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Lantern Theater Company Announces One-Week Extension of Tom Stoppard's Masterpiece *Arcadia* through Nov. 9, 2014

PHILADELPHIA – **Lantern Theater Company**'s 21st season-opening production of **Tom Stoppard**'s *Arcadia* has been extended by popular demand and will now close on **Sunday**, **November 9, 2014.** The following six performances have been added:

Tuesday, November 4 at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, November 5 at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, November 6 at 7:00 p.m. Friday, November 7 at 8:00 p.m. Saturday, November 8 at 8:00 p.m. Sunday, November 9 at 2:00 p.m.

The Lantern's production has enjoyed critical and audience acclaim as well as sold-out houses since its opening earlier this month. *The Philadelphia Inquirer*'s Wendy Rosenfield raved, "This is a fantastic cast, with each link stronger than the next." On WHYY News Works, **Howard Shapiro** also applauded the cast, describing the acting as "uniformly class-A." CurtainUp's Kathryn Osenlund said, "Lantern Theater Company's smart, rich and resonant production, with its solid design and uniformly excellent cast, rewards the audience's long and intense concentration on Stoppard's tour de force." Phindie's Christopher Munden raved, "The Lantern's Arcadia is a hugely entertaining production, funny and smart, well-acted across the board. This is one of the first productions of the 2014/15 season, but there won't be many better shows in Philadelphia this year." And in the Broad Street Review, Jake Blumgart praised, "In the right hands, Arcadia is a delightful, engaging, and engrossing escapade, and Kathryn MacMillan has the right hands. There isn't a false note in the Lantern Theater's production. The acting is topnotch, without a single dud in the cast. It's impressive stuff, through and through." *Philadelphia Daily News*' Chuck Darrow joked that *Arcadia* "holds rewards for those with the patience and intellectual capacity to stay with it. And if you do go, feel free to drop me a line and explain it to me."

Considered by many to be the legendary British playwright's best work and one of the greatest

plays of the last 20 years, Tom Stoppard's *Arcadia* is a tale of two centuries, shifting as seamlessly between eras as it does between farcical comedy and heartbreaking romance. It is 1809 and young Thomasina Coverly is working on geometry and poetry, while her tutor Septimus Hodge is working on her mother. It is also the present day, and Hannah Jarvis and Bernard Nightingale are scholars and sleuths trying to rediscover the events we see unfold in Thomasina's world. This comedy of misunderstandings and misinterpretations is set up against a passionate quest to unravel the mysteries of history, art, science, and love. *Arcadia* premiered at the Royal National Theatre in 1993 and went on to win several awards, including the Tony, Drama Desk, and Olivier Awards for Best Play.

"Arcadia is one of the most fascinating and engaging plays of my lifetime," says Lantern Artistic Director **Charles**McMahon. "It is spectacular proof of the proposition that great theater can change the way we look at the world. The Lantern's mission is to find this kind of work and give it the best possible production, so naturally we are thrilled to have this occasion to extend the run of *Arcadia* and bring this extraordinary work to more people in our community."

Tickets for upcoming performances of *Arcadia* are \$30 – \$39 and are available online at <u>lanterntheater.org</u> or by calling the Lantern Box Office at (215) 829-0395. Discounts are available for seniors 65 and up, groups of 10 or more, and U.S. military personnel. \$10 student rush tickets are available 10 minutes before curtain with valid ID; cash only. Lantern Theater Company is located at St. Stephen's Theater, 10th & Ludlow Streets in Center City Philadelphia.

The Lantern will also explore the play's rich and varied themes during *In Arcadia: Celebrating Tom Stoppard's Masterpiece*, a four-day festival **beginning Thursday**, **October 23** that will include a keynote discussion with scholars **Michael Gamer**, **Paul Halpern**, **Emily Hyde** and **Toby Zinman**, a high tea with **Dr. Janine Utell**, special performances of some of Stoppard's rarely-performed short works, and other experiential events.

ARCADIA FACT SHEET

UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. on November 4 (special "early bird" curtain)

Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m. on October 22 and October 29

Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. on October 15, October 22, October 29, and November 5

Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. on October 16, October 23, October 30, and November 6

Fridays at 8:00 p.m. on October 17, October 24, October 31, and November 7

Saturday at 2:00 p.m. on October 18

Saturdays at 8:00~p.m. on October 18, October 25, November 1, and November 8

Sundays at 2:00 p.m. on October 19, October 26, November 2, and November 9

CLOSING PERFORMANCE

Sunday, November 9 at 2:00 p.m.

