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We are delighted to welcome the singular Hershey Felder back to Hartford Stage. In addition to performing in his pieces *George Gershwin Alone* and *Monsieur Chopin*, he collaborated with Mona Golabek on *The Pianist of Willesden Lane*. All three productions were warmly received by our audiences, and we are very happy to host Hershey again in *Our Great Tchaikovsky*.

Last week we started rehearsals for *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* and workedshopped the upcoming world premiere of Sarah Gancher’s *Seder* here in Hartford. *Anastasia* is playing to full and delighted houses on Broadway, and the second national tour of *A Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder* will hit the road next month. Soon, both productions will be sailing across the Atlantic. And in December, for the 20th Anniversary, Michael Preston will be taking over the role of Ebenezer Scrooge in Michael Wilson’s beloved *A Christmas Carol*.

We have a thrilling year ahead, filled with mystery, laughter and romance. We hope you’ll join us for the entire 2017-18 Season.

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Darko Tresnjak,  
Artistic Director

Michael Stotts,  
Managing Director
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THE SAMANTHA F. VOXAKIS, KAREN RACANELLI, AND ERIK CARSTENSEN PRODUCTION OF

HERSHEY FELDER

OUR GREAT TCHAIKOVSKY

Music by PIOTR ILYICH TCHAIKOVSKY
Book by HERSHEY FELDER

Directed by TREVOR HAY
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Tchaikovsky .................................................................................................................. Hershey Felder

THERE WILL BE NO INTERMISSION.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Ken and Katrina Carlson, Susan and Moses Libitzky, Irv and Dena Schechter, Erika Bendersky, Michael Lewin, Cynthia Caywood and David Hay, Sheila and Doug Graves, Dan and Phyllis Epstein; Beth Schenker, Steve Robinson, Amy Carstensen, Bradley Curtin and Steinway.


A heartfelt thank you to my team of devoted artists without whom none of our work would be possible, especially Karen Racanelli, Erik Carstensen, Trevor Hay, Meghan Maiya, Christopher Ash, Jason Bieber, Abby Caywood, Jordan and Emma Hay, Brian McMullen, Richard Norwood, Lawrence Siefert, Samantha and the entire Greek Family.

Thanks to Michael Stotts, Darko Tresnjak, Emily Van Scoy, Elizabeth Williamson, Todd Brandt, Samantha Donnelly, Bryan Holcombe, Theresa MacNaughton, the house staff and box office, and everyone at Hartford Stage.

A special thank you to Candice and Joel Zwick, and Joel Zwick “Alone”


The production thanks Steinway & Sons for their courtesy in providing the concert grand piano.

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OUR GREAT TCHAIKOVSKY
We are so pleased that you are returning to Hartford Stage after your successful runs here of George Gershwin Alone and Monsieur Chopin. As a virtuoso musician-actor-writer, what drew you to create solo work based on the lives of some of the world’s most famous composers?

A human requirement – paying rent. Joking aside, it was always the need to set great works of music – and their stories that have deeply affected me – in their historical context so that we come to a better understanding of where the pieces come from. Then, there is the time travel element – the fantasy of being, for a few minutes, in the 18th, 19th and early 20th centuries – at a time where the most remarkable works of musical art were being created.

Our audiences will remember you as Gershwin and Chopin, but you have also portrayed Beethoven, Liszt, Bernstein and Berlin. How do you find your way into the storytelling and the music with each new portrayal?

It always begins with the music in these kinds of pieces. And then one must know whatever there is to know about the composer so that the story can be distilled in order to create a veritable illusion of what it may have been like to be in the presence of the composer.
HERSHEY FELDER IN *GEORGE GERSHWIN ALONE.*

HERSHEY FELDER IN *OUR GREAT TCHAIKOVSKY.*
You have also worked with Mona Golabek, as the adaptor and director of *The Pianist of Willesden Lane*, which performed here in 2015. How was your creative process different when working with Mona as compared to when you perform a solo work yourself?

Mona is primarily a pianist; and in the case of this particular piece, it was about using her piano repertoire as it related to her personal story. It was always imperative not to create big “acting” moments but just allow Mona, the pianist, to tell an honest story in the most direct fashion. In my own performances, as I am not telling my own true story, I have varied and more theatrical techniques to draw on.

