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**YALE REPERTORY THEATRE
ANNOUNCES 2008-09 SEASON**

PASSION PLAY

By SARAH RUHL

Directed by MARK WING-DAVEY

American Premiere

HAPPY NOW?

By LUCINDA COXON

Directed by LIZ DIAMOND

ROUGH CROSSING

By TOM STOPPARD

Directed by MARK RUCKER

East Coast Premiere

LYDIA

By OCTAVIO SOLIS

Directed by JULIETTE CARRILLO

World Premiere

NOTES FROM UNDERGROUND

Adapted from the novel by FYODOR DOSTOEVSKY

By ROBERT WOODRUFF and BILL CAMP

Directed by ROBERT WOODRUFF

Featuring BILL CAMP

DEATH OF A SALESMAN

By ARTHUR MILLER

Directed by JAMES BUNDY

Featuring CHARLES S. DUTTON

YALE REPERTORY THEATRE (**James Bundy**, Artistic Director; **Victoria Nolan**, Managing Director) is pleased to announce its **2008-09 Season**, which will include Pulitzer Prize finalist **Sarah Ruhl's** (Yale Rep's *The Clean House* and *Eurydice*) epic trilogy **PASSION PLAY** directed by **Mark Wing-Davey** (Off-Broadway's recent *Unconditional*, Yale Rep's *Safe in Hell*); the American premiere of **HAPPY NOW?** by Lucinda Coxon, **Tom Stoppard's** tuneful madcap romance **ROUGH CROSSING** directed by **Mark Rucker** (the film *Die, Mommie, Die!*, Yale Rep's *The Mistakes Madeline Made*); the east coast premiere of **LYDIA**, the acclaimed new play by **Octavio Solis** (*El Paso Blue*, *Santos & Santos*) directed by **Juliette Carrillo**; the world premiere of **NOTES FROM UNDERGROUND**, adapted from Dostoevsky's revolutionary novel by innovative director **Robert Woodruff** and OBIE Award-winning actor **Bill Camp**, who will also appear in the play; and in celebration of its 60th Anniversary, a brand new production of **Arthur Miller's** masterpiece **DEATH OF A SALESMAN** with **Charles S. Dutton** as Willy Loman, directed by Artistic Director **James Bundy**.

ABOUT THE SEASON

PASSION PLAY

By Sarah Ruhl

Directed by Mark Wing-Davey

University Theatre (222 York Street)

September 19-October 11, 2008

Opening Night: September 25

Pulitzer Prize finalist Sarah Ruhl, author of *The Clean House* and *Eurydice*, returns to Yale Rep with *Passion Play*: an epic trilogy of plays performed in one evening, hailed by the *Chicago Sun-Times* as “wondrous, transfixing, operatic, and monumental.”

Local communities and amateur actors have come together for centuries to perform Passion plays, theatrical celebrations of the life and death of Christ. Inspired by this tradition, Sarah Ruhl's *Passion Play* transports audiences first to 16th-century England, where the Protestant Queen Elizabeth threatens to shut down a small town's production; then to 20th-century Germany, where Adolf Hitler seizes an opportunity to use the famous Oberammergau Passion Play to promote the Nazi agenda; and finally to Spearfish, South Dakota in 1984, as a local production becomes a campaign stop for a famous actor-turned-President running for re-election.

Poetic, poignant, and uniquely theatrical, *Passion Play* reveals the power of performance to transform ordinary sinners into saints and world leaders into theatrical icons.

Please note: All evening performances of *Passion Play* will begin at 7:30PM.

Contains strong language and nudity.

American Premiere
HAPPY NOW?
By Lucinda Coxon
Directed by Liz Diamond

Yale Repertory Theatre (1120 Chapel Street)
October 24-November 15, 2008
Opening Night: October 30

Yale Rep presents the American premiere of Lucinda Coxon's *Happy Now?*, a wise, witty, and observant new play about having it all.

A chance encounter at a hotel plays upon Kitty's mind as she struggles to balance personal freedom with family life, fidelity and a demanding job. Her husband is more interested in misplaced apostrophes than in their marriage, her parents are looking down the barrel of oblivion, and although she toys with the idea of joining a gym, Kitty's running out of time for big changes. *Happy Now?* dares to ask just that, in this painfully truthful, darkly comic take on contemporary life and how to survive it.

Happy Now? debuted at London's National Theatre in London in 2008 to rapturous reviews and ecstatic audiences: "Coxon's comedy hits nail after nail on the head—the sense of catharsis you get when someone has the guts to go for broke and tell it exactly as it is" (*The Independent*).

Contains strong language.

ROUGH CROSSING
By Tom Stoppard
Directed by Mark Rucker

University Theatre (222 York Street)
November 28-December 20, 2008
Opening Night: December 4

Rough Crossing is a tuneful madcap romance by Tom Stoppard, the four-time Tony Award® and Academy Award-winning author of *Rock 'n' Roll*, *The Coast of Utopia*, *The Real Thing*, and *Shakespeare in Love*.

A brand new musical comedy is about to debut on Broadway, but it doesn't have an ending yet. Also, the beginning needs a little work. And the middle is a mess. Aboard a trans-Atlantic ocean liner, the celebrated playwrights Turai and Gal have their work cut out for them, and only four days to do it. And to complicate matters, their tongue-tied composer—hopelessly in love with the temperamental leading lady (who's been caught in a compromising position with the leading man)—has tossed his score overboard, and

threatens to jump ship himself. Can they steady the turbulent emotions of the cast and crew—and *finish the show*—before they dock in New York?

