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The Gamm Theatre Announces Season 28 (2012-2013) Brit Hit *Anne Boleyn*, Tony-Winner *Red* among Stand-out Season

PAWTUCKET, RI (February 13, 2012) — Tony Estrella, artistic director of The Sandra Feinstein-Gamm Theatre (The Gamm), is pleased to announce the theater's **28th Season (2012-2013)**. The line up comprises **five powerful, provocative contemporary plays, including a United States premiere.**

The season opens with the **Rhode Island premiere of *After the Revolution*, Amy Herzog's** smart, new, contemporary family drama about ideals in the age of apathy...staged not coincidentally in the lead up to a presidential election! In the November-December slot is the **Rhode Island premiere of *Red*, John Logan's 2010 Tony Award winner for "Best Play"** about a pivotal period in the life of the great 20th-century artist Mark Rothko.

2013 includes the **U.S. premiere of *Anne Boleyn*, fearless British playwright Howard Brenton's often-hilarious revisionist play** about the life and legacy of Henry VIII's notorious wife. Rounding out the season are: ***The Real Thing*, Tom Stoppard's heartbreakingly honest two-time Tony Award-winning play** about love, marriage and the nature of commitment; and ***The Beauty Queen of Leenane*, the first of Anglo-Irish playwright Martin McDonagh's multi-award-winning plays** in the "Leenane Trilogy" of wickedly funny tragicomedies.

"Even with two shows left in Season 27, which is on track to be our most successful year yet, I am extraordinarily excited to announce Season 28," Estrella said. "It's a provocative, timely and exciting mix of contemporary works that reinterpret **history even as they grapple with up-to-the-minute social and political concerns.** We've got three Rhode Island premieres including the first U.S. production of Howard Brenton's rollicking epic ***Anne Boleyn***, the hit of the past two seasons at Shakespeare's Globe! I already can't wait until September."

Subscriptions to The Gamm's 2012-13 Season are **\$120-\$180**. Call **401-723-4266**. Information at gammtheatre.org.

Season 28/2012-2013 Plays

AFTER THE REVOLUTION by Amy Herzog (Sep-Oct 2012)

The Gamm opens **Season 28** (and a presidential election season) with a play about ideals in an age of apathy! It's 1999, and three generations of a radical leftist family meet in New York City to celebrate the law school graduation of its youngest torchbearer, Emma. But news of a forthcoming book that reveals a shocking truth about her famously blacklisted late grandfather brings the party to a screeching halt. Shaken to the core, Emma must reconcile her fierce politics and family loyalty to decide if the end ever justifies the means. Generations butt heads and relationships fracture in this **insightful, moving and often-humorous family portrait** from rising **American playwright Amy Herzog.**

"...smart, engrossing." *The New York Times*

"A **shrewd, ironic** meditation on what we do with history, how we appropriate it for our own psychological needs. Among the play's many pleasures...is the way the characters struggle through their differences to listen to one another. **The ability to listen is, perhaps the definition of love.**" John Lahr, *The New Yorker*

RED by John Logan (Nov-Dec 2012)

"*There is only one thing I fear in life, my friend...one day the black will swallow the red.*" Rothko in *Red*

1958-1959, a grubby studio in the Bowery, New York City. Under the watchful gaze of his young assistant and the threatening presence of a new generation of artists, abstract-impressionist painter Mark Rothko takes on his greatest challenge: to create a definitive work —his dark red (and black) murals—for the Four Seasons restaurant in the new Seagram building on Park Avenue. **John Logan's 2010 Tony Award-winning "Best Play"** explores the emotional palette of the renowned 20th-century artist for a **compelling, one-of-kind** theatrical experience. **Featuring Fred Sullivan, Jr.** for the first time on The Gamm stage as Rothko.

"**Smart and scintillating**, *Red* deftly conjures what most plays about artists don't: the **exhilaration** of the act." *The New Yorker*

"A **fresh, exciting** portrait of a brilliant mind." *The New York Times*

Then in 2013...

U.S. Premiere!

ANNE BOLEYN by Howard Brenton

British playwright **Howard Brenton** (*Paul, Pravda*) puts a radically revisionist spin on the life and legacy of Anne Boleyn, Henry VIII's notorious second wife, in this **rollicking, often laugh-out-loud funny** drama. Traditionally portrayed as siren pawn or sexual predator, Brenton's Boleyn is witty and confident as she takes on the vicious world of Tudor Court politics to help create Protestant England and remake the world. **Don't miss the hit of the past two seasons at Shakespeare's Globe in its U.S. premiere at The Gamm.**

"The Tudor pack at their most snarling, scheming, ribald, pleasure-seeking and **gaily entertaining.**" *The Daily Telegraph*

"A **big, bold** and generous evening." *The Guardian*

THE REAL THING by Tom Stoppard

This **multi-award winning play** (Evening Standard, New York Drama Critics' and Tony awards) by the author of such masterworks as *Rock 'n' Roll*, *Arcadia*, and *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead* combines the playwright's **brilliant wordplay and wit with poignant insights about the nature—and mystery—of love, commitment and authenticity.**

Charlotte, an actress, is appearing in a play about marriage written by her cerebral playwright husband, Henry. Max, her leading man, is also married to an actress, Annie. Both marriages are on the verge of a breakdown because Henry and Annie have fallen in love. But there's a question not even Henry can answer: Is it the real thing?

"...not only **Mr. Stoppard's most moving play**, but also the most bracing play that anyone has written about love and marriage in years." *The New York Times*

"...**wise, witty, and astonishing** through and through...**Enthralling.**" *Financial Times* (London)

THE BEAUTY QUEEN OF LEENANE by Martin McDonagh

In a dimly lit kitchen in a shabby cottage in a backwater village in the west of Ireland, selfish, conniving Mag and her embittered 40-year-old virginal daughter, Maureen, stew in mutual loathing. When Maureen is offered a last chance at love, she sees an opportunity to escape. But Mag has other ideas, setting in motion a chain of betrayal and tragedy, both heartbreaking and hilarious. With savage irony, the first in McDonagh's multi-award-winning "Leenane Trilogy" of tragicomedies—*The Beauty Queen of Leenane*, *A Skull in Connemara*, *The Lonesome West* (Gamm Season 21)] —surprises audiences through to its horrifying conclusion.

"**Riveting...chill** and bleak and cruelly **amusing.**" *The New Yorker*

"**Like sitting down to a square meal after a long diet of salads and hors d'oeuvres.** Before you know it, your appetite has come alive again, and you begin to feel nourished in ways you had forgotten were possible." *The New York Times*

1998 Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Play

Plays and dates are subject to change.

About The Gamm Theatre

Founded in 1984 as Alias Stage, the non-profit **Sandra Feinstein-Gamm Theatre** creates the finest of live theater, engaging the audience intensely in current and recurrent issues of consequence. The Gamm further serves the public with educational outreach programming designed to support the theatrical experience, and help sustain and enhance the intellectual and cultural life of its community. The Gamm is a member of **New England Area Theatre** (NEAT), a bargaining unit of the Actors Equity Association.

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