



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA ALERT

ROUND HOUSE THEATRE ANNOUNCES 2023-2024
SEASON PROGRAMMING UPDATE:

A HANUKKUH CAROL, OR GELT TRIP! THE MUSICAL
(ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED TO RUN DECEMBER 6-31, 2023)

TO BE REPLACED WITH

CONNOR MCPHERSON'S
THE SEAFARER

DIRECTED BY RYAN RILETTE

December 6 – 31 at Round House Theatre

Bethesda, Md. (September 18, 2023) – **The world premiere production of *A Hanukkah Carol*, or *GELT TRIP! The Musical*, originally scheduled to run December 6-31, will no longer be a part of the 2023-2024 Season.** It will be replaced in the current season by Conor McPherson's *The Seafarer*.

As the development process of *A Hanukkah Carol* has proceeded, it has become clear that, given the cost of the production, the current performance schedule does not meet the needs of this world premiere musical. We regret that we are unable to deliver the production this

winter, and we are working with the authors in the hopes of rescheduling it for a longer run in the 2024-2025 Season.

The show will be replaced in Round House’s current season by ***The Seafarer***, running December 6-31. Written by celebrated playwright Conor McPherson (*Girl from the North Country*, *The Night Alive*), this “enthraling” (*The New York Times*) dark comedy—set on Christmas Eve on the Irish coast—celebrates camaraderie, redemption, and the hope provided by second chances. The production will be directed by **Round House Artistic Director Ryan Rilette**.

The creative team will include Scenic Designer **Andrew Cohen**, Costume Designer **Ivania Stack**, Lighting Designer **Max Doolittle**, Properties Coordinator **Andrea “Dre” Moore**, Casting Director **Sarah Cooney**, Dramaturg **Naysan Mojgani**, and Production Stage Manager **Che Wernsman**. Additional creative team members and casting will be announced later this fall. Tickets are on sale now at RoundHouseTheatre.org or 240.644.1100.

Current ticketholders for *A Hanukkah Carol* will be contacted directly with ticket options.

PRODUCTION INFORMATION

The Seafarer

Directed by Ryan Rilette

December 6 – 31, 2023

CAST LIST to be announced

WHERE:

Round House Theatre, 4545 East-West Highway in Bethesda (one block from Wisconsin Ave. and Metro’s Bethesda station). For directions, parking, and public transportation info, visit RoundHouseTheatre.org/Visit-Us/.

ABOUT THE PLAY:

It’s a stormy Christmas Eve on the Irish coast, and down-on-his-luck Sharky has returned home

to look after his cantankerous brother Richard, who has recently gone blind. When Richard's old drinking buddies Ivan and Nicky show up to play a game of poker with an enigmatic stranger, Sharky is forced to confront his past and fight for his future. Written by celebrated playwright Conor McPherson (*Girl from the North Country*, *The Night Alive*), this "enthralling" (*The New York Times*) dark comedy celebrates camaraderie, redemption, and the hope provided by second chances.

DATES AND TIMES:

The Seafarer runs from December 6 to 31, 2023. Performances are Tuesday through Thursday and Sunday at 7:30 pm, Friday and Saturday at 8:00 pm, and Saturday and Sunday at 2:00 pm.

Audio described performance: Saturday, December 16, 2023

Open captioned performance: Saturday, December 23, 2023

TICKETS:

Tickets can be purchased by calling 240.644.1100, ordering online at RoundHouseTheatre.org, or visiting the box office. Available ticket discounts include:

- **Free Play** – free tickets for students ages 13 through college: Round House Theatre's Free Play initiative ties into our greater strategy to develop theatre audiences of tomorrow by providing rich, meaningful arts experiences today. For more information, visit RoundHouseTheatre.org/FreePlay or email Education@RoundHouseTheatre.org.
- **On the House** – community ticket access program: Round House's next step to remove barriers that can make it difficult for some members of our community to experience our work is On the House, which provides complimentary group tickets to 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations and community-serving organizations with a 501(c)(3) fiscal sponsor. For more information, visit RoundHouseTheatre.org/On-Stage/On-

TheHouse or email Community@RoundHouseTheatre.org.

- **Pay-What-You-Can performances:** PWYC tickets go on sale online or by phone only (no walk-up sales) beginning one week before the first performance of each show. The patron decides the admission price. Limit of two tickets per order. PWYC tickets are available for performances on Wednesday, December 6 at 7:30 pm and Saturday, December 9 at 2:00 pm and are subject to availability.
- **Blue Star Theatre Program:** Active-duty military personnel, veterans, and their immediate family qualify for a \$10 discount off the single ticket price. Learn more at RoundHouseTheatre.org/On-Stage/Tickets.
- **2-For-1 Tuesday:** For all Tuesday performances of *The Seafarer*, all seats are buy one, get one free. 2-for-1 Tuesday tickets are available online or by phone (240.644.1100) with promo code TWOFORONE. Discounts may not be combined. Not valid on previously purchased tickets.
- **Group Sales:** Groups of 10 or more can save 10% off the single ticket price and are exempt from single ticket fees. These tickets must be reserved and purchased in advance by calling 240.644.1100 or emailing GroupSales@RoundHouseTheatre.org.

ROUND HOUSE THEATRE HEALTH & SAFETY POLICIES

Round House Theatre no longer requires that audience members wear masks for most performances in our theatre. However, masks are required for certain performances and for events in other Round House spaces, including our Event Room. We continue to strongly recommend masks as the best way for individuals to protect themselves from COVID-19 and other seasonal viruses, and we ask our audience members to respect the choices of others.

Round House will offer a limited number of mask-required performances for audience members who may prefer a fully masked environment. **Masks are required for performances of *The Seafarer* on December 26 and 30 (matinee).**

ABOUT ROUND HOUSE THEATRE

Round House Theatre is one of the leading professional theatres in the Washington, DC area, producing a season of new plays, modern classics, and musicals for more than 40,000 patrons each year at our theatre in Bethesda. Round House has been nominated for 213 Helen Hayes Awards and has won 42, including four Outstanding Resident Play Awards and the Charles MacArthur Award for Original New Play in 2016. Round House's lifelong learning and education programs serve more than 5,000 students each year at its Education Center in Silver Spring, in schools throughout Montgomery County, and at our Bethesda theatre. Cornerstone programs include Free Play, which provides free tickets for students ages 13-college, the Teen Performance Company, which culminates in the student-produced Sarah Metzger Memorial Play, Summer Camp for students in grades K-12, and a full slate of classes for adults and youth.

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