



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Two River Theater Company

presents

Mary's Wedding

By **Stephen Massicotte**

Directed by **Daniel Goldstein**

February 3 – February 22, 2009

Red Bank, NJ – Two River Theater Company presents **STEPHEN MASSICOTTE'S** touching love story ***Mary's Wedding***. Set against the backdrop of the Canadian Cavalry in WWI, this moving and magical play lives at the threshold between fact and fantasy, where nothing is exactly as it seems, memory slips easily into romance, and love and loss intermingle forever. This heart-tugging dreamscape begins previews on **Tuesday, February 3**, opens **Saturday, February 7**, and runs through **Sunday, February 22**.

"*Mary's Wedding* is a gem of a play," says TRTC's Artistic Director **AARON POSNER**. "It is a small wonder that captures the beauty and fragility of life and young love. Romance is very much alive in *Mary's Wedding*. I am thrilled to have a visionary director like **Danny Goldstein** who is one of the hottest young directors in America right now. He saw **Joe Binder** and **Erin Weaver** in *Our Town* here at TRTC and was as excited as we were to see them take on these wonderful roles together. *Mary's Wedding* is a joy to behold, a gem, a jewel, a tiny wonder."

Canadian Playwright STEPHEN MASSICOTTE'S award winning plays *Looking After Eden*, *A Farewell to Kings*, *Pervert* and the *Star Wars* inspired *Boy's Own Jedi Handbook* series have played for audiences throughout Canada. In 2002, *Mary's Wedding* premiered at Alberta Theatre Projects' annual playRites Festival and was the winner of the 2000 Alberta Playwriting Competition, the 2002 Betty Mitchell Award for Best New Play and the 2003 Alberta Book Award for Drama. His play *The Oxford Roof Climber's Rebellion* won the 2007 Canadian Author's Association Award for Best English Language Play and the 2007 Alberta Book Award for Drama. Massicotte's feature film writing credits include *Ginger Snaps Back: The Beginning* and *The Dark*.

Making his Two River Theater Company debut is **Director DANIEL GOLDSTEIN**. New Jersey theater credits include the acclaimed revival of *Godspell* at the Paper Mill Playhouse. New York credits include *Lower Ninth*, *The Flea*; *Walmartopia*, *Minetta Lane*; *Indoor/Outdoor*, DR2; and *But I'm a Cheerleader*, NYMF. Regional credits include the IRNE Award winning revival of *Falsettos*, *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* and *The Cry of the Reed*, at Huntington Theater Company and *The Servant of Two Masters* at the Pittsburgh Public Theater. He was the recipient of an inaugural Calderwood Commission from the Huntington Theater Company, for which he is writing an original WWI musical called *Unknown Soldier* with Michael Friedman.

Two River Theater Company audiences will remember actors **JOSEPH BINDER** (Off-Broadway: *The 4th Graders Present an Unnamed Love-Suicide*, *Molly's Delicious*, Arizona Theatre Company; *The Chosen*, Steppenwolf Theatre; *Master Harold and the Boys*, Illinois Theatre Center; *Ira Glass vs. Beau O'Reilly*, Art Institute of Chicago) and **ERIN WEAVER** (*A Murder*, *A Mystery*, and *A Marriage*, TRTC; *The Tempest*, Folger Shakespeare Theatre in DC; *Cinderella*, *Treasure Island*, *Robin Hood*, *Jack and the Beanstalk*, *Sleeping Beauty*, People's Light and Theatre Co.) from their heartbreaking turns as George and Emily in last season's *Our Town*. They are reunited in *Mary's Wedding* to play young lovers Charlie and Mary.

Led by **Scenic Designer DONYALE WERLE** (*Broke-ology*, Williamstown 08 and Lincoln Center's Mitzi E. Newhouse 09; *Lower Ninth*, *Flea*; *Princess of Burgundia*, Julliard; *Four Saints/In Mexico*, NYU), the design team includes **Costume Designer JENNY MANNIS** (*Port Authority*, *The Intelligent Design of Jenny Chow*, Atlantic Theater Company; *The Drunken City*, *Pen*, *Manic Flight Reaction*, Playwrights Horizons; *Something You Did*, *The Right Kind of People*, Primary Stages), **Lighting Designer BEN STANTON**, **Sound Designer BART FASBENDER** (*A Body of Water*, Primary Stages; *Three Changes* and *The Drunken City*, Playwrights Horizons; *Port Authority*, The Atlantic; *Animals Out of Paper*, Second Stage; *Unconditional* and *A View From 151st Street*, LAByrinth; *underground*, BAM) and **Music Composer CHRIS MILLER** (*The Burnt Part Boys*, Barrington Stage Co.; *The Mysteries of Harris Burdick*).