You mentioned that you find Tchaikovsky especially relevant. How do you feel his story resonates today?

Tchaikovsky’s story is relevant today because our world – as was his – is threatened by the rewriting of truth and, without truth, there is no humanity.
HERSHEY FELDER

TCHAIKOVSKY/THE ARTIST/PLAYWRIGHT

Recently named to *Time Magazine*’s 2016 Top 10 Plays and Musicals, Hershey Felder has played over 4,500 performances of his self-created solo productions at some of the world’s most prestigious theatres and has broken box office records consistently. *American Theatre Magazine* said, “Hershey Felder is in a category all his own.” His shows include: *George Gershwin Alone* (Broadway’s Helen Hayes Theatre, West End’s Duchess Theatre); *Monsieur Chopin; Beethoven; Maestro (Leonard Bernstein); Franz Liszt in Musik, Lincoln: An American Story, Hershey Felder as Irving Berlin, and Our Great Tchaikovsky*. In addition, he performs concerts of “The Great American Song Book Sing-Along” at every theatre where his shows are presented as well as private venues. His compositions and recordings include *Aliyah*, *Concerto for Piano and Orchestra; Fairytales*, a musical; *Les Anges de Paris, Suite for Violin and Piano; Song Settings; Saltimbanques for Piano and Orchestra; Etudes Thematiques for Piano; and An American Story for Actor and Orchestra*. Hershey is the adaptor, director and designer for the very successful play with music, *The Pianist of Willesden Lane*; producer and designer for the new musical *Louis and Keely: ‘Live’ at the Sahara*, directed by Taylor Hackford; and writer and director for the upcoming *Flying Solo*, featuring opera legend Nathan Gunn. Hershey has operated a full-service production company since 2001. He has been a scholar-in-residence at Harvard University’s Department of Music and is married to Kim Campbell, the first female Prime Minister of Canada.

TREVOR HAY

DIRECTOR

Directed the world premieres of *An American Story for Actor and Orchestra, Abe Lincoln’s Piano, Hershey Felder as Franz Liszt in Musik, and Hershey Felder as Irving Berlin*. He is Associate Director for Mona Golabek’s *The Pianist of Willesden Lane*. Former member of the historic Old Globe Theatre in San Diego where, at the age of nine, his first position was selling Old Globe memorabilia. Over the next 32 years, Mr. Hay went on to various aspects of production on more than 80 presentations, including the Broadway productions of Jack O’Brien’s *Damn Yankees, How The Grinch Stole Christmas*, and *Twyla Tharpe’s The Times They Are A-Changin’*. Included in his 23 seasons at the Old Globe were eleven seasons of the Summer Shakespeare Festival Repertory, as well as work on Tracy Letts’ *August: Osage County*, directed by Sam Gold, and Hershey Felder’s *George Gershwin Alone, Monsieur Chopin and Maestro Bernstein*.

JOEL ZWICK

CONSULTING PRODUCER

Joel Zwick directed *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*, the highest-grossing romantic comedy of all time. Recent films include *Fat Albert* and *Elvis Has Left the Building*. Mr. Zwick directed the Broadway production of *George Gershwin Alone* at the Helen Hayes Theatre. Mr. Zwick began his theatrical career at La Mama E.T.C., as director of the La Mama Plexus. He has directed on Broadway, Off-Broadway and Broadway touring companies. He and Hershey Felder have collaborated on *Monsieur Chopin, Beethoven As I Knew Him* and *Maestro*. Currently, Mr. Zwick is recognized as one of Hollywood’s most prolific director of episodic television, having the direction of over 650 episodes to his credit. New York productions have included *Dance With Me* (Tony nomination), *Shenandoah* (Broadway national tour), *Oklahoma* (national tour) and *Cold Storage* (American Place Theater). He acted in the original New York production of *MacBird*. He directed *Esther* (Promenade Theater, NY), *Merry-Go-Round* (Chicago and Las Vegas), *Last Chance Saloon* and *Woycek* (West End, London). Mr. Zwick has taught drama at Yale University, Brooklyn College,
Queens College, Wheaton College, and the University of Southern California. He is a graduate (B.A., M.A.) of Brooklyn College. He is currently directing for the Disney Channel and has been at the helm of Suite Life on Deck, Dog with a Blog, Jessie, Shake it Up, Girl Meets World, I Didn’t Do It and K.C. Undercover.

