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THE GAMM OPENS THE NEW YEAR WITH *WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF?*

WARWICK, RI (December 27, 2023) – **The Sandra Feinstein-Gamm Theatre** (The Gamm) opens the new year with ***Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?***, a landmark of the American stage. **Edward Albee's** masterful 3-act play is considered by many to be the playwright's best work for its unbridled dialogue and stark message that people must learn to live without illusion.

Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? runs **January 25-February 18** at The Gamm Theatre, 1245 Jefferson Blvd., Warwick, R.I. Tickets: **\$55-\$65**; preview performances (January 25-28) just **\$38**. Information about **Friday night pay-what-you-wish tickets**, as well as discounts for seniors, students, groups and more at gammtheatre.org/discounts. Tickets: **401-723-4266** or gammtheatre.org/virginia

Steve Kidd, who directed **Lucy Kirkwood's *The Children*** last season at The Gamm, returns to helm this production. **Gamm Artistic Director Tony Estrella** and veteran Gamm actor **Jeanine Kane** (*Grace* in *Faith Healer*) are George and Martha, the bitter, aging couple at the center of Albee's **Tony Award-winning** play. **Gunnar Manchester** (*Maks* in *Ironbound*) and **Gabrielle McCauley** (*Urzula* in *Describe the Night*) are their young houseguests, unwittingly drawn into a boozy evening of wild barbs and a fracturing marriage.

Kidd called ***Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*** "one of the most important American plays of all time because, among other things, it was the first of its kind to make us laugh, cry and question often all at the same time."

"Our incredible cast and designers are fashioning an experience that brings this singular play of the past to the present with remarkable clarity, hilarity and urgency," Kidd said. "It is personal, powerful, startlingly current and as shocking as the original production of 1962. To spend an evening with the dysfunctional duo of George and Martha and their guests in the small, intimate space of The Gamm will be **a roller-coaster ride through love, loss, belly-laughs, gasps and edge-of-your seat entertainment.**"

ABOUT *WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF?*

From its **Tony Award-winning debut for best play** (1963) to its many revivals on the modern stage, Edward Albee's masterful 3-act play is an explosively comedic and harrowing masterpiece. On the heels of a university faculty party, middle-aged professor George and his wife, Martha, invite campus newcomers Nick and Honey over for drinks. What starts as harmless patter escalates to a full night of vicious, booze-fueled barbs, as the unwitting young couple is drawn into their hosts' all-out marital warfare. By sunrise, all secrets are laid bare and none of them will ever be the same. **A landmark of the American theater and arguably Albee's best work, *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* explores the illusions we create in the face of painful truths and life's uncertainty.**

"Mr. Albee's scalding drama ... still retains the bantam energy and strong bite of its youth." *New York Times*

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

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ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?

By **Edward Albee**, directed by **Steve Kidd**

CAST

Geroge.....**Tony Estrella***

Martha.....**Jeanine Kane***

Nick.....**Gunnar Manchester***

Honey.....**Gabrielle McCauley**

CREW

Set Design/Director of Production **Jessica Hill Kidd**

Costume Design **David T. Howard**

Lighting Design **Jeff Adelberg** +

Sound Design **Hunter Spoede**

Stage Manager **Kelsey Emry***

*Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

+Member of United Scenic Artists, Local USA 829 of the IATSE, the union representing Scenic, Costume, Lighting, Sound and Projection Designers in Live Performance

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 Executive Director Jason Cabral, 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.

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