CASTING IS COMPLETE FOR WAR PAINT, A NEW MUSICAL STARRING PATTI LUPOONE AND CHRISTINE EBERSOLE, PREMIERING AT GOODMAN THEATRE JUNE 28 – AUGUST 14, 2016

(Chicago, IL) Goodman Theatre announces the full company for War Paint, a new musical starring two-time Tony Award winners Patti LuPone and Christine Ebersole as cosmetics titans Helena Rubinstein and Elizabeth Arden, respectively. As previously announced, John Dossett portrays Tommy Lewis, Miss Arden’s husband and chief marketing manager, and Douglas Sills portrays Harry Fleming, Madame Rubinstein’s clubby confidante and faithful ally. Completing the cast of the world premiere production are Mary Ernster, Leslie Donna Flesner, David Girolmo, Joanna Glushak, Chris Hoch, Mary Claire King, Steffanie Leigh, Erik Liberman, Barbara Marineau, Stephanie Jae Park and Angel Reda.

A world premiere musical by librettist Doug Wright, composer Scott Frankel and lyricist Michael Korie, War Paint tells the story of Helena Rubinstein (LuPone) and Elizabeth Arden (Ebersole), who defined beauty standards for the first half of the 20th Century. Brilliant innovators with humble roots, both women were masters of self-invention who sacrificed everything to become the country’s first major female entrepreneurs. They were also fierce competitors, whose 50-year tug-of-war would give birth to an industry. From Fifth Avenue society to the halls of Congress, their remarkable rivalry was ruthless, relentless and legendary—pushing both women to build international empires in a world dominated by men. Michael Greif directs and Christopher Gattelli choreographs. The musical is inspired by the book, War Paint, by Lindy Woodhead, and the documentary film, The Powder & the Glory, by Ann Carol Grossman and Arnie Reisman. The design team includes David Korins (set design), Catherine Zuber (costume design), Kenneth Posner (lighting design) and Brian Ronan (sound design), as well as Bruce Coughlin (orchestration) and Lawrence Yurman (music director).

War Paint runs June 28 – August 14 (Opening Night is Monday, July 18) in the Goodman’s 856-seat Albert Theatre. For tickets, call 312.443.3800 or visit GoodmanTheatre.org/WarPaint. Group savings are available for parties of 15 or more; call 312.443.3820 or email Groups@GoodmanTheatre.org. Special performances include Open-Captioned on July 30 at 2pm; an ASL-Interpreted on August 4 at 7:30pm and Audio-Described on August 6 at 2pm. The Goodman is grateful for the generosity of its sponsors. Allstate Insurance Company and JPMorgan Chase are Major Corporate Sponsors and ComEd is the Official Lighting Sponsor of War Paint.

Bios for the cast appear below; bios and headshots for all artists can be found in the Press Room.

ABOUT THE CAST

Patti LuPone (Helena Rubinstein) most recently starred in Douglas Carter Beane’s Shows for Days, directed by Jerry Zaks, at Lincoln Center Theater. Her New York stage credits include Anna 1 in The Seven Deadly Sins (guest soloist with the NY City Ballet); Joanne in Company (NY Philharmonic); David Mamet’s The Anarchist; Woman on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown (Tony, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle Award nominations); Gypsy (Tony, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle and Drama League Awards); John Doyle’s production of Sweeney Todd (Tony, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle Award nominations); Passion; Candide; Can Can; Noises Off; Sweeney Todd (NY Philharmonic); The Old Neighborhood; Master Class; Patti LuPone on Broadway (Outer Critics Circle Award); Pal Joey; Anything Goes (Tony Award nomination, Drama Desk Award); Oliver!; Accidental Death of An Anarchist; The Woods; Edmond; The Cradle Will Rock; Evita (Tony and Drama Desk Awards); Working; The Water Engine; and The Robber Bridegroom (Tony Award and Drama Desk nominations). London credits include Matters of the Heart, Master Class, Sunset Boulevard
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( Olivier Award nomination) and Les Misérables (Royal Shakespeare Company world premiere production) and The Cradle Will Rock (Olivier Award for both productions). Opera credits include Jake Heggie’s To Hell and Back (San Francisco’s Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra, for the Los Angeles Opera), John Corigliano’s The Ghosts of Versailles and Brecht-Weill’s The Rise and Fall of the City of Mahagonny (LA Opera debut) and Marc Blitzstein’s Regina (Kennedy Center). Films include Parker, Union Square, City by the Sea, David Mamet’s Heist and State and Main, Just Looking, Summer of Sam, Driving Miss Daisy and Witness. TV credits include Penny Dreadful, Girls, American Horror Story: Coven, Ugly Betty, Will & Grace, Passion, and Sweeney Todd, Oz, Monday Night Mayhem, Evening At the Pops with John Williams and Yo Yo Ma, Frasier (Emmy Award nomination), Law & Order, The Water Engine, L.B.J. and Life Goes On. Recordings, in addition to original cast recordings include Patti LuPone Live, Matters of the Heart, The Lady With The Torch, Patti LuPone at Les Mouches and Far Away Places. LuPone is a founding member of the Drama Division of The Juilliard School and of John Houseman’s The Acting Company. She is the author of the New York Times best-seller, Patti LuPone: A Memoir.

