

sandra feinstein-



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**CURTAIN RISES ON NEW ENGLAND PREMIERE OF
THE RISE AND FALL OF LITTLE VOICE AT THE GAMM THEATRE**

PAWTUCKET, RI (October 25, 2004) — The Sandra Feinstein-Gamm Theatre (The Gamm) is pleased to present the **New England premiere** of **Jim Cartwright's** award-winning, bitter-sweet comedy *The Rise and Fall of Little Voice*. This contemporary play, peppered with the music of late showbiz divas, features **Casey Seymour Kim** in the title role and **Wendy Overly** as her overbearing mother.

Judith Swift (*Julius Caesar, Henry V, Travesties*) directs this play with music. The production runs from **November 11 through December 12** at The Gamm Theatre, 172 Exchange St., Pawtucket, RI.

Play Synopsis

*Reclusive and painfully shy, a young woman nicknamed LV spends her days and nights in her bedroom listening to her late father's record collection. But when her domineering mum's boyfriend — a small-time concert promoter with big dreams — discovers her uncanny talent for mimicking singers such as Judy Garland, Billie Holiday and Edith Piaf, Little Voice is unwittingly brought out of her shell. What follows is an exhilarating journey of a woman on the verge of finding her own true voice. Winner of England's prestigious **Evening Standard** and **Olivier** awards, and inspiration for the hit 1998 film "**Little Voice**".*

Gamm Artistic Director Tony Estrella said he chose Cartwright's "wonderful and rarely performed play" for its ingenious use of music and humor to shed light on universal struggles and emotions.

"*The Rise and Fall of Little Voice* is a play about the refuge of silence and isolation within the white noise of familial dysfunction. It also speaks to the power of individual creative expression to help us find the inner peace to emerge from that shelter and share ourselves with each other and the world," he said.

Estrella also acknowledged the "intense theatrical challenges" inherent in a play dependent on vocal imitation, including a challenging northern England dialect.

"*The Rise and Fall of Little Voice* requires very unique talents," he said. "We are fortunate to have Casey Seymour Kim as Little Voice and Wendy Overly as her mother, Mari — two extraordinary actors without whose great abilities this show would be impossible."

The Rise and Fall of Little Voice is sponsored by **Rhode Island PBS, Ibis Consulting** and **WBRU. NBC 10** is The Gamm's season sponsor.

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.

ABOUT THIS PRODUCTION OF *THE RISE AND FALL OF LITTLE VOICE*

A play with music by Jim Cartwright
Directed by Judith Swift
Set Design, William P. Wieters
Costume Design, David T. Howard

Lighting Design, Dan Bilodeau
Music/Sound Design, Charles Cofone
Technical Direction, Normand Beaugard

Stage Manager, Stef Work; Assistant Stage Manager, Karen Carpenter; Props Master, Rachel Capotosto; Dramaturge, Jennifer Madden

Cast

LV	Casey Seymour Kim
Mari Hoff	Wendy Overly*
Ray Say	Alan F. Hawkridge
Billy	Anthony Estrella*
Sadie	Tray Gearing
Mr. Boo/Phone Man	Tom Oakes

*The actor appears through courtesy of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

Calendar of Performances

September

Thursday, Nov. 11, preview performance at 8 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 12, preview performance at 8 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 13, preview performance at 8 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 14, preview performance at 7 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 15, press night performance at 7 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 18, regular performance at 8 p.m. **SOLD OUT**

Friday, Nov. 19, regular performance at 8 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 20, regular performance at 8 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 21, matinee performance at 2 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 21, regular performance at 7 p.m.*

Friday, Nov. 26, regular performance at 8 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 27, matinee performance at 2 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 27, regular performance at 8 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 28, matinee performance at 2 p.m.

December

Thursday, Dec. 2, regular performance at 8 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 3, regular performance at 8 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 4, matinee performance at 2 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 4, regular performance at 8 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 5, matinee performance at 2 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 9, regular performance at 8 p.m. **SOLD OUT**

Friday, Dec. 10, regular performance at 8 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 11, regular performance at 8 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 12, matinee performance at 2 p.m.

*Performance preceded by "Shared Sundays" discussion from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the Gamm lobby: Charles Cofone and Judith Swift discuss theatrical sound and music design with live demonstrations. **Free for all.**

Tickets \$21-24, all previews (Nov. 11-15) ONLY \$14! Discounts for subscribers, groups of 10 or more, seniors and students. For single ticket sales, call 723-4266. Or purchase tickets at www.artixri.com.