

sandra feinstein-



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

For more information contact:

Gail Hulbert, Communications Manager  
(401) 723-4266 or [gail@gammtheatre.org](mailto:gail@gammtheatre.org)

**THE GAMM OPENS NEW PAWTUCKET HOME WITH SPIRITED THEATRICAL REINVENTION OF  
DYLAN THOMAS' *A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS IN WALES***

PAWTUCKET, RI (October 22, 2003) — The Sandra Feinstein-Gamm Theatre (The Gamm) is delighted to host the public in its new home for an ode to simple celebration: Dylan Thomas' holiday classic *A Child's Christmas In Wales*. This play with music, adapted from Thomas' prose and poetry, is directed by Gamm Artistic Director Tony Estrella and features Gamm Artistic Associate Christopher Byrnes as the time-wizened and nostalgic Welshman, Thomas. The production runs from Nov. 20 through Dec. 23 at The Gamm's beautiful new performance space in the Pawtucket Armory Annex.

**Play Synopsis**

*Wind-kissed cheeks, crocheted nosebags, and trees festooned with gumdrop and licorice strings. Snowball-hurling playmates, cigar-champing uncles and an aspirin-popping aunt. These are just some of the colorful images and characters populating the Christmas memories of legendary poet Dylan Thomas. The Welshman's famous holiday story, told through the lens of a wide-eyed boy, brims with lush poetry and traditional song to delight the entire family!*

Estrella has contracted with Welsh native and local actor John Morgan to help develop song and patter for the show. Morgan played Thomas' friend Jim in The Gamm's first and critically acclaimed staging of *A Child's Christmas In Wales* in 1998. In addition to helping actors with pronunciation, Morgan will provide cultural insight.

As Estrella points out, "the more local and specific the production, the more universal its appeal. Thomas' stories and poems are beautiful, searing and celebratory revelations of the human spirit. They are buoyant and fun, and also wonderfully and honestly sentimental without being cloying or maudlin.

"Thomas' language has the cadences of both nursery rhyme and Shakespeare and is a privilege for actors to work with," Estrella says. "*A Child's Christmas In Wales* occupies a central place in our season, as a reminder and celebration of the simple joy of the holiday season and sharing ourselves with the people we love. "

**About The Gamm**

Founded in 1984 as Alias Stage, the nonprofit Sandra Feinstein-Gamm Theatre performs great works of the classic and modern theater in an intimate setting that fosters the vital relationship between author, actor and audience. As the cornerstone of the Arts Exchange at the Pawtucket Armory, The Gamm seeks to engage and enrich the community through affordable entertainment and educational programming.

*The Times* is this production's sponsor; *NBC 10* is The Gamm's season sponsor.

encl: directions to The Gamm

**ABOUT THIS PRODUCTION OF A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS IN WALES**

A play with music, adapted from the works of Dylan Thomas

Directed by Tony Estrella (Gamm Artistic Director)

Costume design by Marilyn Salvatore

Set design by Andy Lederman

Lighting design by Richard Van Voris

Music Direction by David Tessier

Stage Manager, Deborah Covington; Asst. Stage Manager/Props, Michele Eaton; Dramaturge, Jennifer Madden; Production Asst./Dramaturge, Heather Brennan; Director's Assistant, Gwen Maynard

**Cast** (primary roles)

Dylan Thomas  
Uncle Tudor/Arnold  
Mrs. Prothero/Mother/Grandma  
Glynnis/Patricia  
Grandpa  
Jim/Musician  
Mr.Prothero/Uncle Owen/Musician  
Miss Prothero/Aunt Hannah/Edith

Chris Byrnes (Gamm Artistic Associate)  
Tom Epstein  
Rae Mancini  
Heidi McNeil  
Tom Oakes  
David Rabinow  
Paul Scharf  
Casey Seymour Kim

## **Calendar of Performances**

### **November**

Thursday, November 20, preview performance at 8 p.m.  
Friday, November 21, preview performance at 8 p.m.  
Saturday, November 22, preview performance at 8 p.m.  
Sunday, November 23, preview performance at 7 p.m.  
Monday, November 24, press night performance at 7 p.m.  
Friday, November 28, regular performance at 8 p.m.  
Saturday, November 29, matinee performance at 2 p.m.  
Saturday, November 29, regular performance at 8 p.m.  
Sunday, November 30, matinee performance at 2 p.m.  
Sunday, November 30, regular performance at 7 p.m.

### **December**

Thursday, December 4, regular performance at 8 p.m.  
Friday, December 5, matinee performance at 10:30 a.m. (closed to the public)  
Friday, December 5, regular performance at 8 p.m.  
Saturday, December 6, matinee performance at 2 p.m.  
Saturday, December 6, regular performance at 8 p.m.  
Sunday, December 7, matinee performance at 2 p.m.  
Sunday, December 7, regular performance at 7 p.m.  
Tuesday, December 9, regular performance at 7 p.m.  
Wednesday, December 10, regular performance at 8 p.m.  
Thursday, December 11, regular performance at 8 p.m.  
Friday, December 12, matinee performance at 10:30 a.m. (closed to the public)  
Friday, December 12, regular performance at 8 p.m.  
Saturday, December 13, matinee performance at 2 p.m.  
Saturday, December 13, regular performance at 8 p.m.  
Sunday, December 14, matinee performance at 2 p.m.  
Sunday, December 14, regular performance at 7 p.m.  
Tuesday, December 16, regular performance at 7 p.m.  
Wednesday, December 17, regular performance at 8 p.m.  
Thursday, December 18, matinee performance at 10:30 a.m. (closed to the public)  
Thursday, December 18, regular performance at 8 p.m.  
Friday, December 19, matinee performance at 10:30 a.m. (closed to the public)  
Friday, December 19, regular performance at 8 p.m.  
Saturday, December 20, matinee performance at 2 p.m.  
Saturday, December 20, regular performance at 8 p.m.  
Sunday, December 21, matinee performance at 2 p.m.  
Sunday, December 21, regular performance at 7 p.m.  
Monday, December 22, regular performance at 7 p.m.  
Tuesday, December 23, regular performance at 7 p.m.

Tickets \$21-24, all previews (Nov. 20 — Nov. 23) only \$12!

Discounts for subscribers, groups of 10 or more, seniors, students and children

For single ticket sales, call 723-4266. Or purchase tickets at [www.arttixri.com](http://www.arttixri.com) or at the Art Tix booth at Kennedy Plaza, Providence.