

THE PEARL

THEATRE COMPANY

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THE PEARL THEATRE COMPANY PRESS CONTACT:

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**THE PEARL THEATRE COMPANY ANNOUNCES
AUSTIN PENDLETON
TO BE FEATURED IN ROSMERSHOLM IN NOVEMBER.**

NEW YORK, NY, August 9, 2010 – **THE PEARL THEATRE COMPANY (J.R. Sullivan, Artistic Director; Shira Beckerman, Managing Director)** has announced that actor and director **Austin Pendleton** will be featured in the company's November production of Henrik Ibsen's **ROSMERSHOLM** as Professor Kroll. The production will be directed, as previously announced, by Elinor Renfield and run at New York City Center Stage II. Single tickets go on sale August 23.

Austin Pendleton's wide-ranging career has spanned theatre, television, and film as an actor, director, and playwright. Mr. Pendleton has appeared on Broadway in *Fiddler on the Roof*, *The Little Foxes*, and *The Diary of Anne Frank*, among others. He directed the 1981 production of *The Little Foxes*, starring Elizabeth Taylor that earned him a Tony Award nomination. Mr. Pendleton has written the plays *Uncle Bob*, *Booth*, and *Orson's Shadow*, all produced off-Broadway. Previously the Artistic Director of Circle Repertory Theatre, he is an ensemble member of the Steppenwolf Theatre in Chicago, where he will be directing *Detroit* this fall, and teaches at HB Studio in Greenwich Village. Previously at The Pearl, Mr. Pendleton directed *Toys in the Attic* (2007) and *Vieux Carré* (2009).

"The Pearl Theatre company is delighted that Austin Pendleton will be featured onstage in this fall's *Rosmersholm*," said Artistic Director J.R. Sullivan. "This distinguished actor is one of the great treasures of the American theatre and we know that his performance in Ibsen's remarkable drama will be a great highlight in the Pearl's new season at the New York City Center."

Joining Mr. Pendleton is guest director **Elinor Renfield**. Currently the Chair of the Graduate Directing Program at The New School for Drama, Ms. Renfield has directed extensively both in New York and regionally. Her credits include *Open Admission* on Broadway at the Music Box Theatre, *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* at Goodspeed Opera House, *The Seagull* at Circle Rep, *Passion Play* at the Minetta Lane Theatre, and *Suddenly Last Summer* at Barrington Stage Company. Ms. Renfield began directing professionally in 1976 with *The Sorrows of Frederick* by Romulus Linney and featuring **Austin Pendleton**.

ROSMERSHOLM will begin previews at the New York City Center Stage II on November 12, 2010 with performances continuing through December 19, 2010. The Pearl's **ROSERSHOLM** will be the American premiere of a new version of Ibsen's play as adapted by Mike Poulton, first seen in 2008 at the Almeida Theatre in London. This play was last produced off-Broadway in New York at Classic Stage Company in 1977 and last seen on Broadway in 1935.

Founded in 1984, The Pearl Theatre is a New York City repertory company of resident actors that produces a full range of plays rooted in the classic tradition, impacting over 30,000 artists and audiences each year. Over its 26-year history, The Pearl has been awarded with a 1992 Obie grant for Continued Artistic Excellence; a special Obie Award for Sustained Excellence of Performance; a sweep of Actors' Equity Association's awards for Performance in Classical Plays; an American Theatre Wing grant for consistent commitment to excellence in the professional theatre; and the Board of Education's Friend of Manhattan High Schools Award for Classics in the Classroom, the Pearl's Arts-in-Education initiative which has allowed thousands of New York City high school students to experience classical theatre.

The Pearl performs at New York City Center's Stage II. **ROSMERSHOLM** will be the second production in the 2010-2011 season, which will begin with Chekhov's **THE SNEEZE** on September 17, 2010. The season will continue with **THE MISANTHROPE** by Molière in January 2011 and conclude with David Davalos' contemporary comedy **WITTENBERG**.

Subscriptions for the 2010-2011 season are currently available and can be purchased by calling **212-598-9802** or going online to www.pearltheatre.org. Single tickets for all of The Pearl's productions will be on sale through CityTix® at **212-581-1212** and online at www.nycitycenter.org beginning August 23.

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