



Colorado State University

School of the Arts

Art ♦ Music ♦ Theatre ♦ Dance

1779 Campus Delivery, Fort Collins, CO 80523-1779



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Jeanna Nixon, Director of Marketing and Publicity, School of the Arts

970-491-1584, jeanna.nixon@colostate.edu

WORKS BY GREAT PLAYWRIGHTS STAGED AT COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

Fort Collins, CO – The Division of Dance and Theatre in the School of the Arts at Colorado State University stages plays by two great playwrights during its spring “Windows of Inspiration” season. “The Birthday Party,” written by Nobel Prize winner Harold Pinter, opens on Feb. 7 at 7:30 p.m., and “The Seagull,” the first of Anton Chekhov’s four major plays, opens on Apr. 17 at 8:00 p.m. Both plays will be performed in the University Theatre of the University Center for the Arts at 1400 Remington St. Tickets are \$16 for the public, \$14 for seniors, and \$7 for Colorado State students. Tickets are available from the Campus Box Office in the Lory Student Center, by phone at 970-491-4849, or online at www.csutix.com.

“The Birthday Party” tells the story of Stanley, both an unlikely hero and a strangely compelling victim, who is hidden away in seedy seaside digs somewhere on the southern coast of England. Indulged and mothered by his elderly landlady Meg, his comfortable retreat is forever changed with the arrival of two unexpected visitors, Goldberg and McCann. “The Birthday Party” (1958) was Harold Pinter's first full-length play. It bewildered and puzzled its first audiences but then went on to dazzle and entertain, establishing itself as a classic of twentieth century theatre. Colorado State’s production is directed by Dr. Eric Prince.

“The Seagull,” which is the first of what are generally considered to be Anton Chekhov’s four major plays, is about a very human tendency to reject love that is freely given and seek love where it is withheld. It is a play that evokes both sorrow and humor as it tells of the romantic and artistic conflicts between four theatrical characters - the ingenue Nina, the fading leading

lady Irina Arkadina, her son the experimental playwright Konstantin Treplov, and the famous middlebrow story writer Trigorin. The production is directed by Walt Jones.

Both productions will provide students with unprecedented opportunities onstage and off. Students will work with guest professional costume and set designer Liam O'Brien and comprehensive design assignments will be entrusted to upperclass majors. With their depth and complexity, both plays provide students the challenge of tackling major, difficult roles.

The public is also invited to enjoy the Theatre Student G.A.L.A. (Gateway to the art of Live Action) on Mar. 8 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. This interactive Open House features a variety of theatrical entertainment and displays in multiple venues throughout the Bohemian Complex of the University Center for the Arts.

Tickets are currently available for sale online, and will be available for purchase in person and by phone when the Campus Box Office reopens on Jan. 14 following the University's Winter Break. Advance purchase is highly recommended, though tickets are also available at the door one hour before performances begin. All listed ticket prices include a Campus Box Office service charge.

For a full performance and event calendar, more information, and to sign up for a free event e-newsletter, visit www.CSUSchooloftheArts.com.

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The School of the Arts at Colorado State University provides an enriched venue in which the study and practice of Art, Dance, Music and Theatre are nurtured and sustained by building the skills and knowledge needed by future generations of arts professionals to become contributors to the essential vitality of our culture and society. For more information, visit www.CSUSchooloftheArts.com.