

UNICORN · COLONIAL · FITZPATRICK

BERKSHIRE THEATRE GROUP

Press Contacts:

Rebecca Brighenti, (413) 448-8084 x11
becky@berkshiretheatregroup.org
www.BerkshireTheatreGroup.org

Madelyn, (413) 448-8084 x15
madelyn@berkshiretheatregroup.org
www.BerkshireTheatreGroup.org

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Berkshire Theatre Group Presents *Masha's Seagull* at the Unicorn Theatre in Stockbridge, MA

Stockbridge, MA– Berkshire Theatre Group presents *Masha's Seagull* at the Unicorn Theatre in Stockbridge. *Masha's Seagull* runs from Friday, May 22 through Sunday, May 24. Opening night is Saturday, May 23 at 7pm.

Tickets to the *Masha's Seagull* are \$25. Contact the Colonial Ticket Office at 111 South Street, Pittsfield by calling [413-997-4444](tel:413-997-4444), or online at www.berkshiretheatregroup.org. The Ticket Office is open Monday-Friday 10am-5pm, Saturdays 10am-2pm or on any performance day from 10am until curtain.

Inspired by incomparable dramatist Anton Chekhov's *The Seagull*, **Justin Scheuer**, Artistic Director of The Classical Edge Theatre, explores new territory in, *Masha's Seagull*. Directed by BTG artist **Eric Hill**, this production takes on Chekhov's classic work, and examines a minor, yet intriguing, character in the original story, Masha, played by **Virginia Scheuer**. This insightful production premiered at The Classical Edge Theatre last fall.

"My experience with Justin and Virginia, when I directed this piece at The Classical Edge, was a remarkable journey," says Hill. "This voyage continues in the transfer of our work from The Classical Edge to The Unicorn Theatre. This is a truly beautiful and challenging piece."

Masha's Seagull

based on Anton Chekhov's *The Seagull*

written by Justin Scheuer

directed by Eric Hill

featuring Virginia Scheuer

at The Unicorn Theatre, Stockbridge

The Larry Vaber Stage

Performances: Friday, May 22 through Sunday, May 24

Tickets: \$25

Artist Bios:

Eric Hill (Director): Directed Berkshire Theatre Group's production of *Poe, Benefactors, A Christmas Carol, Oklahoma!, A Chorus Line, The Who's Tommy* as well as *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* at the Neil Ellenoff Stage at the Mount. Additional BTG directing credits include *Macbeth, Endgame, Faith Healer, The Einstein Project, Amadeus, The Glass Menagerie, One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* and *The Caretaker*. Previous acting credits include the title role in *A Christmas Carol, A Man for All Seasons, Dimetos* and *The Father*.

Virginia Scheuer (Masha): is very grateful and excited to make her debut performance on the Unicorn stage. Some of her acting credits include Titania and Hermia in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and Mrs. Poppenghul in *Moonlight and Magnolias* for TheatreSquared. Virginia starred in the world premiere of *Morning on the Beach* by William Inge at his named annual festival, played *Miranda* in *The Tempest* at Trike Theatre and *Olivia* in *Twelfth Night* for The Classical Edge Theatre Company. Some of her directing credits include, *Julius Caesar, Much Ado About Nothing*, plus several high school productions including her adaptation of *The Trojan Women* which received 1st place and was showcased at the International Thespian Festival. Virginia is currently the managing director of The Classical Edge and teaches at Bentonville High School.

Justin Scheuer (Playwright): is the Artistic Director of The Classical Edge through which he has directed *Twelfth Night*, appeared as Cassius in *Julius Caesar* and Benedick in *Much Ado About Nothing*. He has appeared in Theatresquared's productions of the of *My Father's War*, as Victor Fleming in *Moonlight and Magnolias*, as Fred and Ghost of Past in *A Christmas Carol* and in the one-man show, *Fully Committed*, in partnership with the Walton Arts Center. His San Francisco Bay Area credits include *As You Like It* (Sonoma County Rep), Al Joad in *The Grapes of Wrath* (6th Street Playhouse). He received his MFA in Acting from the University of Arkansas and currently serves as Fine Arts Chair and Director of the Theatre Dept at Bentonville High School where he was named Teacher of the Year in 2011. He'd like to thank his beautiful and fiercely talented wife, Virginia.

For more information about Berkshire Theatre Group's season, please visit our website at www.BerkshireTheatreGroup.org

About Berkshire Theatre Group

The Colonial Theatre, founded in 1903, and Berkshire Theatre Festival, founded in 1928, are two of the oldest cultural organizations in the Berkshires. Having united in November of 2010 under the leadership of Artistic Director and CEO Kate Maguire, these two institutions are providing the Berkshires and beyond with the finest in live theatre, music, dance and the visual arts in Stockbridge, MA and Pittsfield, MA. The Fitzpatrick Main Stage (400 seats), cataloged by the National Register of Historic Places, was originally designed and built by Stanford White as the Stockbridge Casino in 1888. The intimate Unicorn Theatre (122 seats) is a home for emerging artists and new theatrical ideas. The Colonial in Pittsfield (780 seats) re-opened in August of 2006, following a \$21 million restoration, and boasts pristine acoustics, classic gilded age architecture and state-of-the-art technical systems. BTG also performs at The Garage, a music venue located in the lobby of The Colonial. BTG serves over 100,000 patrons per year and reaches over 13,000 students through its educational and outreach programs. For more information on BTF call (413) 298-5536 and on The Colonial call (413) 448-8084. To purchase tickets, call (413) 997-4444 or (413) 298-5576 or go online to www.BerkshireTheatreGroup.org.