Freely adapted from Ferenc Molnár's *Play at the Castle*, *Rough Crossing* is as delightfully delirious as the art form it affectionately lampoons, with original music composed by André Previn.

East Coast Premiere

LYDIA

By Octavio Solis

Directed by Juliette Carrillo

Yale Repertory Theatre (1120 Chapel Street)

February 6-February 28, 2009

Opening Night: February 12

Set in the 1970s on the Texas border separating the United States and Mexico, *Lydia* is an intense, lyrical, and magical new play that marks the Yale Rep debut of award-winning playwright Octavio Solis.

The Flores family welcomes Lydia, an undocumented maid, into their El Paso home to care for their daughter Ceci, who was tragically disabled in a car accident on the eve of her *quinceañera*, her fifteenth birthday. Lydia's immediate and seemingly miraculous bond with the girl sets the entire family on a mysterious and shocking journey of discovery. *Lydia* is an unflinching and deeply emotional portrait of a Mexican immigrant family caught in a web of dark secrets.

Lydia, which was produced earlier this year at Denver Center Theatre Company, has been hailed as "an astonishing, expertly crafted tragedy that seduces and tempts you with its pulsing rhythms and evocative language until it has you fully under its spell" (*Denver Post*).

Contains strong language and nudity.

World Premiere

NOTES FROM UNDERGROUND

Adapted from the novel by Fyodor Dostoevsky by Robert Woodruff and Bill Camp

Directed by Robert Woodruff

Featuring Bill Camp

Yale Repertory Theatre (1120 Chapel Street)

March 20-April 11, 2009

Opening Night: March 26

Internationally-acclaimed director Robert Woodruff and OBIE Award-winning actor Bill Camp join forces to bring to life *Notes from Underground*—the revolutionary novel by Fyodor Dostoevsky, master author of *Crime and Punishment* and *The Brothers Karamazov*—in a world premiere production for the stage.

“I am a sick man...I am a wicked man,” cries the Underground Man, one of modern literature’s first, and most remarkable, antiheroes. A former government official who has defiantly withdrawn from a corrupt society, the Underground Man wages his own personal war on everything—and everyone—around him. Laugh-out-loud funny and terrifying, *Notes from Underground* is the passionate, obsessive, and contradictory confession of a tormented soul.

Making his Yale Rep debut, Robert Woodruff—a major force in the American theatre for more than three decades—is known for his inventive interpretation of new and classic plays at American Repertory Theatre, Lincoln Center, Goodman Theatre, Mark Taper Forum, and Habimah National Theatre in Tel Aviv. And *The New York Times* declares, “the brilliant Bill Camp just gets better every year.”

For mature audiences.

DEATH OF A SALESMAN

By Arthur Miller

Directed by James Bundy

Featuring Charles S. Dutton

Yale Repertory Theatre (1120 Chapel Street)

April 24-May 23, 2009

Opening Night: April 30

In celebration of its 60th Anniversary, Yale Rep brings Miller's Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award-winning masterpiece *Death of a Salesman* to its stage for the first time, in a brand new production featuring Charles S. Dutton as Willy Loman, directed by Artistic Director James Bundy.

"An air of the dream clings to the place," Miller wrote describing the Loman family house—a house one mortgage payment away from finally being paid off. For Willy Loman, there is only one dream: the American Dream. After 36 years on the road in its pursuit, the traveling salesman, haunted by missed opportunities and an uncertain future, must come to terms with a lifetime of self-deception that has distorted his dream into an American tragedy.

Three-time Emmy Award winner and two-time Tony Award nominee Charles S. Dutton, who appeared in Yale Rep’s world premieres of August Wilson's *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom* and *Joe Turner's Come and Gone*, returns to Yale Rep in a role that has captured the American imagination for six decades.

Please note: *Death of a Salesman* is Yale Rep's 2008-09 WillPower! production. The run includes four 10:30AM performances available only to middle and high school student groups. For information on WillPower! performances, please contact Ruth Feldman at (203) 432-8425 or rm.feldman@yale.edu.

ABOUT YALE REPERTORY THEATRE

Yale Repertory Theatre is a leading professional American theatre dedicated to the production of new plays and bold interpretations of classics that make immediate connections to contemporary audiences.

A champion of new work, Yale Rep has produced well over 100 premieres—including two Pulitzer Prize winners and four other nominated finalists—by emerging and established playwrights, brought to thrilling life by the theatre's most daring directors, innovative designers, and celebrated actors.

Eleven Yale Rep productions have advanced to Broadway, and countless other plays first produced at Yale have been presented at theatres across the country. Our productions have garnered more than 40 Tony Award nominations and eight Tony Awards, and Yale Rep itself is the recipient of the Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre.

2008-09 TICKET PACKAGE INFORMATION

Yale Repertory Theatre offers a variety of packages for audiences to enjoy the entire season. Subscriptions, and 4- and 6-Ticket Passes are available beginning Friday, April 25 online at www.yalerep.org, by phone (203) 432-1234, and in person at the Yale Rep Box Office (1120 Chapel Street) during regular business hours (Monday through Friday 10AM-5PM, Saturday 12-5PM; Until 8PM on all performance evenings).

Group Sales will also be available beginning on April 25 by calling (203) 432-1572.

Individual tickets for the entire season will be available beginning on September 2.

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www.yalerep.org