

THE PEARL

THEATRE COMPANY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE PEARL THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS

THE PHILANDERER

By Bernard Shaw

Directed by Gus Kaikkonen

PREVIEW PERFORMANCES BEGIN: January 10, 2012

OPENING NIGHT: January 22, 2012

LIMITED ENGAGEMENT ENDS: February 19, 2012

Press Previews

Thursday, January 19, 2012 at 7:30pm

Friday, January 20, 2012 at 7:30pm

Saturday, January 21, 2012 at 2:30pm and 7:30pm

NEW YORK, NY, December 21, 2011– **THE PEARL THEATRE COMPANY (J.R. Sullivan, Artistic Director)** proudly presents its new production of Bernard Shaw's comedy **THE PHILANDERER**. This provocative comedy, packed with Shavian wit, of a man-about-town and the two remarkable women in his life is directed by **Gus Kaikkonen**. Previews begin on January 10, 2012 and tickets are currently on sale through CityTix® and at NYCityCenter.org.

A social satire once considered too shocking for the general public (withheld twelve years before censors allowed a performance), **THE PHILANDERER** follows the misadventures of Leonard Charteris, whose simultaneous involvement with two women wreaks havoc on his social life while sharpening his wit. Reputedly a self-portrait, the comedy is a satire on Shaw's own pet causes: intellectual freedom in the Ibsenite manner and Feminism as celebrated in the Shavian manner.

"This rarely produced comedy is a gem," according to Pearl Artistic Director J. R. Sullivan, "and it is a joy to present it. It is what comedy should always be: relevant, witty, surprising, and astonishingly fresh."

The Philanderer marks the sixth production directed by **GUS KAIKKONEN** for The Pearl. Previous productions for the company include *Tartuffe*, *Arms and the Man*, and *The Gentleman Dancing-Master*. Other New York credits include *Doctor Knock, or the Triumph of Medicine* and *The Voysey Inheritance* at the Mint Theater, and *Antigone* and *Art* for the Phoenix Theatre Ensemble. Regionally, he has directed at Merrimack Rep, Goodspeed

Opera House, Geva Theatre, Ford's Theatre, and the Philadelphia Theatre Company. Mr. Kaikkonen is the Aritstic Director of the Peterborough Players in New Hampshire.

The Cast

As previously announced, the cast features five members of The Pearl's Resident Acting Company. **Rachel Botchan** (Grace Tranfield), a member of the company since 2000, was seen this season at The Pearl in the critically acclaimed *The Bald Soprano* and recently at Two River Theater Company in *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*. **Bradford Cover** (Leonard Charteris), a company member since 1996, has performed regionally and on Broadway in the 2001 revival of *A Thousand Clowns* and this season in The Pearl's *The Bald Soprano*. **Dominic Cuskern** (Mr. Cuthbertson), a member of the company since 2000, can currently be seen in The Pearl's *Richard II*, and appeared last season in *The Misanthrope*, *Rosmersholm*, and *The Sneeze*. **Dan Daily** (Colonel Craven), a Pearl company member since 1998, was also featured in *The Bald Soprano* and has appeared off-Broadway with The New Group, Keen Company, and Classic Stage Company. **Chris Mixon** (Dr. Paramore), the newest Pearl company member, is appearing in *Richard II* as Thomas Mowbray and the Earl of Northumberland and was seen last season in *Wittenberg*. He has been seen regionally at the Denver Center Theatre Company, Two River Theater Company, and the Utah Shakespeare Festival.

Joining The Pearl's resident company members are three guest actors. **Shalita Grant** (Sylvia Craven) is making her debut with The Pearl and has appeared in Shakespeare in the Park's productions of *Measure for Measure*, *The Winter's Tale*, and *The Merchant of Venice*. **Karron Graves** (Julia Craven), a Pearl newcomer, has been seen on Broadway in *Coram Boy* and off-Broadway at Lincoln Center Theater and Manhattan Theatre Club. Her film credits include "The Crucible," with Daniel Day-Lewis and television appearances on "Law & Order" and "Monk." **Chris Richards** (Page Boy) will be making his Pearl mainstage debut after being a part of the Pearl's Acting Apprentice program last season. He has also appeared regionally at the Ohio Shakespeare Festival and Great Lakes Theater.