CHRISTOPHER ASH
LIGHTING AND PROJECTION DESIGN

ERIK CARSTENSEN
SOUND DESIGNER/PRODUCTION MANAGER/CO-PRODUCER
Erik has worked for Eighty-Eight Entertainment for ten years. He has served as sound designer on Hershey Felder as Irving Berlin, Jamaica Farewell, Baritones Unbound, Louis and Keely Live at the Sahara, Jack Lemmon’s Son, Rockstar, An American Story, The Pianist of Willesden Lane (2012 Ovation Award Nomination), Maestro Leonard Bernstein, and Beethoven As I Knew Him (2009 Ovation Award Winner). Formerly, he was the master sound technician at the Old Globe Theatre in San Diego and was production engineer on over 60 productions, including Allegiance, Robin and the Seven Hoods, A Catered Affair, Hershey Felder’s George Gershwin Alone, Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, Chita Rivera-A Dancers Life, Dr. Seuss’ How the Grinch Stole Christmas!, The Full Monty, Dirty Blonde, and Floyd Collins. Mr. Carstensen is a member of IATSE Local 122.

ABIGAIL CAYWOOD
COSTUME DESIGN
Abigail received her B.A. in Drama from the University of California, Irvine, where she was awarded Honors in Design. Professional costume design credits include MAESTRO: Leonard Bernstein (San Diego Rep and 59E59 Off-Broadway), An American Story (Pasadena Playhouse), Marry Me a Little (Theatre Out), and The Iliad (UC Irvine). Her university credits include Hay Fever (set and costume design), Ghosts, The Tempest, The Fifth of July, and Yerma. Assistant costume design credits include Shockheaded Peter (Cygnet Theatre), The Illusion (North Coast Rep), Hamlet, As You Like It, Much Ado About Nothing, and Macbeth (New Swan Shakespeare Festival).

BRIAN MCMULLEN
LIGHTING & PROJECTION ASSOCIATE
New York NY. Brian has recently worked as the Projection Designer of Smokey Joe’s Cafe (Finger Lakes Musical Theatre Festival), Associate Projection Designer for From Here to Eternity, Treasure Island (Finger Lakes Musical Theatre Festival) Cabaret (Fredonia Theatre and Dance), as well as a Video Content Creator for the 70th and 71st Annual Tony Awards (CBS). Brian received his BFA in Theatrical Production and Design from The State University of New York at Fredonia. www.briancmcmullen.com
MEGHAN MAIYA
DRAMATURG AND RESEARCH
Meghan is the Director of Research and Special Projects for Hershey Felder Presents (HFP). She has been doing biographical and historical research for HFP’s new theatrical productions since 2013. Productions include Hershey Felder as Franz Liszt in Musik; Hershey Felder as Irving Berlin; and Our Great Tchaikovsky. Additional projects include Production Research & Imagery for Louis and Keely ‘Live’ at the Sahara; Scenic Decoration for The Pianist of Willesden Lane, Abe Lincoln’s Piano, Hershey Felder as Irving Berlin, and Jamaica Farewell. Formerly, Meghan worked in the Department of Family Medicine and Public Health at the University of California, San Diego as a Senior Program Evaluation Specialist and Project Manager. She managed multiple research projects in the fields of Integrative Medicine and Behavioral Health. Additionally, Meghan spent twelve years as a psychology professor at San Diego State University and local community colleges.

KAREN RACANELLI
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER
Karen comes to Hershey Felder Presents from Berkeley Repertory Theatre, where she worked as General Manager for 21 years, overseeing daily operations, and produced several shows performed and/or directed by Hershey Felder. She has represented the League of Resident Theatres during negotiations with both Actors’ Equity Association and the union of Stage Directors and Choreographers, served on LORT’s Executive Committee and served as a panelist at several LORT meetings. Prior to her tenure at Berkeley Rep, Karen worked as an independent producer at several Bay Area theatre companies and has served on the boards of Climate Theater, Overtone Theatre Company, Park Day School, and the Julia Morgan Center. Karen was named a 2016 “Unsung Hero of Arts Administration” by the national arts and culture organization, Fractured Atlas. She is married to Bay Area arts attorney MJ Bogatin.

