

For immediate release

**CASTING ANNOUNCED FOR LYNN NOTTAGE’S “CLYDE’S”
A CO-PRODUCTION WITH GOODMAN THEATRE
AT CENTER THEATRE GROUP / MARK TAPER FORUM
NOVEMBER 15 – DECEMBER 18**

Celebrated creative collaborators over two decades, Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright **Lynn Nottage** and director **Kate Whoriskey** bring their latest Broadway triumph, “Clyde’s,” to Chicago and Los Angeles, launching Goodman Theatre’s new 2022-2023 Season and part of Center Theatre Group’s 2022-2023 Season. “Clyde’s” will appear in Chicago at the Goodman Theatre September 10 through October 9, 2022 preceding its Los Angeles run at the Mark Taper Forum November 15 through December 18, 2022. “Clyde’s” is co-production with Goodman Theatre in Chicago.

“It’s enormously exciting to welcome audiences to our new season with a sensational new work from one of the Goodman’s most-produced playwrights,” said Goodman Theatre Artistic Director Robert Falls. “We’re also thrilled to welcome back Lynn’s longtime artistic partner, director Kate Whoriskey, and to collaborate with our friends at Los Angeles’ Center Theatre Group to extend the life of this wonderful production.”

“‘Clyde’s was a highlight of last year’s Broadway season, and our partnership with the Goodman Theatre allows us to bring this outstanding production to Los Angeles,” said Center Theatre Group Managing Director / CEO Meghan Pressman. “Clyde’s’ will be the second time we have produced Lynn’s work in Los Angeles, and we are thrilled to bring this bold, engaging, and entertaining play to our audiences for its West Coast premiere.”

The cast features Tony Award-nominated actress **De’Adre Aziza** as the hot-tempered Clyde, whose eponymous truck stop café’s kitchen staff of formerly incarcerated people—**Kevin Kenerly** (Montrellous), **Reza Salazar** (Rafael), **Nedra Snipes** (Letitia) and **Garrett Young** (Jason)—dreams of creating the perfect sandwich.

“I am beyond thrilled to be returning to the Goodman Theatre, which has been so instrumental in nurturing me a theater artist,” said playwright **Lynn Nottage**. “I can’t wait to share ‘Clyde’s’ with the Chicago community, and with audiences in Los Angeles at Center Theatre Group later this fall.”

“I am thrilled to work with Tony nominated De’Adre Aziza, Nedra Snipes and Garrett Young—as well as continue developing this play with original collaborators Reza Salazar and Kevin Kenerly,” said Director **Kate Whoriskey**, whose previous world-premiere collaborations with Ms. Nottage include “Sweat,” “Ruined,” “Fabulation or The Re-Education of Undine,” and “Intimate Apparel.”

Chicago audiences are first to experience “Clyde’s” following its Broadway run, where it earned five Tony Award nominations and was critically hailed as a “delightful new play” (The New York Times) with “feisty comedy on the menu” (*Washington Post*), a “winning recipe” (Deadline) with “brilliant writing” (*Daily Beast*), and a “flavor-bomb of a new comedy about survival, second chances and digesting whatever life serves up” (Variety).

Understudies for this production include **Danielle Davis** (Clyde), **Lewon Johns** (Montrellous), **Maya Vinice Prentiss** (Letitia), **Arik Vega** (Rafael) and **Gage Wallace** (Jason). The creative team includes **Takeshi Kata** (Set Design); **Jennifer Moeller** (Costume Design); **Christopher Akerlind** (Lighting Design); **Justin Ellington** (Sound Design); and **Justin Hicks** (Composition). Casting is by **Lauren Port**, CSA and **Rachael Jimenez**, CSA, and **Nikki Blue** is the Production Stage Manager.

A playwright and a screenwriter, **Lynn Nottage** is the first woman in history to win two Pulitzer Prizes for Drama. Her plays have been produced widely in the United States and throughout the world. Broadway credits include her plays “Clyde’s” (2ST) and “Sweat,” and the libretto for the musical “MJ.” Other work includes the libretto for the opera “Intimate Apparel” (Lincoln Center Theater); co-curating the performance installation “The Watering Hole” (Signature Theater); the libretto for the musical adaptation of “The Secret Life of Bees;” as well as her plays “Mlima's Tale;” “Fabulation, or the Re-Education of Undine;” “Crumbs from the Table of Joy;” “Las Meninas;” “Mud, River, Stone;” “Por’knockers,” and “POOF!.” She has also developed “This is Reading,” a performance installation in Reading, Pennsylvania. Ms. Nottage is the recipient of a MacArthur “Genius Grant” Fellowship, among other awards, is an associate professor at Columbia University School of the Arts and is a member of the Dramatists Guild.

