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

Casting announced for the world premiere of *One Night with Janis Joplin*

Previews begin May 24, 2011 on the Main Stage.

April 9, 2011– PORTLAND, OR. After an exhilarating national search, Portland Center Stage is proud to announce that casting is complete for *One Night with Janis Joplin*, the world premiere musical event celebrating the life of one of rock 'n roll's greatest legends. Previews for *One Night with Janis Joplin* begin Tuesday, May 24 with opening night on Friday, May 27 and performances through June 26, 2011. Performance times are Tuesday through Sunday, 7:30 pm, with matinees at 2:00 pm on Saturday and Sunday, and some Thursday matinees at noon. Tickets start at \$36 for full adult prices, with student and under age 30 discounts available. Rush tickets may be available for some performances at \$20 each. For a full calendar of performances and ticket availability, visit the show page at www.pcs.org/janis.

In the iconic role of Janis Joplin will be vocal phenom **Catherine Lena Stephani**. Catherine most recently appeared at The Paper Mill Playhouse and The Hanger Theater in New Jersey. "So many of the singers blew us out of the water" says Artistic Director Chris Coleman. "Lots of people could sing the music, but few could really capture the essence of Janis. She was vulnerable/fragmented/intense. Catherine captured that perfectly." Understudying Janis and also singing with the band is **Nicole Winter**. The mirroring role of The Blues Singer, singing Janis' musical influences, will be played by **Sabrina Elayne Carten**, whose recent roles include Mariah and Sabrina in *Porgy and Bess*. Understudying The Blues Singer and also singing with the band is **Marisha Wallace**.

Of course, you can't have a great rock show without a great rock band. The band for *One Night with Janis Joplin* is made up of local Portland musicians **Stephen Flakus, Mitch Wilson, Ross Seligman, Patrick Harry, Gavi de Tarr, David Milne, Tyler Evans, and Anton Van Oosbree**.

One Night with Janis Joplin is a partnership with PCS, the Janis Joplin Estate and Jeff Jampol of Jampol Artist Management, Inc. The show is created, written and directed by Randy Johnson, who previously directed *Elvis the Concert*, and was the original Producer of *Always Patsy Cline*.

Production Sponsors for *One Night with Janis Joplin* are **John Taylor & Barbara West, Key Bank and Ellyn Bye**. 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 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.

Jampol Artist Management, Inc. (JAM) manages rock legends **The Doors** and the estates of **Jim Morrison, Janis Joplin, Peter Tosh, and Rick James**. The firm also serves as consultant to the estate of **Michael Jackson**. Dedicated to the re-introduction of timeless art through modern means, **JAM, Inc.** develops, preserves, protects and enhances the work of iconic artists and reaches out to successive generations of music fans. Using new distribution channels, new technology and other emerging resources, JAM, Inc. cultivates the recordings, images, writings and other creations of their clients in order to keep them circulating in the cultural bloodstream.

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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