Production Team

The production team includes: **Jo Winiarski**, scenic design; **Sam Fleming**, costume design; **Stephen Petrilli**, lighting design; **Jane Shaw**, sound design; **Rod Kinter**, fight direction. The stage manager is **Erin Albrecht** and the dramaturg is **Kate Farrington**.

About The Pearl Theatre Company

The Pearl Theatre Company is dedicated to playing a vital role in the cultural life of New York City and its surrounding region by creating productions that examine, explore, and illuminate the human condition. The Pearl is an artistic home for a diverse company of theatre professionals, especially a core company of resident actors. The Pearl provides engagement opportunities that both educate and enrich the experiences of artists, students, and audiences. Last season, The Pearl received a 2011 Lortel Award nomination for best revival (for *The*

Misanthrope), and a special 2011 Drama Desk award for "notable productions of classic plays and nurturing a stalwart resident company of actors."

The 2011-2012 Resident Acting Company consists of veterans of the New York and regional stages including: Jolly Abraham, Rachel Botchan, Robin Leslie Brown, Bradford Cover, Dominic Cuskern, Dan Daily, Robert Hock, Sean McNall, Chris Mixon, Carol Schultz, Edward Seamon, and Lee Stark.

The Pearl's is supported, in part, by public funds from the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York State Council on the Arts, and the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs. Additionally, The Pearl receives major support from the Fund for the City of New York, the Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust, Bloomberg Philanthropies, the Shubert Foundation, and the Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation.

Following **THE PHILANDERER**, The Pearl's season will conclude with **A MOON FOR THE MISBEGOTTEN** by Eugene O'Neill in March.

2011-2012 Ticketing and Performance Information

The Pearl Theatre Company provides a variety of ticketing options for the performance space at New York City Center, including season subscription packages.

For **subscription tickets** and information, contact The Pearl's Subscriber Services at **212-598-9802** or visit www.pearltheatre.org.

Single tickets can be purchased through New York City Center by calling **CityTix®** at **212-581-1212**, going online to www.NYCityCenter.org. Tickets will be available for purchase at the City Center Box Office (131 West 55th Street between 6th and 7th Avenues) beginning September 6.

Production Schedule:

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 7:30PM; Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday at 2:30PM.

There will be a 7:30 performance on Sunday, January 15.

Previews begin January 10, 2012 at 7:30PM. Opening night is Sunday, January 22, 2012 at 7:30PM.

Regular Ticket Prices:

Tickets begin at \$39.

Senior Discount: \$30 tickets can be purchased in advance of each performance by people 65 and older. Tickets can be purchased over the phone through CityTix® or at the box office. 2 tickets per valid ID (with date of birth), which must be presented at time of pick-up.

Student Rush: \$15 tickets can be purchased on the day of the performance only, 2 hours prior to curtain time at the box office, subject to availability, by students with a valid student ID. 2 tickets per I.D.

Thursday Rush: \$20 tickets are available to anyone for Thursday evening performances on the day of performance only, 2 hours prior to curtain time at the box office, subject to availability. 1 ticket per person.

Groups of ten or more receive 20% off single tickets. Contact The Pearl's Audience Services Manager at 212.598.9802 for details.

Tuesday Talk Post-Performance Discussion:

These in-depth discussions give audiences the opportunity to participate in intimate talk-backs led by published scholars and experts within their fields. Tuesday Talks during **THE PHILANDERER** will take place following the performances on January 24, 2012 and January 31, 2012.

Directions:

The company performs its 2011-2012 Season at New York City Center Stage II, located at 131 West 55th Street (between 6th and 7th Avenues) in midtown Manhattan.

New York City Center can be reached by taking the N/Q/R to 57th St/7th Ave, the F to 57th St/6th Ave, the D/E to 7th Ave/53rd St, the A/B/C/D/1 to 59th St at Columbus Circle, the C to 50th St/8th Ave, or the 1 to 50th St/7th Ave.

By Bus m1, m2, m3, m4, m5, m6, m7, m10, m20, m31, m57, m104

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