



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Media Contact: Kisha Jarrett

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THE BROADWAY HIT COMES TO PORTLAND ARTISTS REP PRESENTS LUCAS HNATH'S

A DOLL'S HOUSE, PART 2

An uproarious continuation of Ibsen's A Doll's House

WHO: Artists Repertory Theatre
WHAT: A DOLL'S HOUSE, PART 2

By Lucas Hnath

Directed by Luan Schooler

WHEN: January 27 - March 3, 2019

Preview Performances: January 27, 29- February 1

Opening Night/Press Night: Saturday, February 2 @ 7:30pm

Regular run: February 3 - March 3

Wednesdays-Sundays @ 7:30pm, Sundays @ 2pm

Additional Performances:

Tuesdays: February 19 & 26 @ 7:30pm Saturday: February 16, 23, March 2 @ 2pm

Wednesday: February 13 @ 12pm

Closed Captioned Performance: February 23 @ 2pm

Closing Performance: March 3 @ 7:30pm

WHERE: Artists Repertory Theatre, 1515 SW Morrison St. Portland, OR 97205

TICKETS: \$60 regular price; \$30 preview/student/under 35

Special Discounts:

Sliding Scale Sunday (tickets start at \$10): Sunday evening

performances

Artists Rep participates in Arts for All and the Multnomah County

<u>Library's Discovery Pass Program.</u>

Buy Tickets: 503.241.1278 or www.artistsrep.org

PREVIEW WEEK PERFORMANCE SPECIALS:

January 27: Pay-What-You-Will + pre-show music with Merideth Kaye Clark

January 29.: Ten Buck Tuesday – \$10 tickets

January 30: Wine Down Wednesday – \$30 tickets + a glass of Dark Horse Wine

January 31: Thirsty Thursday – \$30 tickets + a pint of Lagunitas beer February 1: Foodie Friday – \$30 tickets + discounted food at ArtBar

POST SHOW TALKBACKS:

Tech Talk with show designers: January 30 (after 7.30pm show)
Post Sunday Matinees: February 3, 10, 17 (after 2pm show)
Oregon Psychoanalytic Center Talk Back: February 24 (after 2pm show)
Post Wednesday Matinee: February 13 (after 12pm show)

BOOK & FILM LIST: <u>Play-inspired recommendations</u> by Multnomah County Library staff **SHOW IMAGE ATTACHED:** Design credit – Jeff Hayes, Kisha Jarrett, Mary Beth Leavens **PRODUCTION PHOTOS AVAILABLE:** <u>HERE</u>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE. Portland, Oregon | January 2019 Artists Repertory Theatre brings a Broadway hit to Portland with *A Doll's House, Part 2*. With a quick wit and razor-sharp tongue, *A Doll's House, Part 2* imagines the continuation of the house of Helmer from Henrik Ibsen's *A Doll's House*, as a deliciously gleeful trek through the complicated waters of relationships.

"A Doll's House, Part 2 is Lucas Hnath's puckish riposte to Ibsen," said **Director, Luan Schooler**. "It's a playful, feisty philosophic sparring match, testing propositions about marriage, power, gender roles, and fairness. The delight of this play is that all four characters are bracingly honest, nimble thinkers, equally capable of lobbing trenchant bombs of wit."

"One of the things I love about Lucas Hnath's irreverent, timely, and funny A Doll's House, Part 2 is that in order to be ready to enjoy it, you need only know that Nora walked out at the end of Ibsen's A Doll's House, with "the door slam heard round the world," said Artistic Director, Dámaso Rodríguez. "It's a 21st century debate about how much and how little has changed for women in the century that passed since Nora's controversial exit from the stage in Ibsen's 19th century original, with the audience serving the characters as a sounding board for their points of view."

Late Night @ Artists Rep and <u>Vortex Music Magazine</u> presents <u>Musical Interlude</u>: <u>Soul/RB</u> on February 9 at 10pm featuring Moorea Masa, Saeeda Wright, and Sarah Clarke (of Dirty Revival). These three musicians will perform songs and tell the stories behind them on the set of *A Doll's House, Part 2*.

Artists Rep's production of *A Doll's House, Part 2* is sponsored by Polly Grose and Rosalie & Ed Tank.

ABOUT THE PLAY

15 years after Norwegian house wife Nora Helmer walked out on Ibsen's Torvald, she walks back in the front door in the sequel to the 1879 social drama. In the ensuing years of her departure, Nora has become an incendiary writer — which isn't a profession that married women could perform without permission. Since her husband didn't sign the divorce papers, Nora has returned to the house she desperately sought to vacate to gain her freedom. With a quick wit and razor-sharp tongue, *A Doll's House, Part 2* imagines the continuation of the house of Helmer as a deliciously gleeful trek through the complicated waters of relationships.

