



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Two River Theater Company presents

THE PAVILION

By Craig Wright • Directed by Aaron Posner

January 17 – February 4, 2007

Aaron Posner, TRTC's *new Artistic Director*, makes his Red Bank debut.

(Media Interviews Available – Call 732.345.1400 x830)

Red Bank, NJ – From January 17 through February 4, Two River Theater Company will present **Craig Wright's *The Pavilion*** directed by TRTC's new Artistic Director **Aaron Posner**. *The Pavilion* is a sad, funny, and highly theatrical tale about love, loss, and hope. From the creation of the universe to a 20th high school reunion in tiny Pine City, Minnesota, Craig Wright's play is a "lyrical discourse on missed chances and lost opportunities." (*New York Times*) Humor, sadness and universal truths from the Emmy-nominated writer of *Lost* and *Six Feet Under* creates "one of those exhilarating, cathartic plays that made you want to go into theatre in the first place" (*BackStage*).

Aaron Posner, Two River Theater Company's new Artistic Director, explains why he chose this play: "I wanted my first show at Two River to be something I really believe in, something that I have an investment in. This is a play I work shopped with Craig for two years before we did the premiere in Pittsburgh seven years ago. I have been an active participant in its growth and success, and it is a play that I believe is truly worthwhile. So it seemed a perfect way to start things here. Plus **Craig Wright** is my favorite living playwright. His work speaks to me in simple and profound ways. He explores the things that bind us together and the things that pull us apart – the big issues that make up the texture of our lives. And he does it while being funny, reverent, irreverent and smart, all at the same time. His plays are the best kind of juggling acts."

Craig Wright is a prolific, award-winning playwright who has also written *Main Street*, *Orange Flower Water*, *Recent Tragic Events*, *Molly's Delicious*, *Melissa Arctic* (Helen Hayes Award for Outstanding New Play), and *Grace*. He is the recipient of fellowships from the McKnight Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts. Wright currently writes for TV's *Brothers & Sisters*.

The cast of three includes the former sweethearts portrayed by **Kate Eastwood Norris** (regional credits include numerous Shakespeare productions, plus two Helen Hayes award nominations for Outstanding Lead Actress) and **Erik Steele** (last seen as Cleante in TRTC's *Tartuffe*. Off-Broadway credits include *Hedda Gabler*, *Bloody Poetry*, *A Floating Roof*, *The Rivals*, and *Macbeth*). **Andrew Polk** (Broadway Tour of

Biloxi Blues, Off-Broadway credits include *Flight*, *Critical Darling*, *The Odyssey*, *Vick's Boy*, *The Truth Teller*, *Scaring The Fish*, and *The Ash Fire*) will be The Narrator as well as a dozen other characters.

The production will feature scenic design by **David P. Gordon** (winner of three Barrymore Awards, Elliot Norton Award, IRNE and CT Critics Circle Award nominations), lighting design by **Deb Sullivan**, costume design by **Devon Painter**, and sound design by **James Sugg** (winner of four Barrymores for Outstanding Sound Design and the F. Otto Haas Award for Emerging Theater Artist).

The Pavilion begins previews on Wednesday, January 17; opens Saturday, January 20; and runs through Sunday, February 4. Tickets are \$30 - \$54 and are available by contacting the TRTC Box Office at **732.345.1400** or by visiting the box office at 21 Bridge Avenue in Red Bank. TRTC has scheduled an **audio described performance** on Thursday, February 1 at 8pm. **Post-show discussions** are scheduled following the matinees on Wednesdays, January 24 and January 31, and following the 8pm performance on Saturday, January 28. **Discounted group rates** are available through the Box Office or by calling TRTC's Director of Sales Sydney Mehrlander at 732.345.1400 ext 813.

TRTC is accessible to people with disabilities, including wheelchair accessibility, assisted 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**.

WHERE:

Two River Theater Company
21 Bridge Street, Red Bank

WHEN:

January 17 – February 4, 2007

Members of the press: Are invited to the opening night performance on Saturday, January 20. Please schedule tickets through Jayme Powers, Director of Marketing, at **732.345.1400 x830** or via email at jpowers@trtc.org.

WHO:

Written by **Craig Wright**
Directed by **Aaron Posner**
Scenic Design by **David P. Gordon**
Costume Design by **Devon Painter**
Lighting Design by **Deb Sullivan**
Sound Design by **James Sugg**

CAST:

Kari – **Kate Eastwood Norris**
Peter – **Erik Steele**
Narrator – **Andrew Polk**

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Two River Theater Company, under the leadership of Executive Producer Robert M. Rechnitz was founded in 1994 as Monmouth County's first professional regional theater in 30 years. Over the past 12 seasons, TRTC has grown into one of New Jersey's most vital arts organizations combining the production values of Broadway with the very real human values of education, enlightenment, and the betterment of our community through artistic exploration. TRTC has presented professional (Actors' Equity Association) productions of the highest quality to an ever-expanding audience while performing at Monmouth University in West Long Branch, Algonquin Arts Theater in Manasquan, and at the current location at the new state-of-the-art venue at 21 Bridge Avenue in Red Bank. Two River's mission is to perform from the world body of dramatic literature, including new works, those plays which most richly direct our gaze to the life of the human spirit in all of its shifting modes, its thought, its suffering, its passion, its joy and laughter. As one of New Jersey's leading regional theaters, Two River Theater Company, a not-for-profit arts organization, is supported in part by grants from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Dept. of State, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, and The Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, in addition to contributions from many corporations, foundations, businesses and individuals. Two River Theater Company is a member of Theatre Communications Group and the New Jersey Theatre Alliance.