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CONTACT: Joshua Lowman, Perseverance Theatre
(907) 364-2421 x237 joshua@ptalaska.org
Art Rotch, Perseverance Theatre
(907) 364-2421 x229 art@ptalaska.org

Perseverance Theatre presents *In the Next Room, or the vibrator play* by Sarah Ruhl in Anchorage at the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts.

March 25, 2016 - Perseverance Theatre presents *In the Next Room or the vibrator play*, by Sarah Ruhl. The play takes place at the dawn of the age of electricity and with that a groundbreaking piece of technology. The perfect gentleman and inventor, Dr. Givings has created a device to treat “hysteria” in his patients by inducing “paroxysms” that attract the attention of his wife, who hears the sounds of success through the walls of his operating theatre. Meanwhile, Mrs. Givings struggles with a new baby and her own urgent desires. This modern comedy of manners is full of exploration and fulfillment.

Production Schedule and Tickets

The production runs from Apr. 15-24, 2016 in the Sydney Laurence Theatre at the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts located at 621 w 6th in Anchorage, Alaska. Tickets are available now at the Centertix box office, online at Centertix.net or by calling 907-263-ARTS (2787). There is a Pay-As-You-Can Preview on April 14, 2016 at 7:30pm.

Cast and Crew

Perseverance Theatre has put together a wonderful team of mostly Alaskan artists to bring a play that, we think, audiences will find truly electrifying.

Sarah Ruhl is one of the most produced American playwrights of the last two decades. Her plays have appeared all over the United States and internationally, Perseverance Theatre last produced a Sarah Ruhl play in 2010 with *Eurydice*. Sarah Ruhl’s plays include *In the Next Room, or the vibrator play* (Pulitzer Prize finalist, Tony Award nominee for best new play), *The Clean House* (Pulitzer Prize Finalist, 2005; The Susan Smith Blackburn Prize, 2004); *Passion Play, a cycle* (Pen American award, The Fourth Freedom Forum Playwriting Award from The Kennedy Center); *Dead Man’s Cell Phone* (Helen Hayes award); *Melancholy Play*; *Eurydice*; *Orlando*, *Demeter in the City* (NAACP nomination), *Late: a cowboy song*, *Three Sisters*, and most recently, *Stage Kiss* and *Dear Elizabeth*.

Carolyn Howarth returns to Perseverance Theatre, she last directed *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*. She makes her home in Grass Valley, CA. Her directing credits include productions at The Colorado, Lake Tahoe, and Sierra Shakespeare Festivals, Capital Stage, and 15 seasons with the Foothill Theatre Company. Previous directing credits at Perseverance Theatre include *The Importance of Being Earnest*. As an actor she has performed in over 50 productions with FTC, ranging from classics to new works. Other credits include appearance with the Jewish Theatre of San Francisco, the B Street, Sacramento Theatre Company, the Lake Tahoe and Sierra Shakespeare Festivals, and the Maxim Gorky Drama Theatre in Vladivostok, Russia. Carolyn is a member of Actors’ Equity Association and Stage Directors and Choreographers Society.

The cast includes four Juneau actors; Christina Apathy will play Mrs. Givings and Katie Jensen

will play Anne the nurse. Enrique Bravo and James Sullivan, the actors in Residence at Perseverance Theatre will play Leo Irving and Mr. Daldry. Margeaux Ljungberg, who last performed at Perseverance in Oklahoma, is back from Skagway to play Mrs. Daldry. Tiffany Cooper joins us from Anchorage to play Elizabeth. It is her first show at Perseverance. These 6 Alaskan actors are joined by Torsten Hillhouse from New York. Torsten has worked all over the country at regional theatres including American Repertory Theatre and New York Classical Theatre. This is his first performance at Perseverance but he recently worked in Sitka at the Sitka Arts Camp in 2011.

The creative team includes: Art Rotch as scenic and lighting designer, Clare Henkel as costume designer, and Lucy Peckham as sound designer

In the Next Room, or the vibrator play Fact Sheet

WHAT: Perseverance Theatre presents In the Next Room, or the vibrator play by Sarah Ruhl, directed by Carol Howarth.

WHEN: April 15-24, 2016 (Opening Night: 7:30 p.m., Friday, April 15). Performance times: 7:30 p.m., Wednesday-Saturday and 4 p.m. Sunday. Thursday, April 14 there will be three pay-as-you-can preview at 7:30pm.

CAST AND CREW

Dr. Givings – Torsten Hillhouse*
Catherine Givings – Christina Apathy*
Sabrina Daldry – Margeaux Ljungberg
Mr. Daldry- James Sullivan
Annie – Katie Jensen
Elizabeth – Tiffany Cooper*
Leo Irving – Enrique Bravo*
Scenic Design— Art Rotch
Costume Design— Clare Henkel
Lighting Design— Lauren Miller
Sound Design— Lucy Peckham
Stage Manager – BJ Brooks
* Actors Equity member

WHERE: Sydney Laurence Theatre at the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts, 621 W 6th Ave Anchorage, AK 99501.

TICKETS: Tickets to In the Next Room, or the vibrator play are now on sale and range from \$15-\$49.25 and are available at the Centertix box office, online at centertix.net, or by calling 907-263-ARTS (2787). Discounts are available for Military, Seniors, and Students. \$15 RUSH Tickets are available for all performances starting 30 minutes before show time only at the Centertix box office.

PR: Josh Lowman, Perseverance Theatre 907-364-2421 ext. 237 or joshua@ptalaska.org. (This phone number and email are not for publication.)

PHOTOS: Email joshua@ptalaska.org for photo availability or to schedule a photo shoot.

Perseverance Theatre 2015-2016 Season Sponsors are: Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Atwood Foundation, Benito and Frances C. Gaguine Foundation, Charlotte Martin Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, Shubert Foundation, Alaska State Council on the Arts, The City & Borough of Juneau, The Juneau Arts & Humanities Council, Alaska Airlines, Juneau Empire, 800 KINY - 630 KJNO – MIX 106 - TAKU 105 - 1330 KXJ, KTOO-KXLL-KRNN, Anchorage Dispatch News, Alaska Experience Theatre, Alaska Public Media, and Anchorage Press.

Sponsors for In the Next Room or the vibrator play are Alaskan Brewing Co., Altman, Rogers, and Co., Haight and associates, Heidi Reifenstein Design, The Prospector Hotel.

Founded in 1979, Perseverance has grown to produce a season of classical, contemporary and new plays, including over 70 world-premiere productions, for audiences in Juneau and Anchorage, reaching 24,000 attendees annually, employing over 400 artists from across Alaska, and engaging 200 volunteers. Perseverance Theatre believes theatre going creates community by fostering empathy, relationships and communication skills, thereby creating more vital and cohesive communities. Perseverance Theatre's mission is to create professional theatre by and for Alaskans. For more information on Perseverance Theatre visit www.ptalaska.org, or follow Perseverance Theatre on [Facebook.com/PerseveranceTheatre](https://www.facebook.com/PerseveranceTheatre).

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