Kate Whoriskey is a New York-based theatre and opera director. On Broadway, she has directed “Clyde’s,” “Sweat,” and “The Miracle Worker.” Off-Broadway credits include “All the Natalie Portmans” at MCC; *Sweat*, “Manhatta,” and “Ping Pong” at The Public; “Aubergine,” “Inked Baby,” and “Fabulation” at Playwrights Horizons; “Her Requiem” at Lincoln Center; “How I Learned to Drive” and “Cardinal” at Second Stage; “Oroonoko” at Theatre for a New Audience; and “Ruined” and “Tales from Red Vienna” at Manhattan Theatre Club. Regionally, she has worked at the Goodman, A.R.T, the Guthrie, the Huntington, the Geffen, South Coast Rep, Sundance Theatre Lab, New York Stage and Film among others. Internationally, her work has been seen at the Chatelet in Paris and Teatro Municipal Opera in Rio de Janeiro and Carriage Works in Sydney. She also directed “Turn of the Screw” at Mannis. Teaching experience includes Princeton, NYU, and UC Davis. She was recently awarded Best Director from the Drama League for her production of “Clyde’s.”

Tickets for the Goodman Theatre presentation are now available (\$25 –\$80, subject to change) at GoodmanTheatre.org/Clydes or by phone at (312) 443-3800. Subscriptions for the 2022-2023 Season at the Mark Taper Forum, which includes this production of “Clyde’s,” are currently available to purchase online at CenterTheatreGroup.org or by phone at (213) 972-4444 or in person at the Center Theatre Group Box Offices (at the Ahmanson Theatre) at The Music Center, 135 N. Grand Avenue in Downtown L.A. 90012.

ABOUT THE CO-PRODUCING THEATERS:

Center Theatre Group, one of the nation’s preeminent arts and cultural organizations, is Los Angeles’ leading nonprofit theatre company, which, under the leadership of Managing Director / CEO Meghan Pressman and Producing Director Douglas C. Baker, and in collaboration with the five Associate Artistic Directors, Luis Alfaro, Lindsay Allbaugh, Tyrone Davis, Neel Keller, Kelley Kirkpatrick, programs seasons at the 736-seat Mark Taper Forum and 1,600 to

2,100-seat Ahmanson Theatre at The Music Center in Downtown Los Angeles, and the 317-seat Kirk Douglas Theatre in Culver City. In addition to presenting and producing the broadest range of theatrical entertainment in the country, Center Theatre Group is one of the nation’s leading producers of ambitious new works through commissions and world premiere productions and a leader in interactive community engagement and education programs that reach across generations, demographics, and circumstance to serve Los Angeles. CenterTheatreGroup.org

Chicago’s theater since 1925, **Goodman Theatre** is a not-for-profit arts and community organization in the heart of the Loop, distinguished by the excellence and scope of its artistic programming and community engagement. The theater’s artistic priorities include new play development (more than 150 world or American premieres), large scale musical theater works and reimagined classics. Artists and productions have earned two Pulitzer Prizes, 22 Tony Awards and more than 160 Jeff Awards, among other accolades. The Goodman is the first theater in the world to produce all 10 plays in August Wilson’s “American Century Cycle.” Its longtime annual holiday tradition “A Christmas Carol,” now in its fifth decade, has created a new generation of theatergoers in Chicago. The Goodman also frequently serves as a production and program partner with national and international companies and Chicago’s Off-Loop theaters. Using the tools of the theatrical profession, the Goodman’s Education and Engagement programs aim to develop generations of citizens who understand the cultures and stories of diverse voices. The Goodman’s Alice Rapoport Center for Education and Engagement is the home of these programs, which are offered free of charge for Chicago youth—85% of whom come from underserved communities—schools and life-long learners.

As a cultural and community organization invested in quality, diversity and community, Goodman Theatre is committed to using the art of theater for a better Chicago. Goodman Theatre’s [Action Plan for Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Anti-Racism and Access \(IDEAA\)](#) was born out of the belief that progress means action, which includes building on the decades-long commitment to using art, assets and resources to contribute to a more just, equitable and anti-racist society.

Goodman Theatre was founded by William O. Goodman and his family in honor of their son Kenneth, an important figure in Chicago’s cultural renaissance in the early 1900s. The Goodman family’s legacy lives on through the continued work and dedication of Kenneth’s family, including Albert Ivar Goodman, who with his late mother, Edith-Marie Appleton, contributed the necessary funds for the creation of the new Goodman center in 2000.

Today, Goodman Theatre is led by Artistic Director **Robert Falls** (**Susan Booth** will assume that role this fall) and Executive Director **Roche Schulfer**. Theater leadership also includes the distinguished members of the Artistic Collective: **Rebecca Gilman, Dael Orlandersmith, Henry Godinez, Steve Scott, Kimberly Senior, Chuck Smith, Regina Taylor** and **Mary Zimmerman**. **Jeff Hesse** is Chairman of Goodman Theatre’s Board of Trustees, **Fran Del Boca** is Women’s Board President and **Craig McCaw** is President of the Scenemakers Board for young professionals.

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August 11, 2022