

sandra feinstein-



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**RED NOSES, NOT BLACK DEATH!
Plague Comedy has Audiences Dying of Laughter at The Gamm**

PAWTUCKET, RI (January 10, 2005) — The Sandra Feinstein-Gamm Theatre (The Gamm) is pleased to present **Red Noses**, Peter Barnes' wickedly funny, award-winning black comedy about the Black Death. This zany, irreverent, stunt-filled play features a cast of 22 actors portraying the best and worst of human behavior in the face of tragedy.

Peter Sampieri (*The Grapes of Wrath*) returns to The Gamm to direct this darkly satirical yet life-affirming production. **Red Noses runs from January 26 through February 27** at The Gamm Theatre, 172 Exchange St., Pawtucket, RI.

Play Synopsis

*1348. Auxerre, France. Plague ravages Europe and "one-third of Christendom lies under sod." The pope trembles in fear inside a glass-walled chamber in Avignon, while flagellants, lepers and scavengers ravage the countryside. Enter a desperate epileptic monk and his ragtag band of blind jugglers, three-legged dancers, disgraced nuns and others, all on a sacred mission to bring cheap laughs to the suffering masses. What The Guardian calls "a brilliant play...a tremendous life-affirming piece" is undoubtedly among the most original and daring plays of the modern theater. **Winner of the 1985 Olivier Award for Best Comedy.***

"Red Noses harnesses the unique communicative power of theater in a way unmatched by almost any play I know of," says Gamm Artistic Director Tony Estrella. "Barnes' joyous, silly and compassionate masterpiece is a testament to forgiveness and generosity in the face of unceasing brutality. It's epic, incendiary, heartbreaking and hilarious. It's populist, and intellectually stimulating theater for everybody."

New York and regional set designer Michael McGarty has reconfigured The Gamm's performance space to create a unique 14th-century environment in which Father Flote (Estrella) and his oddball circus troupe unleash their silliness.

"Michael has reshaped the theater into a dynamic setting that evokes plague, desolation, cathedral and carnival alley all in one," says Director Peter Sampieri. "All of us working at The Gamm feel lucky to collaborate with a designer that has created such a textured playground for us to work in."

Red Noses is underwritten by Citizens Bank Foundation and sponsored by 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 RED NOSES

A black comedy by Peter Barnes
Directed by Peter Sampieri

Set Design by Michael McGarty
Costume Design by Marilyn Salvatore
Lighting Design by Richard Van Voris
Original Music Composed by Charles Cofone
Fight & Stunt Choreography/Technical Direction by Normand Beauregard

Stage Manager, Stef Work; Assistant Stage Manager, Karen Carpenter; Props Master/ASM, Rachel Capotosto;
Dramaturge, Jennifer Madden; Dance Choreographer, Angelica Vessella; Set Painter, William P. Wieters; Assistant
Costume Designer, Carol Ann Simone; Wardrobe Assistant Tray Gearing

Viennet/Pellico /Papal Guard	Tom Epstein
Moncriff/Charles Rochfort	Scott Winters
Evaline/Marie	Georgia Cohen
Bonville/Lefranc	Paul Scharf
Madame Bonville/Archbishop Monselet/ Mother Metz	Wendy Overly
Dr. Antrecheau/Pope Clement VI	Sam Babbitt
Flagellant/Pierre Frapper	Matt Furtado
Flagellant/Jean Le Grue	David Rabinow
Father Flote	Anthony Estrella*
Flagellant/Charlie Bembo	Jed Hancock-Brainerd
Greze	Steve Kidd
Scarron	Andrew Morissette
Druce/ Jean Mistral	John Lincoln
Sonnerie/Papal Guard	Ben Johnson
Father Toulon	Chris Byrnes
1 st Attendant/Papal Herald/ Leper/Patris	Jen Swain
Brodin/Papal Guard	Normand Beauregard
Sister Marguerite Delair	Jeanine Kane
Camille/Leper	Casey Seymour Kim
Boutros Sister One	Ashley Burgess
Boutros Sister Two	Courtney Edge
Sabine Patris/Leper	Kelly Seigh

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

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RED NOSES CALENDAR OF PERFORMANCES

January

Wednesday, Jan. 26, preview performance at 8 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 27, no performance

Friday, Jan. 28, preview performance at 8 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 29, preview performance at 8 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 30, preview performance at 7 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 31, press night performance at 7 p.m.

February

Thursday, Feb. 3, regular performance at 8 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 4, regular performance at 8 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 5, regular performance at 8 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 6, regular performance at 7 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 10, regular performance at 8 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 11, regular performance at 8 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 12, regular performance at 8 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 13, matinee performance at 2 p.m.*

Wednesday, Feb. 16, regular performance at 8 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 17, regular performance at 8 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 18, regular performance at 8 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 19, regular performance at 8 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 20, matinee performance at 2 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 23, regular performance at 8 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 24, regular performance at 8 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 25, regular performance at 8 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 26, regular performance at 8 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 27, matinee performance at 2 p.m.

*Performance followed by free "Shared Sundays" discussion with artists and scholars at approximately 5:00 p.m. in the Gamm Theatre lobby. (See enclosed press release for details.)

Tickets \$21 & \$24, all previews (Jan. 26-31) 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.arttixri.com.