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For Immediate Release:

**CITY THEATRE ANNOUNCES ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON OF SIX BOLD NEW PLAYS  
FILLED WITH INSPIRED STORYTELLING, MUSIC, AND WIT**

**Including a Broadway comedy, two world premieres, and more**

**Playwrights Willy Holtzman, Daniel Beaty, and David Greig return to City**

**OUTSIDE MULLINGAR by John Patrick Shanley**

**SMART BLONDE by Willy Holtzman**

**MR. JOY by Daniel Beaty**

**ELEMENO PEA by Molly Smith Metzler**

**OBLIVION by Carly Mensch**

**MIDSUMMER (A PLAY WITH SONGS) by David Greig and Gordon McIntyre**

**Plus, two special presentations:**

**THE PAJAMA MEN**

**LATE NITE CATECHISM LAS VEGAS: SISTER ROLLS THE DICE**

PITTSBURGH, PA (April 25, 2014)—**City Theatre** announces the six-play lineup for its 40th anniversary season, including a wistful Broadway comedy; a music-filled portrait of actress Judy Holliday; a poignant exploration of a Harlem community; a wild “have and have-nots” comedy set in Martha’s Vineyard; an irreverent comic-drama about family, art, and inspiration; and an adventure- and song-filled romp through Edinburgh.

“City Theatre’s 2014-2015 season is branded ‘UP CLOSE’ because each play magnifies the power of the human spirit—often in very comical ways,” says Tracy Brigden, City Theatre’s Artistic Director. “We open the season with ***Outside Mullingar*** by John Patrick Shanley. In the same vein as Shanley’s award-winning film *Moonstruck*, this Irish comedy is a funny, unconventional love story with a magical twist. Next up is ***Smart Blonde***, a City Theatre-commissioned world premiere about Judy Holliday. This brand new work by Willy Holtzman is a warm and often surprising portrayal of a Hollywood actress whose public persona as a ‘dumb blonde’ starkly contrasted her true intelligence and upbringing. From there, we launch into ***Mr. Joy***, a moving world premiere about how a Harlem community comes together in crisis. The script features playwright Daniel Beaty’s unique blend of comedy, poetry, music, and multi-character storytelling. Next, we’ll produce ***Elemeno Pea*** by Molly Smith Metzler. Set on a posh estate in Martha’s Vineyard, this hilarious play is a heightened portrayal of class distinctions. Then, ***Oblivion***; in this sharp play by Carly Mensch, a budding filmmaker helps a Brooklyn couple and their obstinate teenage daughter view their differences through a new lens. We close the season with ***Midsummer (a play with songs)*** by David Greig, the Scottish playwright who gave us 2012’s very special *The Monster in the Hall*. This gritty comedy, interspersed with song, is the rare rom-com that appeals to both sexes with its bawdy humor, crazy plot twists, and unsentimental love story.”

## **CITY THEATRE 2014-2015 SEASON**

### **OUTSIDE MULLINGAR**

**by John Patrick Shanley**

**Directed by Tracy Brigden**

**October 11 – November 2, 2014** (Mainstage)

A Broadway comedy from the Pulitzer, Oscar®, and Tony®-winning author of *Doubt* and *Moonstruck*

Tony Reilly is getting old. With his wife dead and gone and his own time approaching, he threatens to leave the family's cattle farm to an American nephew instead of his own son and namesake, Anthony. That is, until neighbor Rosemary steps in with a long-held family secret to change Anthony's fate—and her own. Set in the Irish countryside, this is the wistful story of Anthony and Rosemary—loners going on 40, eccentric souls, and, perhaps, just right for each other.

### **SMART BLONDE**

**by Willy Holtzman**

**Directed by Peter Flynn**

**World premiere commissioned by City Theatre**

**November 15 – December 21, 2014** (Hamburg Studio)

A music-filled portrait from the author of *The Morini Strad*

New York City, 1964. The tape is rolling when *Born Yesterday* star Judy Holliday lays down a series of tracks about her rise to fame amidst the politics of the 1950s. Memory and song converge as the “dumb blonde” with a genius IQ charts her experiences from Greenwich Village to Broadway and beyond with notable show business alums, including Leonard Bernstein and Marilyn Monroe.