Christine Ebersole (Elizabeth Arden), a native of Winnetka, received virtually every off-Broadway award and her second Tony Award for Leading Actress in a Musical for her dual performance as Edith Beale and Little Edie Beale in Grey Gardens. Other Broadway credits include her Tony Award-winning performance as Dorothy Brock in the smash hit revival 42nd Street, Dinner at Eight (Tony and Outer Critics Circle Award nominations), Steel Magnolias, On the Twentieth Century, I Love My Wife, Angel Street, Oklahoma, Camelot opposite Richard Burton, The Best Man and the recent revival of Noel Coward’s Blithe Spirit, co-starring with Dame Angela Lansbury. She has starred in five City Center Encores! productions, and received an Obie Award and a Drama Desk Award nomination for her work in Alan Bennett’s Talking Heads. Ebersole has appeared in over 20 feature films including The Wolf Of Wall Street, Amadeus, Tootsie, Richie Rich, Black Sheep, My Favorite Martian, Dead Again, Folks!, True Crime, My Girl 2 and The Big Wedding, which also features an original composition that she wrote and sang for the end credits of the film. Her television credits include being a regular cast member of Saturday Night Live's 1981-82 season, the First Lady on the CBS hit show Madame Secretary, Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt, American Horror Story: Coven, Royal Pains, three seasons of Sullivan and Son for TBS, Ugly Betty, Law and Order: SVU, Boston Legal, Will & Grace, and she starred as Tessie Tura in the TV movie Gypsy with Bette Midler. Ebersole has performed in the concert version of the opera The Grapes of Wrath at Carnegie Hall, and she appeared with the San Francisco Symphony at Carnegie Hall in a tribute to Leonard Bernstein. She performed at Boston’s Symphony Hall and Tanglewood starring as Desiree Armfeldt in a concert version of A Little Night Music with the Boston Pops. In televised concerts, she has often appeared on PBS, including her star turns in Ira Gershwin at 100: A Celebration at Carnegie Hall and The Rodgers & Hart Story: Thou Swell, Thou Witty. She has performed on the Kennedy Center Honors, for Andrew Lloyd Webber and Jerry Herman. As a recording artist, she has released several albums including Live at the Cinegrill, Sunday in New York, In Your Dreams, Christine Ebersole Sings Noel Coward and Strings Attached.

John Dossett’s (Tommy Lewis) Broadway credits include Chicago, Pippin, Newsies, Mamma Mia!, The Constant Wife, Democracy, Gypsy (Tony and Drama Desk Award nominations), Dinner at Eight, The Adventures of Tom Sawyer, Ragtime, Prelude to a Kiss, Mastergate, Fifth of July and King of Schnorrers. Off-Broadway credits include Giant (The Public Theater/Dallas Theater Center, Drama Desk Award nomination); Down the Road and White People (Atlantic Theater Company); Saved! (Playwrights Horizons); Hello Again and The Clean House (Lincoln Center Theater); Poster of Cosmos, Sunshine, Reckless, Child Byron and The Diviners (Circle Repertory Theatre) and Trudy Blue (MCC Theatre). National tour credits include Kiss of the Spider Woman.

Douglas Sills (Harry Fleming) received Tony and Drama Desk Award nominations for his performance as the title character in The Scarlet Pimpernel on Broadway. Additional Broadway credits include Living on Love opposite Renee Fleming and Little Shop of Horrors (Drama League Award). National tour credits include The Scarlet Pimpernel (Ovation Award), The Addams Family, The Secret Garden and Into the Woods. Off-Broadway credits include My Favorite Year (York Theatre); Lady Be Good, Music in the Air and Carnival (Encores!); On the 20th Century and Mr. Magoo’s Christmas Carol (The Actors Fund) and Moonlight & Magnolias (Manhattan Theatre Club). Regional theater credits include His Girl Friday (La Jolla Playhouse), Ride the Tiger (Long Wharf Theater), White Noise (Royal George Theatre), Peter Pan (Paper Mill Playhouse), She Loves Me (Westport Country Playhouse), A Little Night Music.
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(Kennedy Center), Much Ado About Nothing (South Coast Repertory), Mack & Mabel (Reprise LA) and numerous leading roles for the California Shakespeare Festival.