SAMANTHA F. VOXAKIS
PRODUCER/COMPANY MANAGER
Samantha is a native of Maryland where she spent twelve memorable years working in the front office of the Baltimore Orioles. Since 2004, Sam has been responsible for the day-to-day operations of Eighty-Eight LLC/Hershey Felder Presents. With thanks to her very supportive family and Mr. Felder.

HERSHEY FELDER PRESENTS
PRODUCER
Hershey Felder Presents is the newest division of Eighty-Eight Entertainment which was created in 2001 by Hershey Felder and is devoted to the creation of new works of musical theatre. Current projects include the musical plays Hershey Felder as Irving Berlin and The Pianist of Willesden Lane. Recordings include Love Songs of the Yiddish Theatre, Back from Broadway, George Gershwin Alone, Monsieur Chopin, Beethoven As I Knew Him, and An American Story for Actor & Orchestra.
DARKO TRESNJAK
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
Darko Tresnjak is the fifth Artistic Director of the 53-year-old Hartford Stage. He received the 2014 Tony, Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle awards for his direction of A Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder, starring Jefferson Mays. He received a 2015 Obie Award for his direction of The Killer, starring Michael Shannon, at Theater for a New Audience. He has received three Connecticut Critics Circle Awards for his Hartford Stage productions of A Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder, Hamlet and Anastasia. Other productions at Hartford Stage include Heartbreak House, The Comedy of Errors; Rear Window; Hamlet; Private Lives; Kiss Me, Kate; Macbeth; La Dispute; Twelfth Night; The Tempest; and Bell, Book & Candle. From 2004 to 2009, he was the Artistic Director of The Old Globe Shakespeare Festival, where he received five San Diego Critics Circle Awards, four for his direction of Pericles, The Winter’s Tale, A Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder and Cyrano de Bergerac, starring Patrick Page, and one for Excellence in Artistic Direction. He is a recipient of the 2001 Alan Schneider Directing Award. Recent collaborations include The Ghosts of Versailles with Patti LuPone and Patricia Racette and Macbeth with Plácido Domingo at LA Opera and The Merchant of Venice with F. Murray Abraham at Theatre for a New Audience and the Royal Shakespeare Company Complete Works Festival. He has also directed productions at Williamstown Theatre Festival, Huntington Theatre Company, Long Wharf Theatre, Goodspeed Musicals, Westport Country Playhouse, Vineyard Theatre, Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Stratford Shakespeare Festival and The Public Theater.

