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## signaturenews

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 29, 2011  
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# Signature Theatre Presents Its Annual Holiday Celebration with “Holiday Follies” Cabaret

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## 13 Performances to Begin on December 13<sup>th</sup>

Arlington, VA, November 29, 2011 – Break out the tinsel, pour the eggnog, and light up the yule log! The holiday season is here and that means **Signature Theatre** will be hosting its annual holiday celebration, *Holiday Follies* from **December 13<sup>th</sup> – December 23<sup>rd</sup>**. Conceived and directed by Signature’s Associate Artistic Director **Matthew Gardiner**, the seasonal cabaret features Signature favorites **Florie Bagel**, **Priscilla Cuellar**, **Jake Odmark**, **Alan Wiggins**, **Weslie Woodley**, and **Steven Walker**, as well as special guest performers appearing for each show. The Music Director is **Gabriel Mangiante**. *Holiday Follies* will play in Signature’s intimate ARK Theatre. Single tickets are available at \$41 each.

“It wouldn’t feel like the holidays without *Holiday Follies*,” said **Eric Schaeffer**, Signature’s Artistic Director. “This time of year is all about family, friends, and happiness – and each year, Signature is delighted to help spread good cheer to the entire Washington area.”

An extension of **Signature’s** commitment to musical theater, the cabaret series provides a distinct entertainment experience to its audiences. Transforming its smaller performance space into an intimate club complete with small tables and candlelight, **Signature** invites patrons to bring the outstanding wine, mixed drinks, and light fare from its highly praised Ali’s Bar into the Theatre to enjoy during the performances.

### **TICKETS & SCHEDULE**

Tickets are \$41 per person and available by calling Ticketmaster at (703) 573-SEAT (7328) or by visiting <http://www.signature-theatre.org/cabarets>.

#### Show dates & times:

Tuesday, December 13 – Friday, December 23  
Tuesday & Wednesday at 7:30pm  
Thursday & Friday at 8:00pm  
Saturday at 2pm and 8pm  
Sunday at 2pm and 7pm  
Friday, December 23 at 7pm and 9pm

## **PERFORMER BIOS**

**Florrie Bagel** SIGNATURE: *Into the Woods, Kander and Ebb Overtures Cabaret*. TOUR: Kennedy Center TYA: *Nobody's Perfect*. DC AREA: Studio Theatre 2ndstage: *Jerry Springer: The Opera*, Kennedy Center Family Theater: *Nobody's Perfect, The Amazing Adventures of Dr. Wonderful... (u/s), Handspeak*; REP Stage: *Speech & Debate*; Olney Theatre: *Peter Pan, Godspell*; MetroStage: *The Stephen Schwartz Project*; Imagination Stage: *Mulan*.

**Priscilla Cuellar** SIGNATURE: *Assassins, My Fair Lady, Into the Woods (Witch u/s), Saving Aimee, Highest Yellow (u/s Judy Kuhn)* and various cabarets. DC AREA: Olney Theatre: *Big River*; MetroStage: *Stephen Schwartz Project* (world premiere); Imagination Stage: *Seussical (Sour Kangaroo), Twice Upon a Time (Swindler)*; Toby's Dinner Theatre: *Little Shop of Horrors (Chiffon)*; Riverside Dinner Theatre: *Hairspray (Tracy)*; Redbranch Theatre: *Into the Woods (Witch), The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (Schwartz)*; Creative Cauldren: *Nevermore (Mother)*.

**Jake Odmark** SIGNATURE: *Sunset Boulevard, Tamar And The River (21/24 workshop)*. NEW YORK: Public Theatre: *Fun Home*; Engeman: *Camelot*; The Actor's Studio: *Tokio Confidential*. TOURS: *Grease (Macau, China), The Pajama Game, Fame! (China Tour), Grease (Istanbul)*. DC AREA: Olney Theatre: *Triumph of Love*; Toby's Dinner Theatre: *Grease, West Side Story, Oklahoma!*; MetroStage: *CabarYAY*.

**Alan Wiggins** SIGNATURE: *Saturday Night* concert. NATIONAL/INT'L TOURS: Windwood Productions: *Children's Letters to God*, Phoenix Entertainment: *Grease*. DC AREA: Olney Theatre Center: *Joseph..., Grease*; Toby's Dinner Theatre: *Aida, Thoroughly Modern Millie, Footloose*. REGIONAL: Seacoast Rep: *Footloose, Chicago, The Rocky Horror Picture Show*; Penn State Centre Stage: *Smokey Joe's Café, Five Guys Named Moe*. UPCOMING: Adventure Theatre: *The Snowy Day*.