"...smart, funny and utterly engrossing new play." -Ben Brantley, The New York Times

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT

Lucas Hnath's plays include Hillary and Clinton, Red Speedo, The Christians, A Public Reading of an Unproduced Screenplay About the Death of Walt Disney, Isaac's Eye, and Death Tax. His work has been produced at Actors Theatre of Louisville/Humana Festival of New Plays, Ensemble Studio Theatre, Gate Theatre, Mark Taper Forum, New York Theatre Workshop, Playwrights Horizons, Royal Court Theatre, Soho Rep, Traverse Theatre, and Victory Gardens. He has been a resident playwright at New Dramatists since 2011. He is a member of Ensemble Studio Theatre and a New York Theatre Workshop Usual Suspect. He has received the Kesselring Prize, a Guggenheim Fellowship, the Whiting Award, two Steinberg/ATCA New Play Award Citations, an Outer Critics Circle Award for Best New Play, and an Obie. His work is published by Dramatists Play Service and Overlook Press.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Luan Schooler was born in West Texas, where she trailed her big sister into dance classes and community theatre. When she was 12, the family packed up and moved to Anchorage, Alaska, where play practice and recitals continued to consume her. After being kicked out of high school, she was eventually accepted into the theatre program at CalArts. One thing led to another and a life in theatre was launched. Over the years, she morphed from acting, directing and writing, into dramaturgy and literary management. She has worked with many theatres around the country, most notably with Perseverance Theatre in Juneau, Alaska (where she met and married the marvelous Tim), Denver Center Theatre Company, Oregon Shakespeare Festival and Berkeley Rep, and developed new plays with exceptional artists including David Edgar, Naomi Iizuka, Salman Rushdie, Dominique Serrand, Leon Ingulsrud, Lisa Peterson, Paula Vogel and Molly Smith. In the Mid-Aughts, she took a sabbatical from theatre to open a cheese shop, but happily left it behind to return to theatre. In 2015, she joined Artists Rep to launch Table | Room | Stage, the theatre's new play development program. Here, she is developing work with Yussef El Guindi, Larissa FastHorse, Andrea Stolowitz, Linda Alper, Dael Orlandersmith, Hansol Jung, Steve Rathje, Anthony Hudson, and Susannah Mars. She also does production dramaturgy on most of Artists Rep's shows, recently directed *The Thanksqiving* Play here, and keeps her thumb in a variety of other pies (including working with Lisa Peterson on her translation of *Hamlet* for Oregon Shakespeare Festival's Play On! Project).

A Doll's House, Part 2

By Lucas Hnath Directed by Luan Schooler

CAST

<u>Linda Alper</u>*^ as Nora Helmer | *The Importance of Being Earnest, Marjorie Prime, The Skin of Our Teeth, The Price, Tribes, The Quality of Life, Ten Chimneys, Superior Donuts,* and *The Cherry Orchard* (Artists Rep)

Michael Mendelson*^ as Torvald Helmer | Everybody, Small Mouth Sounds, Magellanica, An Octoroon, Marjorie Prime, Trevor, Mothers and Sons, The Skin of Our Teeth, The Price, The Playboy of the Western World, Tribes, Blithe Spirit, The Quality of Life, Mistakes Were Made, Ten Chimneys, and Red Herring (Artists Rep)

<u>Vana O'Brien</u>*^ as Anne Marie | *The Humans, Marjorie Prime, Sister Mary Ignatius Explains it All For You, Long Day's Journey into Night, Top Girls, Mound Builders, Country Girls, Park Your Car in Harvard Yard, Artificial Jungle, The Laramie Project, and Superior Donuts* (Artists Rep)

<u>Barbie Wu</u>+ as Emmy | *Everybody, Magellanica* (Artists Rep), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Anonymous Theatre), *The Mermaid Hour* (Milagro), *Slavs!* (Southern Methodist University), *Mother Courage and her Children* (Oregon Contemporary Theatre)

CREATIVE TEAM

Director | Luan Schooler

Scenic/Projection Designer | Megan Wilkerson#^
Costume Designer | Bobby Brewer-Wallin^
Lighting Designer | Blanca Florzán

Sound Designer | Phil Johnson

Dramaturg | Pancho Savery

Stage Manager | Carol Ann Wohlmut*^

Props Master | Laura Savage

Wig Designer | Diane Trapp

Production Assistant | Ariela Subar

Wig Maintenance | Jael Shepherd

Board Op | Alan Cline

PRODUCTION TEAM

Producing Director | Shawn Lee
Associate Producer & Production Manager | Kristeen Willis Crosser
Casting Director | Vonessa Martin
Costume Shop Manager/Wardrobe | Clare Hungate-Hawk
Technical Director | Nathan Crone
Scene Shop Foreman | Eddie Rivera
Master Carpenter | Charlie Capps

Scenic Charge Artist | Sarah Kindler Master Electrician | Chris Stull Sound Technician | David Petersen Board Op | Alan Cline

- * Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the U.S.
- # The scenic, costume, lighting, projection & sound designers are represented by United Scenic Artists
- ~ Portland Actors Conservatory student
- ^ Artists Rep Resident Artist

ABOUT ARTISTS REPERTORY THEATRE

<u>Artists Repertory Theatre's</u> mission is to produce intimate, provocative theatre and provide a home for artists and audiences to take creative risks. Artists Rep gratefully acknowledges our theatre rests on the traditional lands of the Multnomah, Wasco, Cowlitz, Kathlamet, Clackamas, Bands of Chinook, Tualatin Kalapuya, Molalla and many other tribes who made their homes along the Columbia River.

