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TheatreSquared launches Season 10 with five-time Tony winner

AMADEUS

by Peter Shaffer

Directed by Amy Herzberg and Sean Patrick Reilly On stage August 27–September 20, 2015

NORTHWEST ARKANSAS — August 3, 2015 — TheatreSquared will launch its Tenth Anniversary Season with the riveting modern classic *Amadeus*, by Peter Shaffer. The production will be co-directed by T2 co-founder and associate artistic director Amy Herzberg (*Good People*, *One Man Two Guvnors*) and by Broadway veteran Sean Patrick Reilly (*Hamlet*, *Superior Donuts*). Winner of five Tony Awards—including Best Play—and the Oscar for Best Picture, *Amadeus* is a modern classic, weaving intrigue, comedy, suspense, and music into a tale of breathtaking dramatic power. His legacy threatened, composer Antonio Salieri schemes to discredit a foul-mouthed former child prodigy. But genius, it seems, is not easily obscured, and Salieri must ask himself how far he will go to destroy the young Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. This thrilling masterpiece by legendary playwright Peter Shaffer will feature T2's largest ensemble cast to date. Performances are scheduled August 27 through September 20, Wednesdays through Sundays, at Walton Arts Center's Nadine Baum Studios (505 W. Spring St., Fayetteville, AR 72701).

"Amadeus is the perfect play to open our Tenth Anniversary Season—an undisputed modern masterpiece that reaches the heights of human drama," said T2 Artistic Director Robert Ford. "It's brilliant, risky and ridiculously fun, with a soundtrack that's pure genius."

"To mark the launch of this landmark season, we are producing the largest-scale production in T2's history — an epic drama on an intimate scale," said T2 Executive Director Martin Miller.

The record-size cast of *Amadeus* includes James Belcher* (*Baron Gottfried van Swieten*), Bob Hart (*Count Johann Kilian von Strack*), Bryce Kemph (*Major-Domo*), Steven Marzolf* (*Emperor Joseph II*), James Taylor Odom (*Venticello*), Denna Reilly* (*Katherina Cavalieri*), Sean Patrick Reilly* (*Antonio Salieri*), Bill Rogers (*Count Franz Orsini-Rosenberg*), Warren Rosenaur (*Guiseppe Bonno*), Courtneay Sanders (*Costanze Weber*), Laura Shatkus (*Teresa Salieri*), Nate Stahlke (*Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart*), Mark Landon Smith (*Valet*), Justin Walker (*Venticello*), and Britney Walker-Merritte (*Cook*). The intern ensemble includes Jalen Bell, Landon Calhoun, Guadalupe Campos, and EJ Ogbeide.

Director **Amy Herzberg** is co-founder and associate artistic director of TheatreSquared, where she has directed numerous productions including, most recently, *One Man, Two Guvnors, Good People*, and *Next to Normal*. She has directed or performed in more than 100 productions throughout the U.S. and internationally, and been honored at home with the Governors' Arts Award and as a Visionary Arkansan (*Arkansas Times*). Director **Sean Patrick Reilly**, who will also play the role of Salieri in T2's production, has worked as an actor and director in venues throughout the country, including scores of professional credits on Broadway, off-Broadway, and in television and film. For TheatreSquared, he directed *Hamlet, Period of Adjustment*, and *Superior Donuts* and appeared in *The Spiritualist, Good People*, and *Superior Donuts*.

Playwright **Sir Peter Shaffer** has won numerous Tony Awards (including Best Play for *Amadeus*) as well as the Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Play and Outer Critics Circle Award for Outstanding Broadway Play for *Amadeus*, amongst many others. Shaffer was inducted into the Theatre Hall of Fame in 2007.

The lead creative team for *Amadeus* includes lighting and scenic designer Shawn Irish, costume designer Ruby Kemph, wigs designer Robert Pickens, sound designer Will Eubanks, fight director D.C. Wright, properties coordinator Brodie Jasch, and stage manager David Loranca.

The performance will run two hours and thirty minutes, including an intermission, and contains occasional adult language and themes. Tickets are on sale now at (479) 443-5600 or by visiting theatre2.org. The play is made possible in part by show sponsors Bob and Becky Alexander, Greenwood Gearhart Inc. and Sandy Edwards. To mark the play's opening, Greenwood Gearhart will sponsor a string quartet performance by SoNA in the lobby on the opening Friday and Saturday night performances (9/28, 9/29 7:30pm).

Performance Schedule

Monday — Tuesday No Performances

Wednesday — Friday 7:30pm (begins second week)

Saturday 2:00pm; 7:30pm

Sunday 2:00pm

Ticket & Subscription Info

Tickets range from \$15-\$40 (\$10/Under 30) and are available through Tickets Northwest Arkansas at (479) 443-5600 or online at theatre2.org.

Season subscriptions to TheatreSquared's Tenth Anniversary Season are also on sale, with five-play packages starting at \$70 and four-play packages starting at \$60. Series options include Wednesday through Saturday evenings at 7:30pm, as well as Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2pm. Limited tickets are also available to T2's Opening Night Series on the first Friday of each production, which includes a champagne toast and a catered reception with the cast. Benefits for all T2 subscribers include savings of up to 15% on each ticket, prime seating reserved before single tickets go on sale, free unlimited exchanges, and same-day discounts at T2 partner restaurants and hotels. For more information or to purchase a season package, visit **theatre2.org/subscribe**.

About TheatreSquared

TheatreSquared's is Northwest Arkansas's professional regional theatre, offering an intimate live theatre experience for 30,000 patrons each year. In 2011, TheatreSquared was recognized by the American Theatre Wing, founder of the Tony Awards, as one of the nation's ten most promising emerging theatres. TheatreSquared has experienced remarkable growth in recent seasons, expanding its audience tenfold in the past five years. For further information or press tickets, contact TheatreSquared at (479) 445-6333 or visit theatre2.org.

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Amadeus is sponsored in part by Bob and Becky Alexander, Greenwood Gearhart Inc., and Sandy Edwards.

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