

sandra feinstein-



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## GAMM BREAKS OPEN 2006 WITH HILARIOUS & HARROWING *THE LONESOME WEST*

PAWTUCKET, RI (December 26, 2005) — The Sandra Feinstein-Gamm Theatre (The Gamm) is pleased to launch the new year with *The Lonesome West*, a viciously comic and darkly entertaining play by award-winning playwright **Martin McDonagh**. The production, under the direction of **Judith Swift** (*Oleanna*, *The Rise and Fall of Little Voice*), promises to surprise audiences at every turn, exploding the myth of a folksy rural Ireland with acts of extreme pettiness and unbridled violence. *The Lonesome West* runs from **January 26 through February 26** at The Gamm Theatre, 172 Exchange St., Pawtucket, RI.

### Play Synopsis

*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 Europe" will have you laughing until it hurts.*

Third in British-born McDonagh's "**Leenane Trilogy**" of plays set in a small village in Connemara, *The Lonesome West* combines traditional story telling with irony and biting humor, as in *The Beauty Queen of Leenane* and *A Skull in Connemara*. Gamm Artistic Director Tony Estrella said he is thrilled to be staging and performing in a work by "one of today's greatest playwrights," a status reinforced by last season's Broadway run of McDonagh's Tony-nominated hit, *The Pillowman*.

"McDonagh has established himself at a relatively young age as one of the geniuses of contemporary theater. His works are at once intense, ferocious, absurd and hilarious," Estrella said. "It is a privilege to stage *The Lonesome West*. I hope it is only the first of many McDonagh's to come."

*The Lonesome West* is sponsored by **Barrington Printing** and **The Call**. Additional support comes from **WBRU. NBC10** 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. The Gamm is a member of **New England Area Theatre** (NEAT), a bargaining unit of the Actors Equity Association.

## ABOUT THIS PRODUCTION OF *THE LONESOME WEST*

By Martin McDonagh  
Directed by Judith Swift

Set Design by Dan Bilodeau  
Costume Design by Marilyn Salvatore  
Lighting Design by Matt Terry

Sound Design by Charles Cofone  
Fight Choreography & Special Effects by Normand Beauregard  
Stage Management by Stef Work<sup>1</sup>

Assistant Stage Manager, Adrienne Johnson; Dramaturge, Jennifer Madden.

Valene Connor	Anthony Estrella <sup>1</sup>
Coleman Connor	Jim O'Brien
Father Welsh	Chris Byrnes <sup>1</sup>
Girleen Kelleher	Karen Carpenter

<sup>1</sup>The actor or stage manager appears through courtesy of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

## CALENDAR OF PERFORMANCES

### January

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

Friday, Jan. 27, preview performance at 8 p.m.

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

Sunday, Jan. 29, preview performance at 7 p.m.

**Monday, Jan. 30, press performance at 7 p.m.**

### February

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

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

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

Sunday, Feb. 5, regular performance at 2 p.m.\*

Wednesday, Feb. 8, regular performance at 7 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 9, regular performance at 8 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sunday, Feb. 19, matinee performance at 2 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 19, regular performance at 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 22, regular performance at 7 p.m.

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

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

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

Sunday, Feb. 26, matinee performance at 2 p.m.

\*Performance followed by **Shared Sundays** discussion with artists and scholars. Show attendance not required. Free for all.

Tickets \$23 & \$26, all previews (Jan. 26-30) ONLY \$16! Discounts for subscribers, groups of 10 or more, seniors and students. For single ticket sales, call 401-723-4266. Or purchase tickets at [www.artixri.com](http://www.artixri.com). More information at [www.gammtheatre.org](http://www.gammtheatre.org).

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