Artists Rep is Portland's premiere mid-size regional theatre company, and is led by Artistic Director Dámaso Rodríguez and Managing Director J.S. May. Founded in 1982, Artists Repertory Theatre is the longest-running professional theatre company in Portland. Artists Rep became the 72nd member of the League of Resident Theatres (LORT) in 2016 and is an Associate Member of the National New Play Network (NNPN). Artists Rep's 2018/19 season can be found here.

Artists Rep has become a significant presence in American regional theatre with a legacy of world, national, and regional premieres of provocative new work with the highest standards of stagecraft. The organization is committed to local artists and features a company of Resident Artists, professionals of varied theatre disciplines, who are a driving force behind Artists Rep's creative output and identity.

<u>RESIDENT ARTISTS</u>—Artists Rep productions feature the work of a core group of two dozen multidisciplinary theatre professionals. Hailing from around the country, the Resident Artists are nationally renowned and award-winning actors, directors, writers, designers, and educators who have chosen to make Portland and Artists Rep their artistic home. Working together and independently, they create inventive and theatrically rich experiences for audiences while playing a major role in defining Portland's cultural landscape.

TABLE ROOM STAGE—Established in 2015, Table Room Stage (T|R|S) is Artists Rep's new play program that offers development opportunities for local and national playwrights, and ensures that underrepresented voices are heard on stage. This program strives to make a meaningful impact on diversity, equity, and inclusion in the theatre field by mandating opportunities for women writers and writers of color, and cultivating the next generation of theatre-goers. Artists Rep is committed to bringing the exciting work of women, transgender, and non-binary writers and writers of color to its stages with this program. Artists Rep's first

completed T|R|S commission was *The Talented Ones*, by Yussef El Guindi (premiered April 2017). The second T|R|S commission was *The Thanksgiving Play*, by Larissa FastHorse (Sicangu Lakota) (premiered April 2018) and went on to Playwrights Horizons. The third T|R|S commission will be *Wolf Play* by Hansol Jung (to premiere March 2019). Current playwright commissions include: Linda Alper, Dael Orlandersmith, Steve Rathje, and Andrea Stolowitz. T|R|S is also developing work with playwrights Anthony Hudson and Susannah Mars. To learn more about all the projects, playwrights, and programs of T|R|S visit here.

EDUCATION—The 2018/19 Artists Rep season launched a robust education program with a dedication to programs that help develop theatre artists and arts professionals. These education opportunities focus on engaging and elevating our community by offering professional-level classes, coaching and workshops with our Resident Artists and guest artists. These classes serve artists seeking professional development, as well as curious community members who can take classes on subjects such as dramaturgy, script-writing, acting for communication, and more. With the innovative Student Ambassador Program, students learn about the inner-workings of a major nonprofit professional theatre, meet once per month, see shows for free, and participate in discussions with leading theatre artists and professionals. The purpose of the program is to introduce students to the full range of skills and ideas that are essential to running a professional theatre and to foster the next generation of arts leaders and professionals. Access and enrichment continues for schools and educators who enjoy ticket discounts, school programming, and workshops. Artists Rep's pre- and post-show discussions have been enhanced to include post-show mingling with the cast, director and staff, and a dedicated conversation with production designers.

ARTSHUB—Artists Rep is also home to the ArtsHub, where a diverse range of artists and arts organizations find a home and thrive with access to affordable administrative, performance, and rehearsal space, as well as myriad support services. The ArtsHub serves as a community arts center, where performance venues and lobbies buzz with creative energy and Portland's arts-loving audiences gather. Over the past year, Artists Rep hosted 324 rehearsals and more than 600 performances, events, and other happenings by over 50 groups. To learn about the arts organizations of Artists Rep's ArtsHub visit here.

Artists Repertory Theatre receives generous support from our community of patrons, including significant leadership gifts from: Anonymous, The Collins Foundation, The Robert & Mercedes Eichholz Foundation, Ronni Lacroute, The James F. and Marion L. Miller Foundation, Regional Arts & Culture Council, The Shubert Foundation, and David & Christine Vernier. Additional Corporate and Foundation support comes from: Advance Gender Equity in the Arts (AGE); Hotel deLuxe; Jackson Foundation; Kinsman Foundation; Oregon Arts Commission, a State Agency; Oregon Community Foundation; Oregon Cultural Trust; The Oregonian/OregonLive (media sponsor); Rafati's Catering; Dark Horse Wine; and US Bank.