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

\$25 Tickets Now Available at Portland Center Stage

On Sale Now for Productions in 2015-2016 Season, Beginning with Holiday Shows

November 16, 2015 – PORTLAND, OR. Portland Center Stage now offers regular tickets starting at \$25 for all productions. This new \$25 price level joins an already diverse array of ticket options geared towards making high quality theater available to everyone in the community. Other pricing options including \$20 rush tickets; Pay What You Will performances (usually the Sunday night preview performance of each production); discounts for students, people under the age of 30 and military personnel; the Stage Door program that provides deeply subsidized or free tickets to local schools; and \$5 Arts For All tickets for Oregon Trail Card holders, a city-wide program of which PCS has one of the highest participation rates.

The new \$25 ticket price level is available for every remaining production in the 2015-2016 season, beginning with the two popular holiday shows that open in December. For productions running in the 590-seat U.S. Bank Main Stage, the \$25 tickets are offered for every performance date and time, in a new price level that includes seats in the orchestra and balcony sections. In the smaller, 190-seat Ellyn Bye Studio, which is always general admission, a select number of \$25 tickets will be available on a first-come, first-served basis for every Tuesday night performance. All \$25 tickets are on sale now and can be purchased at www.pcs.org, 503.445.3700, or in person at the Gerding Theater at the Armory box office (128 NW Eleventh Avenue, Portland, OR).

➤ **Next Page: Eight productions now available for \$25**

The Santaland Diaries

By David Sedaris

Adapted for the stage by Joe Mantello

December 2 – December 27, 2015

Opening Night: December 4 at 7:30 p.m.

In the Ellyn Bye Studio

Based on the true chronicles of David Sedaris' experience as Crumpet the Elf in Macy's Santaland display, this cult classic riffs on a few of Sedaris' truly odd encounters with his fellow man during the height of the holiday crunch.

The Second City's A Christmas Carol:

Twist Your Dickens

By Peter Gwinn and Bobby Mort

December 9 – December 31, 2015

Opening Night: December 11 at 7:30 p.m.

On the U.S. Bank Main Stage

A complete send-up of the holiday classic, this adult comedy is adorned with the improvisational genius of the legendary comedy troupe The Second City, and includes zany holiday sketches, an ever-changing list of drop-in local celebrities and uproarious improv based on audience participation – it's never the same show twice!

Great Expectations

Adapted from Charles Dickens by Lucinda Stroud

January 16 – February 14, 2016

Opening Night: January 22 at 7:30 p.m.

On the U.S. Bank Main Stage

Based on Charles Dickens' classic coming of age novel, *Great Expectations* tells the adventures of the Victorian orphan Pip. As a boy, Pip has three encounters with people that will change his life: the escaped convict Magwitch, the bewitching and cold Estella, and the unhinged Miss Havisham. When

Pip comes into an unexpected fortune and begins the life of a gentleman, his past is not so easily left behind.

Forever

By Dael Orlandersmith

January 30 – March 20, 2016

Opening Night: February 5 at 7:30 p.m.

In the Ellyn Bye Studio

Forever is inspired by Orlandersmith's experiences in Paris at the famed Père Lachaise Cemetery, where strangers from around the world make pilgrimages to the graves of legendary artists such as Marcel Proust, Richard Wright and Jim Morrison. Orlandersmith is inspired to investigate the complex legacy she received from her mother and their often harrowing life together. Riveting and powerful, *Forever* is about family – the ones we are born into, the strange way powerful bonds are formed with people who, though unrelated by blood, come to feel like family, and the legacies that shape us all.

Each and Every Thing

By Dan Hoyle

February 6 – March 27, 2016

Opening Night: February 12 at 7:30 p.m.

In the Ellyn Bye Studio

The newest solo show from award-winning actor/playwright Dan Hoyle (*The Real Americans*) is about how we experience the world in the digital age. From a showdown with a violent felon in small-town Nebraska, to a childhood listening to anti-conformist rants in San Francisco; from the hard-scrabble corner boys of Chicago to the intellectual temple of Calcutta's famed coffeehouse; from a Digital Detox retreat in remote Northern California to an intimate confession in Manhattan, we join Dan in his search for true community, spontaneity and wonder in our fractured, hyper-connected world.

Stupid Fucking Bird

By Aaron Posner

February 27 – March 27, 2016

Opening Night: March 4 at 7:30 p.m.

