

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Seattle Rep's Second Installment of its Online Series 'Plays in Process' Features New Translation of Henrik Ibsen's Masterpiece

GHOSTS

By Henrik Ibsen

Translated from the Norwegian by Paul Walsh

Directed by Carey Perloff

Produced by the Williamstown Theatre Festival in July 2019

Mandy Greenfield Artistic Director

This Plays in Process presentation will feature leading actors Uma Thurman and David Strathairn – single tickets are on sale now at SeattleRep.org.

Seattle, WA (February 2, 2021) — The first installment of Seattle Rep's new behind-the-scenes program Plays in Process got underway last week, featuring the new play *Fannie* from local, award-winning playwright Cheryl L. West. On its heels is the second installment premiering February 25, featuring another new work on the horizon for Seattle Rep – a fresh and relevant new translation of one of Henrik Ibsen's most vivid and controversial masterpieces, ***Ghosts***. This presentation will be directed by **Carey Perloff** (*A Thousand Splendid Suns*), and feature commentary from acclaimed actors **Uma Thurman** (Golden Globe winner and Academy Award nominee; *Kill Bill*) and **David Strathairn** (*Good Night, and Good Luck*), as well as one of the foremost Ibsen translators of our time, **Paul Walsh** (*John Gabriel Borkman*). Single tickets are on sale now at SeattleRep.org.

Ghosts follows a mother caught between duty and desire and begs the question: how far should she go to protect her family? In Ibsen fashion, the play itself is a contemplative commentary on 19th century morality that has been translated for the American contemporary theater. Of the play and its title's meaning, translator Paul Walsh said, "It means, that which goes again; that which returns. The ghosts of our past, all those things that we thought we had done away with—racism, sexism, homophobia—they all are returning now, and it's so relevant. That's how ghosts operate within this play and within our lives" (excerpt from Williamstown Theater Festival 2019 interview).

This new translation and subsequent production of *Ghosts* premiered at the Williamstown Theater Festival in 2019. As development continues, Seattle Rep audiences have the opportunity through this

Plays in Process presentation to capture a rare glimpse into the creative process of adapting and refining this vibrant story.

The Plays in Process four-part series pass is now available to purchase at the suggested price of \$60. A single ticket to the *Ghosts* presentation is also available now for the suggested price of \$20. Other individual event tickets will go on sale in the coming weeks. Reservations are required for these events and pay what you choose options are available. Purchase your pass today at SeattleRep.org.

ABOUT HENRIK IBSEN (Playwright)

At age 23, Henrik Ibsen (born March 20, 1828, Skien, Nor., died May 23, 1906, Kristiania) became theater director and resident playwright of the new National Theatre at Bergen, charged with creating a national drama. He directed the Norwegian Theatre in Kristiania from 1857 to 1863, when the theater went bankrupt. He then set off on extended travels in Europe, beginning a self-imposed exile that would last until 1891. In Italy he wrote the troubling moral tragedy *Brand* (1866) and the buoyant *Peer Gynt* (1867). After the satire *Pillars of Society* (1877) he found his voice and an international audience with powerful studies of middle-class morality in *A Doll's House* (1879), *Ghosts* (1881), *An Enemy of the People* (1882), *The Wild Duck* (1884), and *Rosmersholm* (1886). His more symbolic plays, most of them written after his return to Norway in 1891, include *Hedda Gabler* (1890), *The Master Builder* (1892), *Little Eyolf* (1894), and *When We Dead Awaken* (1899). Emphasizing character over plot, Ibsen addressed social problems such as political corruption and the changing role of women as well as psychological conflicts stemming from frustrated love and destructive family relationships. He greatly influenced European theater and is regarded as the founder of modern prose drama.

FOR EDITOR/PRODUCERS:

WHAT:

Ghosts

Part two of Seattle Rep's Plays in Process series

This presentation features a fresh and relevant new translation of *Ghosts*, one of Henrik Ibsen's most vivid and controversial masterpieces. Join Artistic Director Braden Abraham as he leads an in-depth discussion with the artists, and experience first-hand exclusive excerpts from this highly-anticipated project, revealing how collaboration among a diverse group of theater artists uniquely expands the creative process.

Originally produced by the Williamstown Theater Festival in July 2019

Mandy Greenfield, Artistic Director

WHEN:

Thursday, February 25

7:30 p.m. PT

WHERE:

seattlerep.org/ghosts

TICKETS:

Suggested Single Ticket Price \$20

PHOTOS/VIDEO:

Please find available photos and video [here >>](#)

SOCIAL:

SeattleRep.org
FB - /SeattleRep
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#PlaysinProcess
#GhostsSREP

For the social media toolkit, [please visit us here >>](#)

ABOUT SEATTLE REP

Seattle Rep puts theater at the heart of public life. Founded in 1963 and winner of the 1990 Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre, Seattle Rep is currently led by Artistic Director Braden Abraham and Managing Director Jeffrey Herrmann. Over a season and throughout the year, Seattle Rep collaborates with extraordinary artists to create productions and programs that reflect and elevate the diverse cultures, perspectives, and life experiences of the Pacific Northwest. Seattle Rep's nationally recognized programs include the New Play Program, Seattle Rep's Public Works, the August Wilson Monologue Competition, Pay What You Choose ticketing options, and numerous audience enrichment and engagement opportunities including post-play panels, discussions, and community events and presentations.

Seattle Rep has always been committed to supporting new work from playwrights, directors, composers, and more. Through extensive commissioning initiatives and its new play development lab, The Other Season, Seattle Rep offers artists the resources they need to bring the next great play to life. Recent and notable commissions that have been produced on Seattle Rep's stages include *Pullman Porter Blues*, *Lizard Boy*, *The Great Society*, *A Great Wilderness*, and an adaptation of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's *The Hound of the Baskervilles*. Seattle Rep's recently-announced commissioning initiatives 20x30: Reimagining the Anthropocene and New Directions represent the largest, most sustainable, consistent, and robust commissioning programs in the theater's history.

SeattleRep.org.

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