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THE GAMM RETURNS TO LIVE, IN-PERSON PERFORMANCES WITH *A LIE AGREED UPON* New Version of Ibsen's *An Enemy of the People* Resonates Powerfully Today

WARWICK, RI (September 2, 2021) – The Sandra Feinstein-Gamm Theatre (The Gamm) opens **Season 37** with *A Lie Agreed Upon*, a timely rewrite of Henrik Ibsen's *An Enemy of the People*. Written and directed by Gamm Artistic Director Tony Estrella, *A Lie Agreed Upon* explores what can happen in a democratic society when science and individual morality clash with economic interests and majority rule.

A Lie Agreed Upon runs from **September 30-October 24**. This production marks **The Gamm's return to live, in-person performances** after 18 months, having cut short its staging of *Assassins* on March 12, 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The play follows the story of Dr. Thomas Stockman, a medical examiner charged with inspecting the public hot springs that he helped to promote...and on which the prosperity of his hometown depends. When Stockman finds the water to be contaminated, his attempts to speak the truth are shut down by a growing mob that includes the mayor, Peter Stockman, who is also his brother. **Sean McConaghy** (*Julius Caesar*, *An Enemy of the People*, both 2004) and **Jonathan Higginbotham** (*JQA*, 2019) play Thomas and Peter Stockman, respectively.

A Lie Agreed Upon is The Gamm's fourth Ibsen production, having staged *An Enemy of the People* in 2004, *A Doll's House* in 2011, and *Hedda Gabler* in 2014 – all late 19th-century works that retain their bite and relevance, Estrella said.

"*A Lie Agreed Upon* is the perfect play to welcome back our audience and share what The Gamm does best, which is epic theater on an intimate scale. Based on Ibsen's masterful *An Enemy of the People*, *A Lie Agreed Upon* confronts our commitment to the societal values and core principles that we purport to hold dear. From public health and free speech, to the nature and purpose of democracy, it digs deep through issues as relevant today as they were over a century ago," Estrella said. "I worked on this play over the course of this most challenging of years, asking how do we live together now and what do we owe our families, our communities, and our future."

A Lie Agreed Upon runs **September 30-October 24** at **The Gamm Theatre, 1245 Jefferson Blvd., Warwick, RI**. Tickets are \$49-\$69; preview performances (September 30-October 3) are \$35. Discounts for seniors, students, groups and more. Details at gammtheatre.org/discounts. Tickets: **401-723-4266** or gammtheatre.org.

For the safety and comfort of Gamm audiences, all patrons must present either **proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test** in order to enter the theater. All patrons, regardless of vaccination status, **must wear masks**. [Learn more](#).

ABOUT *A LIE AGREED UPON*

The future is looking bright in Springfield! A brand-new hot springs spa is about to open its doors. Hotels and shops are booming in anticipation of a blockbuster tourist season. The spa's visionary chief medical officer, Dr. Thomas Stockman, is being hailed as a local hero for turning the humdrum town into a must-see destination...until he discovers the springs are toxic and insists on doing the "right thing." **Inconvenient truths fight alternative facts, minority rights battle majority rule, and individual conscience clashes with economic interest in this powerful reinvention of Ibsen's masterpiece.**

Season Supporter: **Rhode Island State Council on the Arts**

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

A Lie Agreed Upon

a new version of **Henrik Ibsen's *An Enemy of the People***, written and directed by **Tony Estrella†**

CAST

Dr. Thomas Stockman.....**Sean McConaghy***
 Katherine Stockman.....**Donnla Hughes***
 Peter Stockman.....**Jonathan Higginbotham***
 Petra Stockman.....**Aryn Mello Pryor**
 Greta Stockman.....**Aniko Moscarelli/Lola Darling**
 Morten Kiil.....**Joe Penczak***
 Thea Hovstad.....**Nora Eschenheimer***
 Billings.....**Jeff Ararat**
 Captain Horster.....**Jomo Peters**

Mr. Aslaksen.....**Fred Sullivan, Jr.***
 The Drunk.....**Jason Quinn**
 Townsperson**Michelle L. Walker**
 Townsperson**Eric Behr**
 Townsperson**Sarah Sinclair**
 Townsperson.....**Maria Noriko Cabral**
 Townsperson.....**Dan Garcia**
 Townsperson.....**Erik Robles**

CREW

Assistant Direction by **Erin Haas**
 Set Design by **Patrick Lynch†**
 Costume Design by **Meg Donnelly**
 Lighting Design by **Jeff Adelberg†**

Sound Design by **Alex Eizenberg**
 Production Management by **Jessica Hill Kidd**
 Production Stage Management by **Robin Grady***
 Assistant Stage Management by **Kelsey Emry***

†Member of Stage Directors and Choreographers Society, a national theatrical labor union.
 *Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

A LIE AGREED UPON

| Su | M | Tu | W | Th | F | Sa |
|--------------------------|----|----------------------|------------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 PREVIEW 7:30 | 1 PREVIEW 7:30 | 2 PREVIEW 7:30 |
| 3 PREVIEW 2 & 7:30 | 4 | 5 OPENING 7:30 | 6 7:30 | 7 7:30 | 8 7:30 | 9 7:30 |
| 10 2 & 7:30 | 11 | 12 7:30 | 13 7:30 | 14 7:30 | 15 7:30 | 16 7:30 |
| 17 2 & 7:30 | 18 | 19 7:30 | 20 7:30 | 21 7:30 | 22 7:30 | 23 2 & 7:30 |
| 24 2:00 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |

Note: October 10 matinee performance will be followed by a humanities discussion, open to the public and free of charge.

ABOUT THE GAMM THEATRE

Founded in 1984, the non-profit Gamm Theatre is proud to tell stories that entertain, provoke, and engage seriously with the most important issues of our time. The Gamm further serves the public with educational programming that enriches the cultural and civic life of our community. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Tony Estrella and Managing Director Amy Gravell, The Gamm is a regionally recognized, award-winning theater and a proud member of New England Area Theatre (NEAT), a bargaining unit of the Actors' Equity Association.