**Weslie Woodley** SIGNATURE: *The Hollow/Boy Detective Fails (u/s), Blonde Ambish: Cabaret Series, Sweeney Todd, Partial Eclipse, See What I Wanna See (u/s), Les Misérables (Helen Hayes Award), Anyone Can Whistle, Kander & Ebb Cabaret, Overtures 2007*. DC AREA: Keegan Theatre: *RENT (Maureen; Helen Hayes Award, Outstanding Ensemble)*, Studio Theatre 2ndStage: *Jerry Springer: The Opera*; The Kennedy Center: *Blonde Ambish Cabaret, The Phantom Tollbooth (u/s)*. REGIONAL: CLO of South Bay Cities: *Into The Woods*.

## **Matthew Gardiner Bio**

**Matthew Gardiner (director)** SIGNATURE: Director: *The Hollow, Side by Side by Sondheim, Art, [title of show], See What I Wanna See*, Choreographer: *Sweeney Todd, Dirty Blonde*. Associate Artistic Director (2011-present), Resident Director (2010-2011), Resident Assistant Director (2006-2010); SIGNATURE CABARET: Director: *Music in the Movies, Broadway Duets, Lost Songs of Broadway 1950s*. DC AREA: Director/Choreographer: Kennedy Center: *Snow White, Rose Red (and Fred!)*; Everyman Theatre: *Let Me Sing And I'm Happy*; MetroStage: *tick, tick...BOOM!*; Co-Director/Choreographer: Studio Theatre: *Jerry Springer: The Opera, Reefer Madness (2008 Helen Hayes Award for Outstanding Musical and Direction of a Musical)*, Choreographer: Studio Theatre: *Grey Gardens, Adding Machine*. EDUCATION: Carnegie Mellon University.

## **SIGNATURE'S 2011-12 SEASON TICKETS**

The remaining line-up for Signature Theatre's 2011-2012 season features the Tony Award®-winning shows *Hairspray* (now playing through January 29<sup>th</sup>) and *God of Carnage* and the Washington DC premiere of the cult classic musical *Xanadu*. Signature is also home to the world premiere works *Brother Russia*, and *Really Really*. In addition to the mainstage shows, Signature is presenting a special limited engagement of the world premiere musical *A Second Chance* (playing through December 11<sup>th</sup>).

Single tickets are available by calling Ticketmaster at (703) 573-SEAT. Discount subscription packages (starting at 3 shows) are available by calling the Signature Box Office at (703) 820-9771 or visiting [www.signature-theatre.org](http://www.signature-theatre.org). Student discount tickets are \$30 for mainstage shows and \$20 for limited engagements and must be purchased the week of the performance. Signature also offers "\$22 for Tuesdays," making available \$22 tickets to the first two public Tuesday performances of each show. For more information on the 2011-12 season, please visit [www.signature-theatre.org](http://www.signature-theatre.org).

## **ABOUT SIGNATURE**

Recipient of the 2009 Regional Theatre Tony Award®, Signature Theatre is a non-profit professional theater company in Arlington, Virginia dedicated to producing contemporary musicals and plays, reinventing classic musicals, and developing new work. Under the leadership of co-founder and Artistic Director Eric Schaeffer and Managing Director Maggie Boland, Signature has presented 36 world premiere productions and is renowned for combining Broadway-quality productions with intimate playing spaces.

In addition to hosting the finest talent from the DC metropolitan area and New York, Signature has been home to such theatre luminaries as Chita Rivera, George Hearn, Hunter Foster, Emily Skinner, Marc Kudisch, Judy Kuhn, John Kander and Fred Ebb, Cameron Mackintosh, Terrence McNally, and the company's signature composer, Stephen Sondheim. Since its founding in 1989, Signature has won 72 Helen Hayes Awards for excellence in the Washington, DC region's professional theater and has been honored with 293 nominations.

Signature is partially supported by a grant from the Virginia Commission for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts and by a gift from Arlington County through the Arlington Commission for the Arts and the Cultural Affairs Division of the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources.

## **DIRECTIONS**

Signature Theatre is located at 4200 Campbell Avenue (22206) off I-395 at the Shirlington exit. After the exit, blue Signature signs mark the way to the theatre. Free parking is available in two adjacent public garages. Please note that Campbell Avenue is a new street and some GPS online mapping systems do not yet recognize Signature Theatre's address. For directions, visit <http://signature-theatre.org/map.htm>.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Subscriptions/Groups: (703) 820-9771

Single Tickets: Ticketmaster (703) 573-SEAT (7328)

Signature Administration (571) 527-1860

Signature Theatre • 4200 Campbell Avenue • Arlington, VA 22206

<http://www.signature-theatre.org>

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