Mary Ernster returns to the Goodman, where she previously appeared in The House of Martin Guerre, Another Midsummer Night and three seasons of A Christmas Carol. Ernster has won Jeff Awards for The King and I (Marriott Theatre) and Me and My Girl (Candlelight Dinner Playhouse), and received Jeff nominations for 1776 and The Light in the Piazza (Marriott Theatre), Wings (Apple Tree Theatre) and The Most Happy Fella (Drury Lane Theatre). Additional Chicago credits include The Murdered Sherlock Holmes (Mercy Theatre), My Fair Lady (Paramount Arts Center), The Merry Widow (Lyric Opera of Chicago), The Dead (Court Theatre), Beauty and the Beast (Chicago Shakespeare Theater) and Much Ado About Nothing (First Folio Theatre).

Leslie Donna Flesner makes her Goodman Theatre debut. Broadway credits include An American in Paris, Honeymoon in Vegas, Rodgers and Hammerstein’s Cinderella, Chaplin, Follies and Finian's Rainbow. Off-Broadway credits include Fanny and Finian's Rainbow with Encores! Opera credits include Die Fledermaus at The Metropolitan Opera. Television credits include the 68th and 69th Annual Tony Awards, Boardwalk Empire and The Knick. Regional credits include Paper Mill Playhouse, The Muny, Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera and North Shore Music Theater.

David Girolmo returns to the Goodman, where he previously appeared in The House of Martin Guerre, A Christmas Carol and A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum. Chicago credits include work with Drury Lane Theatre, Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Porchlight Music Theatre, Marriott Theatre, Paramount Theatre, Ravinia Festival, Theatre at the Center, Candlelight Dinner Playhouse, Mercury Theatre, Mayfair Theatre, Metropolis Performing Arts Center and Oak Park Festival. Girolmo received a Jeff Award for Phantom! and is a multiple nominee in both musical and play categories. Broadway credits include Candide, directed by Hal Prince.

Joanna Glushak’s Broadway credits include A Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder, Sunday in the Park with George, Les Misérables, Hairspray, Urinetown, Rags, Welcome to the Club, Conversations with my Father and Sweet Smell of Success. Additional New York credits include A Little Night Music and The Most Happy Fella with New York City Opera. National tour credits include Young Frankenstein, Xanadu, Evita and Fiddler on the Roof.

Chris Hoch’s Broadway credits include Amazing Grace, Matilda, La Cage aux Folles, Shrek, Spamalot, Dracula and Beauty and the Beast. Off-Broadway credits include Far From Heaven (Playwrights Horizons), Die Mommie Diel!, Play It Cool and Face the Music (Encores!). National tours include Mary Poppins and Beauty and the Beast. Regional credits include A Christmas Story (Paper Mill Playhouse); Dracula, Zhivago, Palm Beach and Private Fittings (La Jolla Playhouse); Far From Heaven (Williamstown Theatre Festival); Amazing Grace (Goodspeed Opera); Next To Normal (Hangar Theatre); Spamalot (The Muny); and Candide (Prince Music Theatre).

Mary Claire King makes her Goodman Theatre debut. National tour credits include Catch Me If You Can. Regional credits include Young Frankenstein (BroadwayWorld Award) and Smokey Joe’s Cafe (Theatre by the Sea); Oliver! (Paper Mill Playhouse); Kiss Me, Kate and Hairspray (Merry-Go-Round Playhouse); Sister Act and Billy Elliot (North Shore Music Theatre) and A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum (Flat Rock Playhouse). King is a member of Range A Cappella, which has been featured on E! Network’s Live from the Red Carpet Countdown to the 87th Annual Academy Awards and with Kelly Clarkson on her “Piece By Piece” tour at Radio City Music Hall. She received her BFA from Syracuse University.

Steffanie Leigh’s Broadway credits include Gigi and Mary Poppins. National tour credits include Mary Poppins. New York and regional credits include Dani Girl (Exit, Pursued by a Bear), Jaques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris (Alliance Theatre) and Into the Woods and Seven Brides for Seven Brothers (Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera). International credits include Venus in Fur (Singapore Repertory Theatre). Television credits include The Mysteries of Laura, The Following, The Good Wife and Members Only.