LOCATION

Lantern Theater Company At St. Stephen's Theater 10th & Ludlow Streets Philadelphia, PA 19107

TICKET PRICES

Adults: \$30-\$39 Students: \$20-\$29

Student Rush: \$10 student rush tickets available 10 minutes before curtain with valid ID; cash only

Additional discounts available for seniors, military personnel, and groups of 10 or more

PARKING/TRANSPORTATION

Garage parking is available at Autopark at Jefferson at 10th & Ludlow Streets or LAZ Parking Garage at 10th & Chestnut Streets. The Lantern is also accessible by taxi, SEPTA buses and trains, and the PATCO Speedline.

SPECIAL EVENTS

In Arcadia: Celebrating Tom Stoppard's Masterpiece from Thursday, October 23 through Sunday, October 26

A four-day festival celebrating *Arcadia*, including panel discussions on the play's rich and varied themes, a high tea, talkbacks, opportunities to mingle, and special performances of some of Stoppard's rarely-performed short works.

Artists In Conversation, immediately after Sunday 2:00 p.m. performance on October 26

A free post-show discussion with members of the *Arcadia* cast

Open Captioned Performances on Friday, October 17 at 8:00 p.m. and Saturday, October 18 at 2:00 p.m.

Presented for our deaf and hearing-impaired audiences

ARCADIA

Written by Tom Stoppard Directed by Kathryn MacMillan

Cast (in alphabetical order)

Alex Boyle as Thomasina Coverly

Mike Dees as Jellaby

Maxwell Eddy as Septimus Hodge

Trevor William Fayle as Gus/Augustus

Nathan Foley as Captain Brice

Daniel Fredrick as Valentine Coverly

Joe Guzmán as Bernard Nightingale

Charlotte Northeast as Lady Croom

Kittson O'Neill as Hannah Jarvis

Angela Smith as Chloe Coverly

Mal Whyte as Richard Noakes

Bradley K. Wrenn as Ezra Chater

Production Team

Meghan Jones – Production Manager & Scenic Designer
Janus Stefanowicz – Costume Designer
Thom Weaver – Lighting Designer
Christopher Colucci – Original Music & Sound Designer
K.O. DelMarcelle – Choreographer
J. Alex Cordaro – Fight Director
Marla Burkholder – Dialect Coach
Dale Nadel – Props Master
Meghan Winch – Dramaturg
Rebecca Smith – AEA Stage Manager
Chelsea Sanz – AEA Assistant Stage Manager
Laurel Hostak – Assistant Director

PRESS INFORMATION

Deborah Fleischman (215) 735-7356

TICKET INFORMATION / BOX OFFICE

Phone: (215) 829-0395

Online: www.lanterntheater.org

SYNOPSIS

Tom Stoppard's masterpiece is one of the greatest plays of the last 20 years – a tale of two centuries, shifting as seamlessly between eras as it does between farcical comedy and heartbreaking romance. It is 1809 and young Thomasina is working on geometry and poetry, while her tutor Septimus is working on her mother. It is also the present day, and Hannah and Bernard are scholars and sleuths trying to rediscover the events we see unfold in Thomasina's world. This comedy of misunderstandings and misinterpretations is set up against a passionate quest to unravel the mysteries of history, art, science, and love.

ABOUT LANTERN THEATER COMPANY

Founded in 1994, Lantern Theater Company is committed to an authentic and intimate exploration of the human spirit in its choice of classics, modern, and original works. The Lantern seeks to be a vibrant, contributing member of its community, exposing audiences to great theater, inviting participation in dialogue and discussion, educating audience members about artistic and social issues, and employing theatrical language and techniques to enrich learning in the classroom. The Lantern has received 82 Barrymore Award nominations, winning 15 times including the 2009 Barrymore Award for Excellence in Theatre Education and Community Service for its innovative education program, *Illumination*. Lantern Theater Company has been in residence at St. Stephen's Theater at 10th & Ludlow Streets in Center City Philadelphia since 1996, managing the performance space and developing it into an affordable multi-purpose performing arts venue. For more information, please visit www.lanterntheater.org.