### **MR. JOY**

**by Daniel Beaty**

**World premiere**

**January 24 – February 15, 2015** (Mainstage)

A poignant solo show from the creator of *Through the Night* and *Breath & Imagination*

What happened to Mr. Joy? A Harlem community is disrupted when the Chinese immigrant's shoe repair shop, a neighborhood pillar for decades, does not open its doors. Nine customers, ranging from 11-year-old Clarissa, a budding shoe designer, to Bessie, a “gangsta granny,” reflect on the shop owner's impact in this moving exploration of one community's efforts to heal in order to dream again.

### **ELEMENO PEA**

**by Molly Smith Metzler**

**Directed by Tracy Brigden**

**February 28 – March 22, 2015** (Mainstage)

A “have and have-nots” comedy

Blue-collar Buffalo meets beachfront splendor when Devon visits the sprawling Martha's Vineyard estate where her sister Simone is employed as a personal assistant. Simone's new gig is complete with a six-figure salary, a preppy boyfriend with a yacht, and a handsome clothing allowance—all courtesy of trophy wife Michaela, her boss. But when Michaela crashes sisters' weekend, Devon learns the price for the pampered life.

## **OBLIVION**

**by Carly Mensch**

**Directed by Stuart Carden**

**March 21 – April 26, 2015** (Hamburg Studio)

An irreverent comedy from one of the writers of “Weeds”

Uber-hip Brooklynites Pam and Dixon take pride in their progressive approach to parenting. But when their 16-year-old daughter Julie lies about where she spent the weekend, their cool façade crumbles. With the help of Julie’s friend Bernard, a filmmaker in the making, this smart comedy takes a humorous look at Nietzsche, famed film critic Pauline Kael, and what it means to fight for the ones you love.

## **MIDSUMMER (a play with songs)**

**by David Greig and Gordon McIntyre**

**Directed by Tracy Brigden**

**May 9 – June 14, 2015** (Hamburg Studio)

A vivid play with songs by the author of *The Monster in the Hall*

Midsummer in Edinburgh turns into a weekend of wild abandon when divorce lawyer Helena meets small-time crook Bob in a wine bar. With a wad of ill-gotten cash in hand and a local gangster on their heels, the unlikely pair goes on an alcohol- and adventure-filled romp, discovering that there *are* second chances at life—and love.

## **CITY EVENTS**

City Theatre’s annual series of limited engagement special presentations

### **THE PAJAMA MEN**

**Created and performed by Shenoah Allen and Mark Chavez**

**August 27 – September 7, 2014** (Mainstage)

Critically-acclaimed comedy duo The Pajama Men bring their trademark style of blink-of-an-eye character switches and sidesplitting humor to Pittsburgh! Originally from Albuquerque, the sketch comedians and masters of improv have become stars of the international comedy circuit, earning five stars from the *London Times* and comparisons to comic luminaries including Abbott and Costello, Monty Python, and “South Park.”

### **LATE NITE CATECHISM LAS VEGAS: SISTER ROLLS THE DICE**

**by Maripat Donovan**

**Directed and performed by Kimberly Richards**

**September 3–14, 2014** (Hamburg Studio)

The convent needs a new roof, so the order has decided that Sister (with her extensive gambling experience running the church bingo for the last 25 years) will organize a Las Vegas night. The irrepressible Kimberly Richards returns as Sister to tackle topics ranging from show girls and live animal acts to the dangers of drive-through marriage chapels. Don’t forget—what happens in Vegas may stay in Vegas, but God sees everything!

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## **TICKETS**

**Season tickets and flex subscriptions for main season productions are now available** by calling 412.431.2489. Online subscription sales begin May 15.

### **Season tickets:**

\$162 (Tuesday 7pm; Wednesday 1pm and 7pm; Thursday 8pm)

\$252 (Friday 8pm; Saturday 5:30pm)

\$189 (Saturday 9pm; Sunday 2pm and 7pm)

### **Flex packages:**

\$216 (six Basic Flex vouchers, good for Tuesday through Thursday performances)

\$276 (six Premium Flex vouchers, good for any performance)

**Single tickets for season plays** range from \$36 to \$56 and go on sale September 2.

**City Events (The Pajama Men and Late Nite Catechism Las Vegas)** pre-sale for subscribers is available now by phone, with \$25 discounted tickets. Regular sale begins June 2, with \$35-\$40 tickets (Late Nite, \$40 only).

**City Theatre's** 40th anniversary season begins this fall. Located on Pittsburgh's historic South Side, City Theatre specializes in new plays, commissioning and producing work by playwrights including Daniel Beaty, Jessica Dickey, Christopher Durang, Michael Hollinger, Willy Holtzman, Tarell McCraney, and Theresa Rebeck. 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.

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