

PRESS RELEASE

The Studio Theatre
The Studio Theatre 2ndStage
The Studio Theatre Acting Conservatory
1501 Fourteenth Street, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

STUDIO THEATRE

Telephone 202.232.7267
Box Office 202.332.3300
Fax 202.588.5262
Web studiotheatre.org
Email studio@studiotheatre.org

PRESS RELEASE

CONTACT: Liane Jacobs
Director of Communications
(202) 232-7267 ext. 360
liane@studiotheatre.org

DATE: October 20, 2010

THE STUDIO THEATRE BRINGS TRACY LETTS'S HILARIOUS *SUPERIOR DONUTS* TO THE STAGE!

“A witty, seductive, live-wire and greatly entertaining dark comedy that you just don’t want to end.”
– *The Chicago Tribune*

SUPERIOR DONUTS

by **Tracy Letts**

directed by **Serge Seiden**

starring **Richard Cotovsky** and **Johnny Ramey**

with **Logan Bennett, Barbara Broughton, Julie-Ann Elliott, Chris Genebach, Jason McIntosh, Gregor Paslawsky, and Aaron Tone**

Opening November 10, 2010

In the Metheny Theatre

In this new comedy from the Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright of *August: Osage County*, an offbeat friendship grows between a cantankerous white shop owner and an ambitious young black man with something to hide. As the two men bond over literature and entrepreneurship, they discover that family runs deeper than blood. Amidst the changing face of an old Chicago neighborhood, a local donut shop becomes the setting for old secrets and new beginnings. *Superior Donuts* will be directed by **Serge Seiden**, director of recent Studio Theatre hit productions *In the Red and Brown Water* and *Grey Gardens*.

Arthur Przybyszewski, a burnt-out hippie, has little interest in life anymore. Even an act of vandalism to his donut shop fails to bring Arthur out of his haze. However, when a charismatic young African American named Franco Wicks talks his way into a job at the donut shop, Arthur begins to recover his spark. Set in Chicago’s diverse Uptown neighborhood, *Superior Donuts* is full of colorful characters. This provocative comedy explores the challenges of facing your past and the redemptive power of friendship.

Tracy Letts has emerged as one of the most important contemporary American playwrights. Both an actor and playwright, Mr. Letts recently received great acclaim for his 2007 play *August: Osage County*, winner of the 2008 Pulitzer Prize for Drama and Tony Award for Best Play. His other plays include *Killer Joe*, *Bug* (which he also adapted into a film), and *The Man from Nebraska* (a 2004 Pulitzer Prize finalist). *Superior Donuts*, his most recent play, was developed at Chicago’s famed Steppenwolf Theatre Company, where Letts is also a company member.

The inaugural 2010-2011 season of new Artistic Director David Muse is generously underwritten by Jaylee Mead and Robert and Arlene Kogod, with additional underwriting from The Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation, Stanley and Rosemary Marcuss, and Vicki and Roger Sant.

— MORE —

*This production of **Superior Donuts** is generously underwritten by **Steve and Linda Skalet** and **Lizbeth Dobbins**.*

Starring: **Richard Cotovsky** (Arthur Przybyszewski) and **Johnny Ramey** (Franco Wicks)
With: **Logan Bennett** (Kevin Magee), **Barbara Broughton** (Lady Boyle), **Julie-Ann Elliott** (Officer Randy Osteen), **Chris Genebach** (Luther Flynn), **Jason McIntosh** (Officer James Bailey), **Gregor Paslawsky** (Max Tarasov), and **Aaron Tone** (Kiril Ivakin)

Director and Designers: **Serge Seiden** (Director), **Russell Metheny** (Set Design), **Peter West** (Lighting Design), **Kate Turner-Walker** (Costume Design), **Gil Thompson** (Sound Design), and **Robb Hunter** (Fight Choreography)

SUPERIOR DONUTS INFORMATION

Where: The Metheny Theatre

Dates: November 10–December 19, 2010

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

Matinees: Saturday and Sunday: 2:00pm

Select Tuesdays: November 23, 30, December 7, 14: 8:00pm

Sign-Interpreted Performance: December 3: 8:00pm

Ticket Prices: \$44–\$65

Press Opening: Sunday, November 14

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*). Its restless, innovative spirit makes it a leader both in Washington DC, and in the nation. Artist-founded and artist-driven, The Studio Theatre demands the highest quality production values, bringing audiences provocative writing along with exceptional artistry in performance, directing, and design.

Founded in 1978 by Joy Zinoman, The Studio Theatre is now led by Artistic Director David Muse. He is joined by the leadership team of Keith Alan Baker, Managing Director/Artistic Director, 2ndStage; Serge Seiden, Associate Producing Artistic Director; and Morey B. Epstein, Executive Director of Institutional Development. The Studio Theatre is comprised of a four-theatre complex, a major landmark that anchors the 14th Street Arts District. The Studio Theatre has three distinct programming series – The Studio Theatre Season, Special Events, and The Studio 2ndStage. Special Events produces and presents one-of-a-kind performances that would not otherwise be seen in Washington. The Studio 2ndStage creates edgy, explosive, and electrifying productions. The Studio Theatre also provides opportunities for developing theatre artists as year-long apprentices. The Studio Theatre Acting Conservatory, now in its 36th year, offers rigorous professional theatre training in close partnership with the working artists at The Studio Theatre. The Conservatory has trained over 10,000 actors and directors, now performing on Broadway, Off Broadway, and in theatre and film across the country. The theatre is deeply invested in the eclectic vitality of its community.

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).

Student Matinee: Thursday, November 18: 11:00am. Call the Group Sales Manager at 202-232-7267.

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

Pay What You Can: Saturday, November 13: 2:00pm.

Studio District Night: Wednesday, November 10: 8:00pm. Ticket Price: \$10 for residents of the Studio District, with proof of address.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Accessibility: All performances are fully accessible to accommodate patrons with special needs. FM listening assistive system available. Call for schedule of sign-interpreted performances. Accessible seats available by reservation. 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 Green Line: U Street/Cardozo.

Contact Information: Tickets: 202-332-3300 V/TTY: 202-667-8436 Fax: 202-332-1187

Administration: 202-232-7267 Admin. Fax: 202-588-5262

Web site: www.studiotheatre.org E-mail: studio@studiotheatre.org

###