



**FOR RELEASE:**  
February 16, 2009

**Media Contacts:** Anne Q. Ulseth, (612) 824-1614  
anne@aquamn.com  
Peter Myers, (651) 282-3028  
publicrelations@ordway.org

**GREY GARDENS**

By Doug Wright (libretto),  
Michael Korie (lyrics) and Scott Frank (music)  
Co-directed by James Rocco and Jayme McDaniel  
**March 25-May 17, 2009 (Previews March 15-24)**  
ORDWAY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS  
McKnight Theatre  
345 Washington Street, Saint Paul  
Tickets: \$38-45  
Box office: 651-224-4222 or [www.ordway.org](http://www.ordway.org)

**REGIONAL PREMIERE OF BROADWAY HIT *GREY GARDENS*  
SPOTLIGHTS ECCENTRIC CHARACTERS, OFF-BEAT FASHION  
AND MUSIC, MUSIC, MUSIC  
Ordway and Park Square Theatre collaboration opens March 25**

Saint Paul, MN — Two of the Twin Cities’ most accomplished actors, **Wendy Lehr** and **Christina Baldwin**, will play the indomitable mother and daughter, “Big” Edie and “Little” Edie, in the Park Square Theatre and the Ordway Center for the Performing Arts co-production of **GREY GARDENS**, opening March 25, 2009 (previews begin March 17). The show, by librettist **Doug Wright**, lyricist **Michael Korie** and composer **Scott Frankel**, earned widespread critical acclaim and three Tony® Awards during its nine-month run on Broadway. GREY GARDENS runs through May 17 in the Ordway’s McKnight Theatre, 345 Washington St., Saint Paul.

Appearing together on stage for the first time, Lehr as Edith Bouvier Beale (“Big” Edie), and Baldwin as her adult daughter, “Little” Edie, bring to life the delightfully eccentric relatives of Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy Onassis. Once among the brightest names in the pre-Camelot social register, these two women became East Hampton’s most notorious recluses, living in a dilapidated 28-room mansion. Set in two eras—1941, when the estate was in its prime, and 1973, when it was reduced to squalor—the musical tells their alternately hilarious and heartbreaking story.

*continued*

**James Rocco**, the Ordway's Producing Artistic Director, and **Jayne McDaniel**, the Ordway's Associate Artistic Director, co-direct the production. Continuing Park Square's commitment to bring the very best local talent together to create memorable theater experiences, and the Ordway's ongoing investment in local artists, the GREY GARDENS cast features **Richard Ooms** (Major Bouvier/Norman Vincent Peale), **Zoe Pappas** (Young "Little" Edie Beale), **Reggie Phoenix** (Brooks Jr. & Sr.), **Kacie Riddle** and **Hayley Koop** (alternating Lee Bouvier), and **Addie Johansen** (Jackie Bouvier). Also cast are Minnesota-native **Joshua James Campbell** (Joe Kennedy & Jerry, "the Marble Faun"), fresh off the first national tour of LEGALLY BLONDE-THE MUSICAL, and **Michael Gruber** (George Gould Strong) of Broadway fame.

"This has been a dream collaboration," says **Richard Cook**, Park Square's Artistic Director. "Our audiences come to our theaters insisting on top-notch talent and high-quality productions. We've combined the strengths of both organizations to create a truly amazing show that will knock their socks off!"

Rocco says, "We're taking a splashy Broadway musical and incorporating outstanding Minnesota talent and resources, including a set-build by Penumbra Theatre, in order to bring our audiences an experience they won't soon forget."

**Raymond Berg** provides musical direction for GREY GARDENS. The production is designed by **Kate Sutton-Johnson** (scenic), **Michael P. Kittel** (lighting), **Reid Rejsa** (sound), **Lyle Jackson & Ellen Roeder** (costume) and **Rick Polenek** (properties). **Jason Allyn-Schwerin** is technical director. **Dick and Nancy Nicholson** serve as executive producers.

GREY GARDENS opens Wednesday, March 25 at 8:00pm (previews begin with a 99¢ show on Sunday, March 15 at 7:00pm). Performances are Tuesdays through Fridays at 8:00pm; Saturdays at 2:00 and 8:00pm; and Sundays at 2:00pm through May 17. All performances are in the Ordway's 300-seat McKnight Theatre, 345 Washington St., Saint Paul. Tickets are \$38-45. Group discounts are available for parties of 10 or more. Tickets are available at 651-224-4222 or online [www.ordway.org](http://www.ordway.org). A complete performance schedule follows.

