

PRESS RELEASE

The Studio Theatre
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The Studio Theatre Acting Conservatory
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STUDIO THEATRE

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THE STUDIO THEATRE PRODUCES THE US PREMIERE OF *THE GOLDEN DRAGON* BY RENOWNED GERMAN PLAYWRIGHT, ROLAND SCHIMMELPFENNIG

“Poetic, brutal, mysterious, and touching.” —*Theater und Medien*

US Premiere

THE GOLDEN DRAGON

by **Roland Schimmelpfennig**, translated by **David Tushingham**

directed by **Serge Seiden**

starring **Sarah Marshall, Joseph Anthony Foronda, Amir Darvish, KK Moggie, and Chris Myers**

opening November 2, 2011

in the Mead Theatre

Following the success of last season’s *New Ireland: The Enda Walsh Festival*, The Studio Theatre continues its commitment to bringing provocative writing from around the world with *The Golden Dragon* by **Roland Schimmelpfennig**, Germany’s most-produced playwright. Since its 2009 premiere in Vienna, *The Golden Dragon* has received more than two dozen productions worldwide. As Studio expands its international work, we are proud to offer the US premiere of this poetic and moving investigation of intertwining lives by a renowned German playwright.

A kaleidoscopic look at a globalized world, *The Golden Dragon* unfolds in brief and fierce comic scenes. Five actors cross age, race, and gender to play 16 characters in this vicious, poetic, and surprisingly moving investigation of how interconnected our lives really are. “Schimmelpfennig is essentially the Tony Kushner of German theatre,” says Artistic Director **David Muse**. “His plays combine big ideas, bracing theatricality, cutting-edge style, and compelling characters.”

Roland Schimmelpfennig is one of the most produced European playwrights. His plays have been translated into over 20 languages and include *Hier und Jetzt (Here and Now)*, *Die Frau von früher (The Woman from the Past)*, *Vorher/Nachher (Before/Afterwards)*, *Die arabische Nacht (The Arabian Night)*, *Push up 1-3, Peggy Pickit sieht das Gesicht Gottes (Peggy Pickit Sees the Face of God)*, and *Der goldene Drache (The Golden Dragon)*. *The Golden Dragon* was awarded the Mühlheimer Dramatists Award and was chosen as *Theaterheute*’s Play of the Year in 2010. His other plays have also won most of the prestigious prizes in Germany, including the 1997 Else-Lasker-Schüler Prize for *Fisch um Fisch*, the Nestroy Prize for Best Young Author in 2002, and the Nestroy Prize for Best Play for *Besuch bei dem Vater (Visit with the Father)* in 2009. In 2010, Schimmelpfennig received the highest playwrighting award in Germany, the Else-Lasker-Schüler Prize, to honor his body of work.

To further explore Schimmelpfennig’s work and the work of producing plays in translation, The Studio Theatre will produce a series of free events. These events include a reading of Roland Schimmelpfennig’s play *Peggy Pickit Sees the Face of God* on Monday, November 14 at 8:00 pm, and two post-show conversations: one after the matinee on Saturday, December 3 about Schimmelpfennig and Contemporary German Theatre, and a second after the matinee on Saturday, December 10 about producing theatre in translation.

— MORE —

*The Studio Theatre 2011-2012 Season is generously underwritten by **Robert and Arlene Kogod**.*

Underwriting for the International Plays of the 2011-2012 Season is provided by an anonymous donor.

*This production of The Golden Dragon is underwritten by **Joan and David Maxwell and Virginia A. McArthur**.*

*WAMU 88.5FM is the official media partner of **The Golden Dragon**.*

THE GOLDEN DRAGON INFORMATION

Where: The Mead Theatre

Dates: November 2, 2011-December 11, 2011

Performances: Wednesday-Saturday: 8:00pm, Sunday: 7:00pm

Matinees: Saturday and Sunday: 2:00pm

Select Tuesdays: November 15, 22, 29, and December 6: 8:00pm

Matinees: Saturday and Sunday: 2:30pm

Ticket Prices: \$35-\$69

Press Opening: Sunday, November 6, 2011

Starring: Sarah Marshall, Joseph Anthony Foronda, Amir Darvish, KK Moggie, and Chris Myers

Director and Designers: Serge Seiden (Director), Deb Booth (Set Design), Michael Giannitti (Light Design), Helen Huang (Costume Design), Evan Rogers (Sound Design), and Adrien-Alice Hansel (Dramaturg)

THE STUDIO THEATRE INFORMATION:

The Studio Theatre is Washington's premiere venue for contemporary theatre, "where local audiences will find today's edgiest playwrights" (*Variety*). Founded in 1978 by Joy Zinoman, the theatre is in its second season under the leadership of Artistic Director David Muse. Muse is joined by Keith Alan Baker, Managing Director/Artistic Director, 2ndStage; Serge Seiden, Associate Producing Artistic Director; and Morey B. Epstein, Executive Director of Institutional Development.

One of the most respected mid-sized theatres in the country, The Studio Theatre produces the work of today's greatest writers, augmented by occasional productions of modern classics, performed by acclaimed actors in intimate spaces. Studio's programming, while purposefully eclectic, emphasizes plays of sophistication and style with true literary and theatrical merit. The five plays of The Studio Theatre Season form the core of its work, and are complemented by its Special Events, which bring unique performances and one-of-a-kind events to Washington DC; the rawer, frequently irreverent productions of The Studio 2ndStage; and the Studio Lab, in its inaugural season, which is dedicated to stripped-down productions of invigorating new work. Housed in a landmark complex that anchors the 14th Street Arts District, each of Studio's four theatres seats fewer than 225 patrons, giving Studio productions their signature intimacy. Throughout the Theatre's 34-year history, the quality of its work has been recognized by sustained community support as well as by 271 nominations and 55 Helen Hayes Awards for excellence in professional theatre. In addition, The Studio Theatre Acting Conservatory has trained over 10,000 students, many of whom have gone on to acclaimed careers across the country. A premiere cultural organization in Washington DC, The Studio Theatre serves more than 75,000 people annually and is proud to make a vital contribution to its neighborhood and city.

Discounts

Student, Senior Citizen (62+) and Military Discount: \$5.00 off (except Saturday evenings).

Student Rush: \$19 tickets for full-time students are available one-half hour before curtain on a seating available basis (except Saturday evenings).

Groups: Call the Group Sales Manager at 202-232-7267 for parties of 10 or more.

Pay What You Can: Saturday, November 5, 2:00pm.

Studio District Night: Wednesday, November 2, 8:00pm. Ticket Price: \$10 for residents and those employed in the Studio District, with proof of address or employment.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Accessibility: All performances are fully accessible to accommodate patrons with special needs. FM listening assistive system available. Accessible seats available by reservation. Call to request sign-interpreted performances; two week notice is required. Call the Box Office at 202-332-3300 or V/TTY 202-667-8436.

Location: 1501 14th Street, NW (Northeast corner of 14th and P Streets).

Parking: Please call the Box Office for parking information.

Metro Stops: Red Line: Dupont Circle, Orange/Blue Lines: McPherson Square, and Yellow/Green Lines: U Street/Cardozo.

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