

ALLEY THEATRE

FOR RELEASE
October 26, 2015

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Alley Theatre Adds **Around The World in 80 Days** and **The Christians** to the 2015 -2016 Season

HOUSTON – Gregory Boyd, Artistic Director of the Tony Award-winning Alley Theatre, announced the addition of two plays to its 2015-2016 Inaugural Season in the newly renovated Hubbard Theatre. Mark Brown's **Around The World in 80 Days** will run March 4 through April 3, 2016 followed by Lucas Hnath's **The Christians** April 22 – May 15, 2016.

Mark Brown's **Around the World in 80 Days**, adapted from the great Jules Verne adventure, will be directed by Mark Shanahan, who helmed the Alley's phenomenally popular *Alfred Hitchcock's The 39 Steps*. In **Around the World in 80 Days**, fearless adventurer Phileas Fogg agrees to an outrageous wager that puts his life and fortune at risk, as he embarks on a grand journey to circle the globe in a race to beat the clock. Danger, romance and comic surprises abound as five actors portraying 42 characters traverse seven continents in this classic adventure.

Artistic Director Gregory Boyd will direct Lucas Hnath's **The Christians** which centers on Pastor Paul, who started his church in a modest storefront. Now, he presides over a congregation of thousands. On the anniversary of the church's founding, Paul is about to preach a sermon that will shake the foundation of his congregation's beliefs. What happens to the flock when the shepherd has a change of heart? **The Christians** playwright Lucas Hnath has been lauded "as one of the freshest playwriting voices to emerge in the past five years," by *The New York Times*.

In order to accommodate these new shows, the planned productions of *The Night of the Iguana* and *Travesties* will move to future seasons.

Previously announced plays in the 2015-2016 season includes **One Man, Two Guvnors**, **The Other Place**, **All The Way**, **Grounded**, **The Nether** and **Born Yesterday**. The Alley's 2015-2016 subscription season includes 8 plays, plus traditional holiday special **A Christmas Carol – A Ghost Story of Christmas** and, returning to the Neuhaus Theatre for a limited run, **The Santaland Diaries**.

TICKET AND SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

Season tickets and individual productions are on sale now. Subscription packages range from \$129 - \$614. Individual show tickets range from \$26 - \$110. Discounted tickets are available for any student, regardless of age, with a valid student ID for \$16 for designated performances in designated sections. Tickets can be ordered online (alleytheatre.org) or by phone (713.220.5700). Discounts are available for groups of 10 or more.

Projects at the Alley Theatre are funded in part by a grant from the City of Houston and the Texas Commission on the Arts. The Alley Theatre is supported by the 2015-2016 season sponsor United Airlines, the official airline of the Alley Theatre.

ABOUT THE ALLEY THEATRE

The Alley Theatre, one of America's leading not-for-profit theatres, is a nationally recognized performing arts company lead by Artistic Director Gregory Boyd and Managing Director Dean R. Gladden. Home to a Resident Company of actors, the Alley creates a wide-ranging repertoire and innovative productions of classics, neglected modern plays, and premieres. Alley All New, the initiative to commission and develop new work year round, features the Alley All New Festival each season presenting workshops and readings of new plays and musicals in process. Additionally the Alley serves 65,000 students annually with award-winning education and community programs including in-school arts integration residencies, school tours and student matinees. A recipient of the Special Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre, the Alley has brought productions to Broadway, 40 American cities including New York's Lincoln Center and internationally to London, Berlin, Paris, and St. Petersburg throughout its 69 year history.

The Alley Theatre began a \$46.5 million building renovation in 2014-2015 season, the first major improvements since the building opened in 1968. With more than 500 performances in 2015-2016, the Alley will produce more shows than all other performing arts organizations in the Houston Theater District combined.

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2015-2016 SEASON SCHEDULE

ONE MAN, TWO GUVNORS

By Richard Bean

Based on *The Servant of Two Masters* by Carlo Goldoni

Songs by Grant Olding

Directed by Gregory Boyd

Hubbard Theatre

Now Through November 1, 2015

THE OTHER PLACE

By Sharr White

Directed by Don Stephenson

Neuhaus Theatre

Previews start October 23, Opens October 28, Through November 15, 2015

ALL THE WAY

By Robert Schenkkan

Directed by Kevin Moriarty

A co-production with Dallas Theater Center

Hubbard Theatre

Previews start January 29, Opens February 3, Through February 21, 2016

AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS

By Mark Brown

Directed by Mark Shanahan

Hubbard Theatre

Previews start March 4, Opens March 9, Through April 3, 2016

GROUNDING

By George Brant

Directed by Jackson Gay

Neuhaus Theatre

Previews start March 25, opens March 30, and runs through April 17, 2016

THE CHRISTIANS

By Lucas Hnath

Directed by Gregory Boyd

Hubbard Theatre

Previews start April 22, opens April 27, and runs through May 15, 2016.

THE NETHER

By Jennifer Haley

Neuhaus Theatre

Previews start May 6, Opens May 11, Through May 29, 2016

BORN YESTERDAY

By Garson Kanin

Directed by Jonathan Moscone

Hubbard Theatre

Previews start June 3, Opens June 8, Through July 3, 2016

Add-ons to Subscription Package:

A CHRISTMAS CAROL – A GHOST STORY OF CHRISTMAS

By Charles Dickens

Adapted and Originally Directed by Michael Wilson

Directed by James Black

Hubbard Theatre

Previews start November 20, Opens November 22, Through December 28, 2015

THE SANTALAND DIARIES

By David Sedaris

Adapted for the stage by Joe Mantello

Directed by David Cromer

Neuhaus Theatre

Previews start December 4, Opens December 6, Through December 31, 2015