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## M E D I A   R E L E A S E

*Portland Center Stage presents*  
*Katori Hall's magical re-imagining of a final evening with*  
*Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., in The Mountaintop*



**August 13, 2013 – PORTLAND, ORE.** Memphis. The Lorraine Motel. April 4, 1968. A time and place burned into the American psyche. But what about April 3? How did Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., spend his last night on Earth? Portland Center Stage's production of *The Mountaintop*, by Katori Hall, previews Saturday, August 31, **opens Friday, September 6** and runs through October 27, 2013. Tickets **start at \$35**, with discounts available for students and those under 25. Discounts are also available for groups of 10 or more. Rush tickets are \$20.

Show times are 7:30 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday, with 2 p.m. matinees on Sundays and select Saturdays and matinees at noon on Thursdays. See the show calendar at [www.pcs.org/mountaintop](http://www.pcs.org/mountaintop) for the complete performance schedule. Tickets can be purchased online at [www.pcs.org](http://www.pcs.org), by phone at 503.445.3700 or by visiting the box office located at 128 NW Eleventh Avenue. Group tickets can be purchased at 503.445.3794.

Playwright Katori Hall creates a surrealistic fantasy in this breakout Broadway hit about a chance encounter between Dr. King and a mysterious hotel maid who brings him a cup of coffee and prompts him to confront his life, his legacy and the plight and future of his people. " Dr. King was a complex,

complicated man carrying a huge burden,” says Director Rose Riordan “Katori has constructed a play that will keep us from getting lost in the mythology of who he was.”



The cast of *The Mountaintop* includes **Rodney Hicks** as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Mr. Hicks was last seen at PCS as Curly in 2011’s smash hit *Oklahoma!* Mr. Hicks’ Broadway credits include *The Scottsboro Boys*, the closing and original casts of *RENT* and *Jesus Christ Superstar*, in addition to numerous regional and off-Broadway appearances. The role of the mysterious motel maid Camae will be played



by **Natalie Paul**. Ms. Paul will be making her Portland debut in *The Mountaintop*. Her previous theater credits include *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, *Macbeth*, *Eurydice* and *365 Days/365 Plays*.

In addition to Director Rose Riordan, the artistic team includes scenic and lighting designer **Daniel Meeker**. Costume design is by **Jeff Cone**. Sound Design is by **Casi Pacilio** and **Scott Thorson**. Multimedia **Patrick Weishampel** and Stage manager **Emily N. Wells** round out the creative team.

Additional support for this production is provided by **CTA Labs**, **The Boeing Company**, **Reynolds Potter & Sharon Mueller** and **Evelyn & Kymberle Crowell**. Portland Center Stage's 2013/2014 season is funded in part by **Umpqua Bank**, our lead corporate champion; the **Regional Arts & Culture Council** and **Work for Art**; the **Oregon Arts Commission** and **National Endowment for the Arts**; the **Paul G. Allen Family Foundation**; 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 October 1, 2006. The capital campaign to fund the renovation of this hub for community artistic activity continues.

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