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SIGNATURE THEATRE PRESENTS CABARET PERFORMANCES OF *LaCHIUSA'S LADIES*

\$30 Performances March 18 - 21 in Signature's ARK Theatre

Vincent Van Gogh's mistress. A Japanese courtesan plotting to kill her lover. Greek mythology's infamous Medea. A woman trying to quit smoking. What do these women have in common? They are just a few of the fascinating characters featured in Signature Theatre's latest cabaret, *LaChiusa's Ladies*, running March 18 through 21 in the ARK Theatre. Tickets are just \$30 each to a special evening of songs composed by **Michael John LaChiusa** who's created some of musical theater's most interesting, complex women.

LaChiusa's Ladies features outstanding Signature vocalists **Priscilla Cuellar**, **Amy McWilliams**, and **Rachel Zampelli**, along side Helen Hayes Award-nominees **Felicia Curry** and **Tracy Lynn Olivera**. Signature's own **Michael Baron** will direct the show, with music director **Gabriel Mangiante** on the piano. The cabaret evening will include songs from LaChiusa's award-winning musicals *Hello Again*, *The Highest Yellow*, *Little Fish*, *Marie Christine*, *The Wild Party*, and more.

Performances of *LaChiusa's Ladies* are March 18 and 19 at 8:30 pm, with two shows a day on March 20 and 21, at 7:30 pm and 9:30 pm. In the nightclub setting of the ARK, patrons can visit Ali's Bar in the Signature lobby and bring choice wine, beer, mixed drinks, and sophisticated chef-prepared fare right to their tables in the Theater.

Signature Theatre is proud to be producing three works this season by LaChiusa, considered one of musical theatre's most intelligent and innovative composers. Following the cabaret run, LaChiusa's musical *See What I Wanna See* opens in Signature's ARK Theatre on April 7 and runs through May 31. On April 28, Signature will produce the world premiere of *Giant*, commissioned and developed through Signature's American Musical Voices Project. *Giant* will be performed in the MAX Theatre through May 31. In past

seasons Signature produced the world premiere of LaChiusa's work *The Highest Yellow* in 2004 and performed *First Lady Suite* in 1995.

Tickets are available by calling Ticketmaster at (703) 573-7328, visiting www.signature-theatre.org, or at the Signature Theatre Box Office.

ABOUT MICHAEL JOHN LaCHIUSA

Five-time Tony Award® nominee **Michael John LaChiusa** – composer, lyricist, and librettist – is a powerful presence on the American musical theater scene. He first came to national attention by winning Off-Broadway's 1993 Obie Award for his musicals *First Lady Suite* and *Hello, Again*. Six years later LaChiusa was represented on Broadway during the 1999-2000 season by two more musicals, *The Wild Party* and *Marie Christine*, which together received 12 Tony Award® nominations for the season – garnering LaChiusa two nominations for each production: Best Score and Best Book (along with George C. Wolfe on *The Wild Party*). He received his first Tony Award® nomination for Best Book (co-written with Graciela Daniele and Jim Lewis) for *Chronicle of Death Foretold*, produced on Broadway by Lincoln Center Theater Company in 1996.

LaChiusa's works also include *Send (who are you? I love you)*, written for Audra McDonald and commissioned by the Houston Grand Opera; *Tres Ninas* (written with Ellen Fitzhugh); *Bernarda Alba* (Lincoln Center Theater); *Lovers and Friends: Chautauqua Variations* (Lyric Opera of Chicago); *Little Fish* (Second Stage); and *Break/Agnes/Eulogy for Mister Hamm* (Playwrights Horizons). He is a recipient of the Gilman-Gonzalez-Falla Musical Theatre Award.

ABOUT SIGNATURE

Under the leadership of co-founder and Artistic Director Eric Schaeffer and Managing Director Maggie Boland, Signature is a non-profit professional theater company dedicated to producing contemporary musicals and plays, reinventing classic musicals, and developing new work. To date, Signature has presented over 25 world premiere productions and is renowned for combining Broadway-quality productions with intimate playing spaces. In addition to the finest talent from the DC metropolitan area and New York, Signature has been a home to such theater luminaries as John Kander and Fred Ebb, Cameron Mackintosh, Terrence McNally, and the company's signature, Stephen Sondheim. Signature has been nominated for 276 Helen Hayes Awards for excellence in the professional theater and has been honored with 59 Helen Hayes Awards, including Outstanding Musical in 1992, 1993, 1995, 1997, 2000, 2005, and 2006, and Outstanding Play in 1999.

Signature Theatre is supported by a grant from the Virginia Commission for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Directions

Signature Theatre is less than ten minutes from downtown Washington, DC in Arlington's Shirlington Village. The new theater complex is located at 4200 Campbell Avenue (22206) off I-395 at the Shirlington exit. After the exit, blue Signature signs mark the way to the Theatre. Free parking is available in two adjacent public garages. Please note that Campbell Avenue is a new street and some GPS online mapping systems do not yet recognize Signature Theatre's address. For directions, visit www.signature-theatre.org.

Contact Information

Ticketmaster (703) 573-SEAT (7328)
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