Great Romances of Poetry, a special event co-hosted by TRTC Executive Producer **ROBERT M. RECHNITZ** and Monmouth University Assistant Dean of Humanities **MICHAEL THOMAS**, will be held at the theater on **Thursday, February 5 at 6:30pm**. Complete with champagne and cake, ***Great Romances of Poetry*** is a **free** event open to the public. Support is provided by the Two River Theater Company and Monmouth University Higher Learning Partnership. To reserve tickets, call the box office directly at 732.345.1400.

Mary's Wedding runs **Tuesday, February 3** through **Sunday, February 22**. **Tickets are \$34 - \$60** and \$24 for patrons 21 years and younger. For more information, call 732.345.1400, visit www.trtc.org or visit the Two River Theater Company Box Office, located at 21 Bridge Avenue in Red Bank. Three-show subscriptions for

the remainder of the 2008/2009 season are still available. Subscription prices are \$93 - \$160. **Discounted group rates** and **dinner / theater packages** are available by calling TRTC's Sales Hotline at 732.345.1400 extension 813. Box Office Hours: Monday-Saturday: 10am-6pm; Sunday: Noon-5pm

Before Play, TRTC's **free, pre-show discussion series**, is scheduled 45 minutes prior to every performance. Hosted by **KJ SANCHEZ**, TRTC's Associate Artistic Director, this window into the creative process will explore the design process from start to finish. Sanchez will touch on all design aspects including scenic, costume, lighting, sound, and music composition.

Post-show discussions follow the 8pm performance on **Wednesday, February 11**, and the matinees on **Sunday, February 15** at 3pm and **Wednesday, February 18** at 1pm. **Student matinee performances** are scheduled on **Tuesdays, February 10** and **February 17** at 10am.

TRTC is accessible to people with disabilities, including wheelchair accessibility, assistive listening devices and large print programs at every performance. Accessible seating is available by reservation. For more information call the Box Office at **732.345.1400**.

CALENDAR NOTICE

Special Events for *Mary's Wedding*:

Tuesday, February 3, 8pm – Community preview performance sponsored by Zager, Fuchs, PC. More than 100 complimentary tickets are made available to local nonprofit organizations for their staff, volunteers and constituents. Nonprofit organizations receiving tickets to *Mary's Wedding* are the Shrewsbury Chorale and the Ronald McDonald House.

Thursday, February 5, 6:30pm – *Great Romances of Poetry*, co-hosted by TRTC Executive Producer **Robert M. Rechnitz** and Monmouth University Assistant Dean of Humanities **Michael Thomas**. This **free event**, supported by the Two River Theater Company and Monmouth University Higher Learning Partnership, features readings of great romantic poetry, champagne, and cake. To reserve tickets, call the box office directly at 732.345.1400.

Saturday, February 7, 8pm – Opening Night performance of *Mary's Wedding*. A celebration in the theater's lobby, sponsored by **Fidelity Investments**, will follow the show.

Wednesday, February 11, 8pm; Sunday, February 15, 3pm; Wednesday, February 18, 1pm – Post-show discussions led by a member of the artistic staff will follow each performance.

Thursday, February 19, 8pm – An audio-described performance is scheduled. Tickets are \$14 for those needing audio-description. Call 732.345.1400.

Members of the press are invited to the opening night performance of *Mary's Wedding* on **Saturday, February 7 at 8pm**. Please schedule tickets through Jayme Powers, Director of Communications, by phone at **732.345.1400 extension 830** or via email at jpowers@trtc.org.

WHERE:

Two River Theater Company
21 Bridge Street
Red Bank, NJ 07701

WHEN:

February 3 – February 22, 2009

HOW MUCH:

\$34 - \$60
\$24 - 21 years and younger

WHO:

By **Stephen Massicotte**
Directed by **Daniel Goldstein**
Scenic Design by **Donyale Werle**
Costume Design by **Jenny Mannis**
Lighting Design by **Ben Stanton**
Sound Design by **Bart Fasbender**
Composer **Chris Miller**
Production Stage Manager **Lisa McGinn**

CAST:

JOSEPH BINDER*...Charlie
ERIN WEAVER*...Mary

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TWO RIVER THEATER COMPANY is a professional not-for-profit regional theater company, providing outstanding plays and educational programs for audiences of central New Jersey and beyond. TRTC was founded in 1994 by Robert and Joan Rechnitz and over the past 14 seasons has grown into one of the most vital and dynamic arts organizations in the region. Since opening its new theater in May of 2005, TRTC has hosted a number of luminaries and award winners, including Bruce Springsteen, Olympia Dukakis, Jackson Browne, Jon Bon Jovi, Edward Albee, Sheldon Harnick, and the African Children's Choir. The company received "Theatre of the Year" awards from the New Jersey Theatre Alliance in 2006, and from *The Star-Ledger* in both 2006 and 2008. TRTC is supported in part by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Dept. of State, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, and contributions from hundreds of local and national corporations, foundations, businesses and individuals. Two River Theater Company is a member of Theatre Communications Group and the New Jersey Theatre Alliance.