cast members are Bobby Bemea, Craig Bockhorn, Stephen Caffrey, Rich Cashin, Michael Fisher-Welsh, Val Landrum, Amy Newman, Vin Shambry, John Shuman, Ebbe Roe Smith, Ryan Tresser, Tracy Turner and Sara Catherine Wheatley.

The mental ward set is created by scenic designer **Tony Cisek**, with costumes design by **Jeff Cone**, while the sounds and mood of the asylum are created by sound designer **Sam Kusnetz** and lighting designer **Diane Ferry Williams**.

Special events around the production of *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* include the following:

Special Documentary Screening

Guilty Except for Insanity: Maddening Journeys through an American Asylum

A Documentary by Jan Haaken Saturday, Feb 26th, at 2pm on the PCS Main Stage

Jan Haaken a professor of psychology at Portland State University, returns to the Oregon State Hospital, the location of *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, and recounts the stories of real patients who live in this famous hospital for the criminally insane. The screening will be followed by a Q&A with the director. The screening is free and open to the public with a \$5 suggested donation to benefit the PSU Documentary fund.

Sounds.Like.Portland.

Saturdays at 6:30 pm, the Armory hosts free, live, pre-show music from local blues and roots band, Bourbon Jockey. Performances are February 26, March 5 and March 19, 2011 in the Armory Café.

Shop Talk

Friday, March 4th, Noon at the armory Café

Rose Riordan, director of *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, and Jan Haaken, PSU psychology professor and documentary filmmaker, will discuss mental illness on stage and in society.

PCS and Oregon Humanities present *Shop Talk*, a brown bag lunch series that gives the public a chance to explore provocative ideas in PCS' spring productions. The programs pair humanities thinkers in conversation with the plays' writers, directors, and cast members. Programs are FREE and no registration is required.

Additional support for this production has been provided by **Umpqua Private Bank, Ketel One Vodka, Stoel Rives, ZGF Architects LLP, Hoffman Construction and Madeline Nelson & Jim Lafky**. Media support has been provided by **Kink.fm**.

Portland Center Stage's 2010-11 season is funded in part by **Umpqua Private Bank, the Regional Arts & Culture Council** and Work for Art; the **Oregon Arts Commission**; the **Paul G.Allen Family Foundation**; and Tim & Mary Boyle.

PORTLAND CENTER STAGE inspires our community by bringing stories to life in unexpected ways. Established in 1988 as an off shoot 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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