CASTING ANNOUNCED FOR GOODMAN THEATRE’S 2015 PRODUCTIONS
***TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE BY SUBSCRIPTION AND TO GROUPS OF 10 OR MORE***

(Chicago, IL) Award-winning Chicago favorites are cast in the six plays that span January through July 2015 at Goodman Theatre, rounding out its 90th Anniversary 2014/2015 “Season to Celebrate.” Complete and partial casting information appears below. A limited number of $90 subscriptions, in honor of the milestone season, are still available; call 312.443.3800 or visit GoodmanTheatre.org. Tickets for groups 10+ are available by calling 312.443.3820 or Groups@GoodmanTheatre.org. Individual ticket on sale dates are noted below. Bios and images of the artists are available in the Press Room. Plays, dates and artists are subject to change.

**Rapture, Blister, Burn**
By Gina Gionfriddo, directed by Kimberly Senior in the Albert Theatre – *A Chicago Premiere*
**January 17 – February 22; tickets on sale December 5, 2014**

The cast includes: **Mark L. Montgomery** as Don Harper; **Karen Janes Woditsch** as Gwen Harper; **Jennifer Coombs** as Catherine Croll; **Cassidy Slaughter-Mason** as Avery Willard; and **Mary Ann Thebus** as Alice Croll. Acclaimed Chicago director Kimberly Senior makes her Goodman debut with the Pulitzer Prize finalist *Rapture, Blister, Burn*—Gina Gionfriddo’s “intensely smart, immensely funny” (*The New York Times*) new play that “surfs several waves of feminism” (*Time Out New York*). Graduate school pals Catherine and Gwen pursued completely different lives after graduation. Catherine became a controversial author, while Gwen married Catherine’s ex-boyfriend Don and raised two sons. After a decade-long estrangement, the women decide to spend a summer reconnecting. But their impulsive attempt to trade places soon erupts in a heated battle for Don’s affection and a fiery examination of their feminist ideals. Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP is the Major Corporate Sponsor and PwC LLP is the Corporate Sponsor Partner for *Rapture, Blister, Burn*.

**Two Trains Running**
By August Wilson, directed by Chuck Smith in the Albert Theatre – *Anchors the citywide August Wilson Celebration*
**March 7 – April 12; tickets on sale January 23**

The cast includes: **Alfred Wilson** as Holloway; **A.C. Smith** as West; **Nambé E. Kelley** as Risa; **Ernest Perry Jr.** as Hambone; **Anthony Irons** as Wolf; **Chester Gregory** as Sterling; and **Ron OJ Parson** as Memphis. Goodman Theatre honors August Wilson’s legacy with his Tony-winning masterpiece, praised by *Variety* as “perfection...[a] work by a writer at the peak of his powers.” In 2007, the Goodman became the first theater in the world to have produced all 10 plays in August Wilson’s “20th Century Cycle,” of which *Two Trains Running* is a part (the Goodman previously produced this play in 1993, directed by Lloyd Richards). The civil rights movement is sweeping across Pittsburgh’s Hill District in 1969, but the promise of a better tomorrow hasn’t quite reached all of the city’s residents, some of whom gather daily at Memphis’ diner to gossip about the neighborhood, dream about their futures and confront the brutal realities of the present. Now Memphis must decide if he should allow the government to take over his building or sell the property to a ruthless businessman. Written in 1990, *Two Trains Running* explores a time of extraordinary change—and the ordinary people who get left behind. Illinois Tool Works is a Corporate Sponsor Partner for *Two Trains Running*. Allstate Insurance Company and J.P. Morgan Chase are the Major Corporate Sponsors; ComEd is the Official Lighting Sponsor; and Illinois Tool Works is a Corporate Sponsor Partner for *Two Trains Running*.