*continued*

### **About the Show & the Creators**

GREY GARDENS opened on Broadway November 2, 2006, after a sold-out world premiere run in spring 2006 at Playwrights Horizons. Based on the 1975 film “Grey Gardens,” the show was the first-ever musical made from a documentary. The show won the Outer Critics Circle Award for Outstanding Off-Broadway Musical, a 2006 Richard Rodgers Production Award, the ASCAP Foundation’s Richard Rodgers New Horizons Award, and The Frederick Loewe Award for Dramatic Composition. Composer Frankel calls GREY GARDENS “uniquely American,” with themes that explore “roads not taken, missed opportunities, love spiked with resentment, decay, reality vs. delusion, things that are not ‘black and white’ but literally ‘grey.’”

Librettist Doug Wright is also the author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning *I Am My Own Wife*. Composer Scott Frankel is well known as the musical director for *Falsettos* and *Into the Woods* on Broadway, and lyricist Michael Korie wrote the libretto for both *Harvey Milk* and *The Grapes of Wrath*.

### **About the Collaborators**

Ordway Center for the Performing Arts each year presents and produces award winning productions in its Theater Season; comprehensive, multicultural performing arts programs in its planet Ordway® Target® season; and serves approximately 50,000 children and adults in its Education at Ordway Center programs.

Park Square Theatre produces a wide-range of scripts, including new work from the adventurous stages of New York, London, and the regional theatre circuit. The theatre brings the top talent in the Twin Cities to the stage – from actors and directors who breathe life into compelling stories to designers who conjure unique worlds. Park Square also introduces live theater to nearly 25,000 teens annually through its ambitious education program.

*Performance schedule follows*

## **GREY GARDENS**

### **Performance Schedule**

Box office: 651-224-4222 or [www.ordway.org](http://www.ordway.org)

#### **March 2009**

Sun, Mar 15 @ 7pm - \$.99 Preview  
Tue, Mar 17 @ 8pm – Preview  
Wed, Mar 18 @ 8pm – Preview  
Thu, Mar 19 @ 8pm – Preview / Urban Nites / Lavender Night  
Fri, Mar 20 @ 8pm – Preview  
Sat, Mar 21 @ 2pm & 8pm – Preview  
Sun, Mar 22 @ 2pm - Preview  
Tue, Mar 24 @ 8pm – Preview  
Wed, Mar 25 @ 8pm – Opening Night  
Thur, Mar 26 @ 8pm – Post-Show Discussion  
Fri, Mar 27 @ 8pm  
Sat, Mar 28 @ 2pm & 8pm  
Sun, Mar 29 @ 2pm  
Tue, Mar 31 @ 8pm

#### **April 2009**

Wed, Apr 1 @ 8pm – Ordway Extras  
Thu, Apr 2 @ 8pm  
Fri, Apr 3 @ 8pm  
Sat, Apr 4 @ 2pm & 8pm  
Sun, Apr 5 @ 2pm  
Tue, Apr 7 @ 8pm  
Wed, Apr 8 @ 8pm – Ordway Extras  
Thu, Apr 9 @ 8pm  
Fri, Apr 10 @ 8pm  
Sat, Apr 11 @ 2pm & 8pm  
Sun, Apr 12 @ 2pm  
Tue, Apr 14 @ 8pm  
Wed, Apr 15 @ 8pm  
Thu, Apr 16 @ 8pm  
Fri, Apr 17 @ 8pm  
Sat, Apr 18 @ 2pm & 8pm  
Sun, Apr 19 @ 2pm  
Tue, Apr 21 @ 8pm  
Wed, Apr 22 @ 8pm  
Thu, Apr 23 @ 8pm  
Fri, Apr 24 @ 8pm  
Sat, Apr 25 @ 2pm & 8pm – ASL / AD  
Sun, Apr 26 @ 2pm  
Tue, Apr 28 @ 8pm  
Wed, Apr 29 @ 8pm  
Thu, Apr 30 @ 8pm – Post-Show Discussion

#### **May 2009**

Fri, May 1 @ 8pm	Sun, May 10 @ 2pm
Sat, May 2 @ 2pm & 8pm	Tue, May 12 @ 8pm
Sun, May 3 @ 2pm	Wed, May 13 @ 8pm
Tue, May 5 @ 8pm	Thu, May 14 @ 8pm
Wed, May 6 @ 8pm	Fri, May 15 @ 8pm
Thu, May 7 @ 8pm	Sat, May 16 @ 2pm & 8pm
Fri, May 8 @ 8pm	Sun, May 17 @ 2pm - Closing
Sat, May 9 @ 2pm & 8pm	