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For Immediate Release:

City Theatre announces the first three all new plays of its compelling 2013-2014 season, full of challenging characters, madcap comedy, and imaginative storytelling

TRIBES

a provocative new comic drama by Nina Raine

VANYA AND SONIA AND MASHA AND SPIKE

a fresh Broadway comedy by Christopher Durang

HOPE AND GRAVITY

a kinetic new play by Michael Hollinger, author of *Opus*

Plus, season ticket buyers have a chance to win a \$500 Apple gift card

PITTSBURGH, PA (March 6, 2013)—**City Theatre** announces the first three titles of its 2013-2014 season, a truly original, fresh, and entertaining lineup: ***Tribes*** by Nina Raine, ***Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*** by Christopher Durang, and ***Hope and Gravity*** by Michael Hollinger.

TRIBES

by Nina Raine

Verbal jabs abound in this stirring new play about Billy, a deaf twenty-something who is adept at lipreading the brash discourse of his hearing family. It's tough to get a word in edgewise around the dinner table, but when Billy falls for Sylvia, a woman who's losing her hearing, everyone is forced to learn a lesson about listening.

VANYA AND SONIA AND MASHA AND SPIKE

by Christopher Durang

Vanya and his sister Sonia tolerate the mediocrity of their middle-aged lives in Bucks County, PA until their movie star sister Masha returns for a visit that shakes things up. With her boy toy Spike in tow, Masha incites a madcap family reunion complete with all the comic genius that only Christopher Durang (*Mrs. Bob Cratchit's Wild Christmas Binge*) can deliver. Get ready for an outrageous send-up of Chekhov and family drama!

HOPE AND GRAVITY

by Michael Hollinger, author of *Opus*

Lives overlap and elevators stop on random floors as ten characters are compellingly revealed in this nonlinear comedy about fate. From a backyard squabble to an unlikely hotel hookup, chance encounters and rocky relationships unfold through nine stories and one momentous leap of faith.

“City Theatre is planning a truly original, fresh, and entertaining season,” says Tracy Brigden, Artistic Director of City Theatre. “Our first three titles are all compelling, vivid, new plays with a strong focus on human relationships and communication. **Tribes** by Nina Raine received rave reviews and extended runs in London and Off-Broadway. It incorporates spoken language, sign language, and surtitles to fully immerse the audience in the worlds of both deaf and hearing characters. It’s provocative, it’s lively, and we’re thrilled to produce this new work by one of London’s hottest playwrights. Next up is **Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike** by Christopher Durang, one of my all-time favorite comic writers. This hilarious comedy is a parody of Chekhovian themes. It sold out at Lincoln Center Theater, and is now running on Broadway, so we’ll be one of the first regional theatres to pick it up. City Theatre audiences will remember Durang’s work from 2002 when we produced *Mrs. Bob Cratchit’s Wild Christmas Binge*. Finally, we’re announcing **Hope and Gravity**, a riveting play that tells the story of ten characters whose lives are interconnected by a series of strange occurrences. In the tradition of films like *Magnolia* and rom-coms like *Love Actually*, this jigsaw puzzle of a play unfolds in a unique and spellbinding way that leaves you on the edge of your seat until the very final moment. We will be announcing the next three titles in about a month. Frankly, the next three plays are difficult to choose because I have read so many terrific scripts this season that I would like to produce on our stages; it’s hard to select only six.”

City Theatre will announce the full six-play season, including three more new works and the complete performance calendar, shortly.

Season tickets are available beginning March 9, 2013. Customers who subscribe by March 31 have the chance to win a \$500 Apple gift card. All subscribers save 25% or more.

Purchase three ways:

On-site: City Theatre Box Office, 1300 Bingham Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15203

By phone: 412.431.CITY (2489)

Mail-in order form: Available at CityTheatreCompany.org

Season ticket prices:

\$157.50 (Tuesday 7pm; Wednesday 1pm and 7pm; Thursday 8pm)

\$247.50 (Friday 8pm; Saturday 5:30pm)

\$180.00 (Saturday 9pm; Sunday 2pm and 7pm)

Single tickets range from \$35 to \$55. On-sale dates for single tickets will be announced with the full season.

City Theatre’s 39th season begins this fall. Located on Pittsburgh’s historic South Side, City Theatre specializes in new plays, commissioning and producing work by playwrights including Adam Rapp, Jeffrey Hatcher, Theresa Rebeck, and Christopher Durang. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Tracy Brigden, Managing Director Mark R. Power, and a 45-member Board of Directors, City Theatre’s mission is to provide an artistic home for the development and production of contemporary plays of substance and ideas that engage and challenge a diverse audience. CityTheatreCompany.org

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