**The Upstairs Concierge (Partial casting)**
By Kristoffer Diaz, directed by KJ Sanchez in the Owen Theatre – *A World Premiere Goodman Commission*
March 28 – April 26; tickets on sale January 16

The cast includes Tawny Newsome as Ella; Gabriel Ruiz as Harvey; John Stokvis as Kaz; Travis Turner as Royals Guy. The Upstairs Concierge is a world premiere comedy spoofing today’s scandalous celebrity culture by Pulitzer Prize-finalist Kristoffer Diaz, “who seems to have invented a brash new theatrical form” (Variety). Ella can’t wait to start her new job as the upstairs concierge at a sleek hotel. Catering to celebrity guests is her dream—but it’s hard to keep track of which guests are in which room, which guest is the biggest celebrity and which guests like to strip naked. Diaz gleefully skewers today’s fame-obsessed society in this off-kilter new farce. Edelman is the Major Corporate Sponsor for the Owen Theatre Season.

The Little Foxes (Partial casting)
By Lillian Helman, directed by Henry Wishcamper in the Albert Theatre
May 2 – June 7; tickets on sale February 20

The cast includes: Shannon Cochran as Regina Giddens; Cherene Snow as Addie; Larry Yando as Benjamin Hubbard; Mary Beth Fisher as Birdie Hubbard; Dexter Zollicoffer as Cal; John Judd as Horace Giddens; and Steve Pickering as Oscar Hubbard. Director Henry Wishcamper revives Lillian Hellman’s classic turn-of-the-century study of family greed, praised as “one of the most enjoyably chilling chapters in the history of melodrama” (The New York Times). Benjamin and Oscar Hubbard stand to earn millions funding an industrialized cotton mill, and seek help with the initial investment from their sister Regina. The refusal of Regina’s dying husband to finance the scheme sets off an explosive series of betrayals, shattering the Hubbard clan’s genteel façade and exposing their ruthless pursuit of wealth. Ferocious, funny and enduringly relevant, The Little Foxes is a chronicle of the dark side of the American Dream and wealth’s corrupting power. The Goodman Theatre Women’s Board is the Major Production Sponsor, Ernst & Young LLP is the Corporate Sponsor Partner and Towers Watson is the Opening Night Sponsor for The Little Foxes.

stop. reset. (Partial casting)
Written and directed by Regina Taylor in the Owen Theatre – A Chicago Premiere
May 23 – June 21; tickets on sale January 16

The cast includes: Jacqueline Williams as Jan; Eric Lynch as Chris; Tim Decker as Tim; Edgar Sanchez as J; and Lisa Tejero as Deb. Golden Globe winner and Goodman Theatre Artistic Associate Regina Taylor directs her mind-bending, provocative new play about modern technology’s impact on the Boomer generation. As e-books and digital technologies transform the literary world, Chicago businessman Alex Ames must confront the likely demise of his long-standing African-American book publishing company. While his employees fret over losing their jobs, Alex finds unlikely inspiration from a mysterious teenager, whose inventive, forward-thinking ideas may provide the solution to preserving Alex’s legacy. Edelman is the Major Corporate Sponsor for the Owen Theatre Season.

Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike (Partial casting)
By Christopher Durang, directed by Steve Scott in the Albert Theatre – A Chicago Premiere
June 20 – July 26; tickets on sale March 20

The cast includes: Ross Lehman as Vanya; Janet Ulrich Brooks as Sonia; Mary Beth Fisher as Masha; E. Faye Butler as Cassandria; Rebecca Buller as Nina; and Jordan Brown as Spike. Steve Scott directs the Chicago premiere of Christopher Durang’s loving send-up of Chekhov’s greatest works—the 2013 Tony Award winner for Best Play. Siblings Vanya and Sonia have spent their adult years trapped in mundane lives at their family’s cottage, caring for their ailing parents. Meanwhile their self-involved sister Masha, a glamorous movie star, has traveled the world in decadent style. After their soothsayer/cleaning woman Cassandra warns Vanya and Sonia of impending doom, Masha arrives unannounced, accompanied by her hunky young lover Spike. When Masha reveals plans that will upend the family, long-repressed resentments bubble over in a weekend full of wild costume parties, voodoo dolls and surprise romance.
About Goodman Theatre