On the U.S. Bank Main Stage

In this irreverent, contemporary and very funny remix of Chekhov's *The Seagull*, award-winning playwright Aaron Posner wages a timeless battle between young and old, past and present, in search of the true meaning of it all: an aspiring young director rampages against the art created by his mother's generation; a nubile young actress wrestles with an aging Hollywood star for the affections of a renowned novelist; and everyone discovers just how disappointing growing up can be. Winner of the Helen Hayes Awards for Outstanding Resident Play and Outstanding New Play or Musical.

The Pianist of Willesden Lane

Based on the book *The Children of Willesden Lane*

By Mona Golabek and Lee Cohen

Adapted and directed by Hershey Felder

April 2 – May 1, 2016

Opening Night: April 8 at 7:30 p.m.

On the U.S. Bank Main Stage

Set in Vienna in 1938 and in London during the Blitzkrieg, *The Pianist of Willesden Lane* tells the true and inspirational story of Lisa Jura, a young Jewish musician whose dreams are interrupted by the Nazi regime. In this poignant show, Grammy-nominated pianist Mona Golabek performs some of the world's most stunning music as she shares her mother's riveting true story of survival. *Pianist* is infused with hope and invokes the life-affirming power of music.

A Streetcar Named Desire

By Tennessee Williams

Adapted by Emily Mann

May 14 – June 19, 2016

Opening Night: May 20 at 7:30 p.m.

On the U.S. Bank Main Stage

Tennessee Williams' iconic Pulitzer Prize-winning masterpiece is an exquisite study of the unraveling of Blanche DuBois, a fading southern belle. When she arrives unexpectedly on the doorstep of her sister, Stella, and her brother-in-law, Stanley Kowalski, Blanche is clinging desperately to a persona designed to help her survive. Over the course of one hot, sultry New Orleans summer, Blanche's fragile facade slowly crumbles as she meets her match in the rough-hewn and hyper masculine Stanley, who is determined to expose her. Portland Center Stage's production will star veteran stage/TV/film actor Russell Hornsby (Hank Griffin on *Grimm*).

REGULAR TICKET INFORMATION

Regular tickets start at \$25 for all productions. Price levels vary by production, date and time. There are four price levels in the U.S. Bank Main Stage. Seating in the Ellyn Bye Studio is general admission. Tickets can be purchased at www.pcs.org, 503.445.3700, or in person at the Gerding Theater at the Armory box office (128 NW Eleventh Avenue, Portland, OR). *Dates, times and prices subject to change.*

SEASON TICKET INFORMATION

To purchase season packages or learn more call 503-445-3700 or visit www.pcs.org. Back by popular demand is the Create Your Own Package, starting at \$87 for three plays. Students and those 35 and under enjoy special pricing for both series. The eight-admission Flexpass is available for \$450.

GROUP SALES INFORMATION

Groups of 10 or more receive up to 20% off regular ticket prices. Every eleventh 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 at PCS, we are happy to accommodate wheelchairs and walkers, as well as provide professional audio description, sign interpretation and large print playbills. PCS is now pleased to offer open captioned performances for most productions. For specific program questions and ticket

information, or if you need assistance, please contact the box office at 503-445-3700 or email boxoffice@pcs.org. More information at <http://www.pcs.org/access/>.

AGE RECOMMENDATION

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

[Portland Center Stage](#) inspires our community by bringing stories to life in unexpected ways. Founded in 1988, PCS is the city's leading professional theater and one of the top 20 largest regional theater companies in the U.S. PCS attracts more than 150,000 theatergoers annually with its blend of classical, contemporary and premiere works, along with its summer playwrights festival, JAW. PCS also offers a variety of education and community programs tailored for patrons of all ages.

[The Gerding Theater at the Armory](#) houses the 590-seat U.S. Bank 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.

[Portland Center Stage's 2015-2016 season](#) is funded in part by Season Superstars Tim and Mary Boyle and Lead Corporate Champion Umpqua Bank; Supporting Season Sponsors the Regional Arts and Culture Council, The Wallace Foundation, Work for Art and KINK FM. The official hotel partner for PCS is the Mark Spencer Hotel. PCS is a participant in the Wallace Foundation's [Building Audiences for Sustainability Initiative](#), a four-year effort with a nationwide cohort of 26 performing arts organizations. PCS also receives support from the Oregon Arts Commission, a state agency funded by the State of Oregon and the National Endowment for the Arts.

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