Erik Liberman’s Broadway credits include LoveMusik. Off-Broadway credits include Dani Girl, For Elise, Minnie’s Boys, The Calamity of Kat Kat and Willie, Mabou Mines Dollhouse (also world tour) and The Most Ridiculous Thing
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You Ever Hoid (New York Musical Theatre Festival Award). National tour credits include Fiddler on the Roof. Regional credits include. The Hunchback of Notre Dame (La Jolla Playhouse and Paper Mill Playhouse), Somewhere in Time (Portland Center Stage), Into the Woods (Baltimore Center Stage and Westport Country Playhouse, Connecticut Critics Circle Award) and Merrily We Roll Along (Signature Theatre, Helen Hayes Award).

Barbara Marineau’s Broadway credits include A Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder, The Women, Beauty and the Beast, King David, A Christmas Carol, The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas and Shenandoah. National tour credits include My Fair Lady, Pippin, Falsettos, Grand Hotel, Into the Woods and The Robber Bridegroom (Carbonell Award for Best Actress). Off-Broadway credits include Man of No Importance (Lincoln Center Theater), Donnybrook (Irish Repertory Theatre), My Favorite Year and A Time for Singing (York Theatre).

Stephanie Jae Park makes her Goodman Theatre debut, returning to Chicago after appearing in Oklahoma! at the Lyric Opera. Broadway credits include The King and I (Lincoln Center Theater). National tour credits include Cinderella. Regional credits include The King and I, The Addams Family and Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat (The Muny); Legally Blonde (Arvada Center) and The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (Showboat Majestic). She is a graduate of the College-Conservatory of Music at University of Cincinnati.

Angel Reda’s Broadway credits include Chicago. She is also featured in the musical’s new global ad campaign. Off-Broadway credits include No, No, Nanette. Los Angeles credits include Wicked and Follies. National tour credits include Hugh Jackman in Performance and Sweet Charity. Regional credits include Victor/Victoria (Theatre Under the Stars), Damn Yankees (Goodspeed Opera House) and Intimate Apparel and Dangerous Beauty (Pasadena Playhouse). Film and television credits include The Late Show with Stephen Colbert, Zombeo & Juliecula, Outside the Box-Chinatown, Aexis and The Stepford Wives.

About Goodman Theatre

Called America’s “Best Regional Theatre” by Time magazine, Goodman Theatre has won international recognition for its artists, productions and programs, and is a major cultural, educational and economic pillar in Chicago. Founded in 1925 by William O. Goodman and his family in honor of their son Kenneth (an important figure in Chicago’s cultural renaissance in the early 1900s), Goodman Theatre has garnered hundreds of awards for artistic achievement and community engagement, including: two Pulitzer Prizes, 22 Tony Awards (including “Outstanding Regional Theatre” in 1992), nearly 160 Joseph Jefferson Awards and more. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Robert Falls and Executive Director Roche Schulfer, the Goodman’s artistic priorities include new plays (more than 150 world or American premieres in the past 30 years), reimagined classics (including Falls’ nationally and internationally celebrated productions of Death of a Salesman, Long’s Day’s Journey into Night, King Lear and The Iceman Cometh, many in collaboration with actor Brian Dennehy), culturally specific work, musical theater (26 major productions in 20 years, including 10 world premieres) and international collaborations. Diversity and inclusion have been primary cornerstones of the Goodman’s mission for 30 years; over the past decade, 68% of the Goodman’s 35 world premieres were authored by women and/or playwrights of color, and the Goodman was the first theater in the world to produce all 10 plays in August Wilson’s “American Century Cycle.” Each year, the Goodman’s education and engagement programs serve thousands of students, teachers and life-long learners. In addition, for nearly four decades A Christmas Carol has led to the creation of a new generation of theatergoers in Chicago. Goodman Theatre’s leadership includes the Artistic Collective: Brian Dennehy, Rebecca Gilman, Henry Godinez. Dael Orlandersmith, Steve Scott, Chuck Smith, Regina Taylor, Henry Wischcamper and Mary Zimmerman. Joan Clifford is Chair of Goodman Theatre’s Board of Trustees. Swati Mehta is Women’s Board President and Gordon C.C. Liao is President of the Scenemakers Board for young professionals. Visit the Goodman virtually at GoodmanTheatre.org—including OnStage+ for insider information—and on Twitter (@GoodmanTheatre), Facebook and Instagram.