The Goodman’s 2014/2015 Season features nine productions on its two stages—six in the 856-seat Albert Theatre and three in the 400-seat flexible Owen Theatre, plus the annual New Stages Festival that includes additional developmental productions, and partner productions with The Second City and Albany Park Theater Project. The season includes The World of Extreme Happiness by Frances Ya-Chu Cowhig, directed by Eric Ting, a world premiere co-production with Manhattan Theatre Club (through October 12, in the Owen); Smokefall by Noah Haidle, directed by Anne Kauffman, an encore of the world-premiere Goodman commission (through October 26, in the Albert); the annual New Stages Festival, including an “Industry Weekend” (October 29 - November 16, in the Owen); the 37th annual production of Charles Dickens’ A Christmas Carol, directed by Henry Wishcamper (November 15 – December 28, in the Albert); The Second City’s Twist Your Dickens, Or Scrooge You by Peter Gwinn and Bobby Mort (December 5 – 28, in the Owen); Rapture, Blister, Burn by Gina Gionfriddo, directed by Kimberly Senior, a Chicago premiere (January 17 – February 22, 2015 in the Albert); Two Trains Running by August Wilson, directed by Chuck Smith, in conjunction with a citywide celebration of August Wilson (March 7 – April 12, 2015 in the Albert); The Upstairs Conclave by Kristoffer Diaz, directed by KJ Sanchez, a world premiere co-commission with Teatro Vista (March 28 – April 26, 2015 in the Owen); The Little Foxes by Lillian Hellman, directed by Henry Wishcamper (May 2 – June 7, 2015 in the Albert); stop. reset. written and directed by Regina Taylor, a Chicago premiere (May 23 – June 21, 2015 in the Owen); Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike by Christopher Durang, directed by Steve Scott, a Chicago premiere (June 20 – July 26, 2015 in the Albert), and a production still to be announced with the Albany Park Theater Project.

Now celebrating its 90th year as Chicago’s flagship theater, Goodman Theatre is an artistic and community institution dedicated to the art of theater and to civic engagement in the issues of the contemporary world. The Goodman has transformed over the past 35 years into a world class theater and premier Chicago cultural institution distinguished by the quality and scope of its programming and its culturally and aesthetically diverse creative leadership; artistic priorities include new plays, reimagined classics, culturally specific works, musical theater and international collaborations. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Robert Falls and Executive Director Roche Schulfer, achievements include the Goodman’s state-of-the-art two-theater complex in the heart of the downtown Theatre District. Over the past three decades, the Goodman has generated more than 150 world or American premieres, and nearly 30 new-work commissions. Joan Clifford is Chairman 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. American Airlines is the Exclusive Airline of Goodman Theatre.

“A mainstay of Chicago and beyond” (Chicago Sun-Times), the Goodman is internationally acclaimed for its “fresh work of magnitude and ambition (and) bold, risky theatrical choices” (Chicago Tribune). From new plays to “first-class revivals” (The New York Times), the Goodman has earned numerous awards for its productions: two Pulitzer Prizes; 22 Tony Awards, including Outsanding Regional Theatre (1992); and nearly 160 Joseph Jefferson Awards.

The 90th Anniversary “Season to Celebrate” programming is rooted in the same spirit that launched the Goodman in 1925—an array of dramatic fare, from classics to noteworthy contemporary works, innovative and often controversial, embracing genres from farces to searing social dramas—honoring the theater’s past and envisioning its future. The nine-play season begins with an All-New Fall of works fostered and developed in the Goodman’s new play development programs followed by an “August Wilson Celebration” in spring 2015, the 10th anniversary of the playwright’s death and the 70th anniversary of his birth. This city-wide Celebration honors the longstanding collaboration between Wilson and the Goodman, the first theater in the world to produce all 10 works in his “20th Century Cycle.”

Visit the special anniversary website, GoodmanTheatre.org/90, to see famous faces who’ve worked at the theater, browse photos of classic productions and read interviews with noted artists.