



Media Contact: Dawn Kellogg
Communications Manager
(585) 420-2059
dkellogg@gevatheatre.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GEVA'S 43RD SEASON CONCLUDES WITH *THE MAY QUEEN*

Fun, fresh and savvy new office comedy rounds off 2015-2016 Season.

Rochester, N.Y., April 13, 2016 – A new comedy by Molly Smith Metzler closes the 2015-2016 ESL Wilson Stage Series as Geva Theatre Center presents *The May Queen*. Directed by **Amanda Charlton**, *The May Queen* runs in the Elaine P. Wilson Stage from **May 3 through May 29**.

Everyone who graduated from the Kingston NY High School Class of '97 wonders what happened to their revered May Queen. Some say she became one of Spitzer's hookers; others say she married a sheik in Dubai – but when she suddenly resurfaces in town and starts temping at a small insurance agency, things are a far cry from what they expected. Gossip kicks into high gear among these classmates, turned co-workers, in this fun, fresh and savvy new office comedy with a gigantic heart.

Playwright **Molly Smith Metzler** grew up in Kingston, New York. Her plays – including *Elemeno Pea*, *The May Queen*, *Close Up Space*, *Carve*, and *Training Wisteria* – have been produced across the country and Off-Broadway at such theatres as Manhattan Theatre Club, The Kennedy Center, The Humana Festival of New American Plays, South Coast Rep, Chautauqua Theatre Company, and more. Molly is a proud alum of SUNY Geneseo, where she took her first playwriting class with Terry Browne in 1999. She also studied at Boston University, NYU Tisch, and The Juilliard School, where she was a two-time recipient of the Lecomte du Nouy prize from Lincoln Center. Currently, she is under commission at South Coast Rep, Actors' Theatre of Louisville, and Manhattan Theatre Club. She lives in LA, where she writes for "Orange is the New Black" (Netflix) and "Casual" (Hulu). *The May Queen* premiered to great acclaim in 2014 in a production by the Chautauqua Theatre Company.

Making their Geva Theatre Center debuts in *The May Queen* are **Julian Leong** (Netflix's "Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt," NBC's "Shades of Blue") as David Lund; **Kathryn Meisle** (Broadway's *The Elephant Man* (also the West End); *Outside Mullingar* and *Tartuffe*, for which she was nominated for a Tony Award for Best Actress), as Gail Gillespie; **Peter O'Connor** (Starz's "Flesh & Bone," NBC's "Mercy," "Ed" and "Book of Daniel") as Michael Petracca; **Natasha Warner** (feature films *Farah Goes Bang* and *Odyssey*) as Nicole Chen and **Ariel**

Woodiwiss (*Significant Other* at Roundabout Theatre and *The Convent of Pleasure* at Cherry Lane Theatre) as Jennifer Nash.

The May Queen is directed by **Amanda Charlton** and the design team includes **Timothy Mackabee** (scenic design), **Amy Clark** (costume design), **Ann G. Wrightson** (lighting design) and **Bart Fasbender** (sound design).

The 2015-2016 Wilson Stage Series is sponsored by **ESL Federal Credit Union**. *The May Queen* is produced with support from Lead Co-Producer **Flaum Management** and Media Sponsor **100.5 The Drive**.

***The May Queen* begins previews on May 3, opens May 7
and runs through May 29.**

**For further information, photographs or to arrange interviews, please contact:
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PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

Previews: Tuesday, May 3 @ 7:30pm
Wednesday, May 4 @ 7:30pm
Thursday, May 5 @ 7:30pm
Friday, May 6 @ 8pm
Saturday, May 7 @ 2pm (Open-Captioned Performance)

Opening: **Saturday, May 7 @ 8pm (Opening Night)**

Performances: Sunday, May 8 @ 2pm and 7pm
Tuesday, May 10 @ 6pm
Wednesday, May 11 @ 7:30pm
Thursday, May 12 @ 7:30pm (Community Night: Out at Geva)
Friday, May 13 @ 8pm
Saturday, May 14 @ 4pm and 8:30pm
Sunday, May 15 @ 2pm (Sunday Salon) and 7pm
Tuesday, May 17 @ 7:30pm
Wednesday, May 18 @ 7:30pm
Thursday, May 19 @ 7:30pm
Friday, May 20 @ 8pm
Saturday, May 21 @ 4pm and 8:30pm
Sunday, May 22 @ 2pm (Audio Described performance) and 7pm
Tuesday, May 24 @ 7:30pm
Wednesday, May 25 @ 2pm and 7:30pm (Open-Captioned Performances)
Thursday, May 26 @ 7:30pm (ASL Interpreted Performance)
Friday, May 27 @ 8pm
Saturday, May 28 @ 4pm and 8:30pm
Sunday, May 29 @ 2pm (Sunday Salon)

Ticket Prices: Tickets start at \$25.

Reservations: (585) 232-GEVA (4382), Website: www.gevatheatre.org

Location: Geva Theatre Center, 75 Woodbury Blvd, Rochester, NY 14607

*Open captioning is provided with support from Hearing Loss Association of America – Rochester Chapter.

GEVA THEATRE CENTER

Founded in 1972, Geva Theatre Center is a not-for-profit, professional theatre company dedicated to creating and producing professional theatre productions, programs and services of a national standard. As Rochester's leading professional theatre, Geva Theatre Center is the most attended regional theatre in New York State, and one of the 25 most subscribed in the country, serving up to 160,000 patrons annually, including more than 16,000 students.

The 526-seat Elaine P. Wilson Stage is home to a wide variety of performances, from musicals to American and world classics. The 180-seat Ron & Donna Fielding Stage is home to Geva's own series of contemporary drama, comedy and musical theatre; Geva Comedy Improv; Geva's New Play Reading Series and the Hornets' Nest - an innovative play-reading series facilitating community-wide discussion on controversial topics. In addition, the Fielding Stage hosts visiting companies of both local and international renown.

Geva Theatre Center offers a wide variety of educational, outreach and literary programs, nurturing audiences and artists alike. Since 1995, the organization has been under the artistic direction of Mark Cuddy.

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