

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 THEATRE ENTERS THIRD DECADE WITH  
ECLECTIC, ENTERTAINING, ENERGETIC SEASON**

PAWTUCKET, RI (March 28, 2005) — Tony Estrella, artistic director of The Sandra Feinstein-Gamm Theatre (The Gamm), today announced a line-up of five entertaining, innovative and thought-provoking plays for the 2005-2006 Season.

Season 21 starts in September when The Gamm stages a thrilling adaptation of the great Russian classic ***Crime and Punishment*** by Fyodor Dostoyevsky. Ringing in the holiday season is Shakespeare's festive comedy ***Twelfth Night***, while Martin McDonagh's hilarious black comedy ***The Lonesome West*** launches a new calendar year. Tying up the season is a modern classic, Caryl Churchill's amazing ***Top Girls***; followed by one of the funniest plays you're likely to see next year, David Hirson's ***La Bête***.

"Our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary season has been, by every measure, the most successful in our history and has proven that there is a significant appetite out there for the challenging and innovative," said Tony Estrella, The Gamm's artistic director. "In Season 21 we will continue to deliver exciting theater in a variety of styles from Shakespeare to Caryl Churchill, from Dostoyevsky to Martin McDonagh. It's an eclectic, entertaining and energetic slate of plays and I already can't wait for September."

"I'm also very pleased to announce that NBC 10 has agreed to sponsor our season for the third year in a row. Their support has proven invaluable and we are very grateful," Estrella added.

**The Gamm Theatre's 2005-2006 Season\***

***Crime and Punishment***

September 8 – October 9, 2005

adapted by Marilyn Campbell and Curt Columbus  
from the novel by Fyodor Dostoyevsky  
directed by TBA

*An impoverished law student who commits double murder out of desperation, a strait-laced but sympathetic detective investigating the crime, and a young prostitute pointing the way to redemption. A stripped-down, **thrilling new adaptation of the famous psychological crime drama** sheds new light on a 19<sup>th</sup>-century masterpiece. Equal parts journey into the complex mind of a killer and searing psychological study, this "Crime and Punishment" thrills and penetrates at every turn. A reminder of how exciting a classic can be! **Winner of the 2002-2003 Joseph Jefferson Award for Best New Adaptation.***

***Twelfth Night***

November 17 – December 18, 2005

by William Shakespeare  
directed by Tony Estrella

*Mistaken identities, gender bending and twins lost at sea. Love unrequited and love triumphant. A raucous comedy featuring some of the Bard's most memorable characters and clowns, "Twelfth Night" has something for everyone. This brilliant social-sexual satire—penned in the spirit of celebration surrounding Tudor England's Twelfth Night post-Christmas festival—is undoubtedly **Shakespeare's greatest comedy**. Laced with melancholy and peppered with mirth, a song of love and laughter for all!*

### **The Lonesome West**

by Martin McDonagh  
directed by Judith Swift

January 26 – February 26, 2006

*In a remote Irish village as comical as it is dangerous, brothers Valene and Coleman Connor share an undying hostility for their mundane lives—especially each other. From potato chips to plastic saints, nothing is sacred and everything is an excuse for violence. Only Father Welsh, the young and depressive priest, tries to reconcile the pair before their petty squabbles spiral out of control. But could God himself stop this latter-day Cain and Abel from their vicious carnage? **Hilariously volatile and morbidly engrossing**, McDonagh's depiction of the rural "murder capital of Ireland" will have you laughing until it hurts.*

### **Top Girls**

by Caryl Churchill  
directed by Wendy Overly

March 23 – April 23, 2006

*Act 1: A surreal dinner party for five mythical and literary women of the past — hosted by Marlene, the newly promoted head of London's Top Girls employment agency — sets in motion a fascinating examination of the perennial question, "Can women have it all?" Act 2: Back to reality, Churchill takes on both work place and home front with unflinching honesty and compassion. Complex themes of success and sacrifice, career and contentment, and capitalism and feminism collide with razor-sharp wit in this provocative, poignant piece. **Winner of the 1982-1983 Obie Award for playwriting**, "Top Girls" has earned its place among the new classics of the contemporary theater.*

### **La Bête**

by David Hirson  
directed by Fred Sullivan, Jr.

May 18 – June 18, 2006

*High-minded and haughty, Elomire (an anagram for the great Moliere) has a plum job leading a 17<sup>th</sup>-century acting company in the court of his mercurial patron, Prince Conti. But when he's ordered to accept a buffoon of a street performer—the hilarious, megalomaniacal Valere—into his troupe, Elomire is forced to choose between a life of poverty for the sake of his art, or selling out for comfort. Audaciously funny and told entirely in rhyming verse, Hirson's dazzling nod to Moliere's life and works is among the funniest American plays of the past 20 years. **Winner of the 1992 Olivier Award for Best Comedy**.*

*\*Plays and dates are subject to change.*

**Subscriptions to The Gamm's 2004-2005 Season are \$75-\$115. New this season:** Wednesday at 7 p.m. series. **Back by popular demand:** *Shared Sundays* series, including humanities-based discussions with artists and scholars following the first Sunday matinee of each run. Call 401-723-4266 to purchase.

### **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.

-end-