



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Tony Award-Winning Musical on Stage at Park Square Jan 20-Feb 19
Stellar Cast of 35 Plus Orchestra—the Biggest Show Ever Presented on
Park Square's Stage

*Featuring Harry Waters, Jr., Dieter Bierbrauer, Christina Baldwin,
Brittany Bradford and Lee Mark Nelson*

(Saint Paul, MN) Journey back to turn-of-the-century America, where Scott Joplin's ragtime music fills the air with an infectious beat. *Ragtime: the Musical*, weaves a spellbinding story of three families whose lives collide against the backdrop of New York in "the American Century"—a white family living the privileged life in New Rochelle, a disillusioned Jewish immigrant bent on achieving success, and a handsome young black piano man courting the woman he loves.

Based on the novel by E. L Doctorow, who "found a fresh way to orchestrate the themes of American innocence, energy and ambition" (*Newsweek*), *Ragtime* won four Tony Awards in 1998, including Best Score. The book is by Terrence McNally (who also wrote the book for *Spider Woman* as well as the award-winning plays *Master Class* and *Love!Valour!Compassion!*—both of which have been presented by Park Square), with music by the composer/lyricist team of Stephen Flaherty and Lynn Ahrens (*Seussical*). **Gary Gisselman** will direct this lavish production, working with musical director **Denise Prosek** and choreographer **Michael Matthew Ferrell**.

Harry Waters, Jr., is Coalhouse Walker, Jr., the ragtime musician, joined by **Dieter Bierbrauer** (Tateh), **Christina Baldwin** (Mother), **Brittany Bradford** (Sarah) and **Lee Mark Nelson** (Father). **Noah Coon**, who just finished the run of *Oliver Twist* at Park Square, returns in the role of the Little Boy. **Aleks Knezevich** is Younger Brother and **Fred Mackaman** is in the role of Grandfather. **Megan Fischer** is Tateh's daughter (Little Girl).

Real-life characters of the period are wrapped into the fictional story: The radical Emma Goldman is played by **Kersten Rodau**; **Caroline Innerbichler** is vaudeville star Evelyn Nesbit; **John Andrew Hegge** is the entrepreneur

Henry Ford; **Sasha Andreev** is escape artist Harry Houdini, **Shawn Hamilton** is the African American reformer/educator Booker T. Washington and **George Muellner** is the financier J. P. Morgan.

The ensemble includes **Dan Beckmann, Adara Bryan, Paul R. Coate, Margeaux Davis, AJ Eskridge, Kristopher W. Frelix, Ben Goodlund, Suzie Juul, Jake Klinkhammer, Timotha Lanae, Celena Morgan, Brittany Parker, Suzanne Reyburn, Whitney Rhodes, James Rodriguez, John Rynders, Carl Schoenborn, Andre Shoals, Emily Rose Skinner, Joshua Walker and Jamaka Young.** Note: casting as of November 30.

The artistic staff, under the direction of Gisselman, Prosek and Ferrell, includes **Rick Polenek** (scenic designer), **Andrea M. Gross** (costume designer), **Michael P. Kittel** (lighting designer), **Kirby Moore** (properties designer), **Thomas Sandelands** (sound designer), **Todd Edwards** (Projection Designer), **Heather Fleming** (wig designer), **D’Arcy Smith** (dialect coach), **Alex Heetland** (assistant music director), **Cindy Milow Harloff** (assistant choreographer), **Kristen Weller** (assistant costume designer), **Terry Lynn Carlson** (stage manager) and **Jamie J. Kranz** (assistant stage manager).

Performance Schedule: Previews begin January 20 and run through January 26. Opening night is January 27. The show runs Wednesday through Sunday for four weeks, closing on February 19. All performances are at 7:30 p.m., except for Sunday matinees at 2 p.m.

Ticket prices: Previews: \$35. Regular run: \$48 & \$68. Discounts are available for seniors, those under age 30, and groups. Tickets on sale at the Park Square box office, 20 West Seventh Place, or by phone: 651.291.7005, (12 noon-5 p.m. Monday through Friday), or online at www.parksquaretheatre.org.

Ragtime, the Musical

Book by Terrence McNally

Lyrics by Lynn Ahrens, Music by Stephen Flaherty

Based on the novel by E. L. Doctorow

Directed by Gary Gisselman

Musical Director Denise Prosek

Choreographer Michael Matthew Ferrell

Previews: January 20-26, 2012

Regular Run: January 27 – February 19, 2012

The largest production ever presented on Park Square’s stage!

The time is 1906 and the air is filled with syncopated new music. A story of three families—a white family living the privileged life in New Rochelle, a disillusioned Jewish immigrant bent on achieving success and a handsome black piano man courting the woman he loves—who find their lives colliding against the backdrop of “the American Century.”

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PARK SQUARE THEATRE

20 W. Seventh Place, Saint Paul

Box office: 651.291.7005 or www.parksquaretheatre.org

Ragtime the Musical PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
JAN					20 P 7:30 pm \$35	21 P 7:30 pm \$35
22 P 2 pm \$35		24 B 7:30 pm \$.99	25 P/D 7:30 pm \$35	26 P 7:30 pm \$35	27 O 7:30 pm \$48-\$68	28 7:30 pm \$48-\$68
29 AD/S 2 pm \$48-\$68		31 Student matinee	FEB 1 7:30 pm \$48-\$68	2 7:30 pm \$48-\$68	3 7:30 pm \$48-\$68	4 7:30 pm \$48-\$68
5 D 2 pm \$48-\$68		7 Student matinee	8 7:30 pm \$48-\$68	9 7:30 pm \$48-\$68	10 7:30 pm \$48-\$68	11 A 7:30 pm \$48-\$68
12 2 pm \$48-\$68		14 Student matinee	15 7:30 pm \$48-\$68	16 7:30 pm \$48-\$68	17 7:30 pm \$48-\$68	18 7:30 pm \$48-\$68
19 ASL 2 pm \$48-\$68						

P: preview | B: 99¢ preview | D: post-show discussion | O: opening night | A: ASL/AD performance | AD: Audio Description | ASL: American Sign Language | S: Noon Sensory Tour

Interpreters: Elly Carpenter & Stephen Medicott

PARK SQUARE THEATRE. 20 W. Seventh Place, Saint

Paul. Box office: 651.291.7005.

www.parksquaretheatre.org

The Diary of Anne Frank

Next on Park Square's Stage

By Goodrich & Hackett

Directed by Scott Rubsam

Public Performances: March 1, 3 & 31, 2012

Student Performances: February 27-May 18, 2012

A Classic from our 3M Student Series

Be inspired by a girl whose imagination and hope would not be stifled by adversity. In this extraordinary account of eight Jews hiding in Nazi-occupied Amsterdam, Anne Frank emerges from history as a lyrical and intensely gifted young woman.

Park Square inspires 25,000 students each season—one of Minnesota's largest teen theatre audiences. Students come from all over Minnesota, Wisconsin and northern Iowa, attending the play and adding enrichment through workshops, post-show talk back opportunities and Park Square's trademark "Build a Moment" demonstration.

American Family

By Carlyle Brown

Directed by Marion McClinton

Previews: March 16-March 22

Regular Run: March 23-April 7, 2012 (no performance on Easter)

A world premiere commission!

A woman returns to the playground where she last saw her mother, searching for the life she might have had. By revisiting her past, and meeting the half-brother she never knew, she finds a new path back to herself. This gentle journey reminds us that society can only be different once the ghosts of another era are put to rest.

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theatre for you. (yes you.)