MICHAEL STOTTS
MANAGING DIRECTOR
Mike Stotts is in his 12th season as Managing Director of Hartford Stage. Recent accomplishments include leading the multi-year, expansion and renovation of the Stage’s theatre facility. With Darko Tresnjak, he recently produced the world premieres of Rear Window, and the new musical, Anastasia, by Terrence McNally, Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty. Anastasia, which enjoyed a sell-out run at Hartford Stage, opened on Broadway in April, 2017. In 2012, the new musical A Gentlemen’s Guide to Love and Murder received its world premiere at Hartford Stage. It subsequently moved to Broadway and won the 2014 Tony Award for Best Musical. Other notable shows include Man in a Case starring Mikhail Baryshnikov, and the Pulitzer Prize-winning play, Water by the Spoonful by Quiara Alegría Hudes. In 2010, with Artistic Director Michael Wilson, he produced Horton Foote’s The Orphans’ Home Cycle which enjoyed a celebrated run in Hartford and subsequently at the Signature Theatre in New York where it won the Drama Desk, Lucille Lortel and Outer Critics Circle awards, among others. In 2013, he spearheaded the acquisition of the Hartford Children’s Theatre and the integration of its programs into the Hartford Stage Studio program. During his three-year tenure as Managing Director at Long Wharf Theatre in New Haven, he produced a significant number of new plays including works by Paula Vogel, Craig Lucas, James Lapine and Julia Cho. Prior to Long Wharf he served as Managing Director of George Street Playhouse in New Brunswick, New Jersey, and for nine years he served in the same capacity at the Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey in Madison, New Jersey, where he successfully initiated and managed the capital campaign to build the F.M. Kirby Shakespeare Theatre which opened in 1998. He currently serves on the boards of Hartford Performs and Billings Forge Community Works, and is a Corporator of Hartford Hospital and the iQuilt Partnership. He was a co-founder and President of the Connecticut Arts Alliance, a statewide arts advocacy organization, and continues to serve on that board. Mr. Stotts is originally from Calgary, Alberta.
ELIZABETH WILLIAMSON
ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Elizabeth Williamson was Hartford Stage’s Senior Dramaturg & Director of New Play Development from 2012-15. Before joining Hartford Stage, Williamson served as Associate Artistic Director and Literary Manager for Pioneer Theatre Company in Salt Lake City, Utah. A dramaturg, director, producer, and translator, she has also worked with About Face Theatre, the American Conservatory Theatre, Aurora Theatre, the Bay Area Playwrights Festival, Berkshire Opera, Court Theatre, HERE Arts Center, the La Jolla Playhouse, Lorin Maazel’s Castleton Festival, the Magic Theatre, Steppenwolf, Theatre de la Jeune Lune, and the Williamstown Theatre Festival. Williamson has developed new work with Brooke Berman, Bill Cain, Sheila Callaghan, Robert Freedman and Steven Lutvak, Kyle Jarrow, Julie Jensen, Kimber Lee, Matthew Lopez, Wendy MacLeod, T.D. Mitchell, Peter Morris, Brighde Mullins, Janine Nabers, Dan O’Brien, Dominique Serrand and Steve Epp, Octavio Solis, Bess Wohl, Lauren Yee, and Mary Zimmerman. Translations include Marivaux’ La Dispute (co-adapted with Darko Tresnjak) at Hartford Stage, Michel Azama’s The Life and Death of Pier Paolo Pasolini (with Nicholas Elliott, Act French Festival, New York), Michel Azama’s Airlock (with Nicholas Elliott) and Michel Azama’s Night Zoo. Education: Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Directing and Comparative Literature, Bennington College; Master’s in European Literature, Oxford University; trained at the École Jacques Lecoq. Williamson received an NEA Fellowship in Literary Translation in 2007 and is a member of the Lincoln Center Theater Directors Lab and the Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas.

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DIRECTED BY EMILY MANN
FEBRUARY 15–MARCH 18, 2018

The exotic Orient Express is about to go off the rails! With a locomotive full of suspects and an alibi for each one, it’s the perfect mystery for detective Hercule Poirot. Adapted from Agatha Christie’s masterpiece, this suspenseful ride aboard the legendary Orient Express has thrilled mystery lovers from the page, the screen and over the airwaves since its publication in 1934.

THE AGE OF INNOCENCE WORLD PREMIERE
BY EDITH WHARTON
ADAPTED FOR THE STAGE BY DOUGLAS MCGRATH
DIRECTED BY DOUG HUGHES
APRIL 5–MAY 6, 2018

Tony Award-winning director Doug Hughes (Doubt) collaborates with the renowned playwright and screenwriter Douglas McGrath (the film Bullets Over Broadway and the musical Beautiful) on a moving and elegant adaptation of Edith Wharton’s Pulitzer Prize-winning novel. Desire clashes with propriety in this classic tale of America in the Gilded Age.

STATEMENTS AFTER AN ARREST UNDER THE IMMORALITY ACT
BY ATHOL FUGARD · DIRECTED BY DARKO TRESNJAK
MAY 17–JUNE 10, 2018

When love is a crime. A black man and a white woman meet after-hours, in a shadowy library, to make love and to talk, hiding from the venomous gaze of a never-seen but ever-present neighbor. Written in 1972, set against the background of apartheid, Statements is a masterpiece by Athol Fugard, one of the great poets of the stage.
Now in our 54th year, Hartford Stage is under the leadership of Artistic Director Darko Tresnjak and Managing Director Michael Stotts. One of the nation’s leading resident theatres, Hartford Stage is known for producing innovative revivals of classics and provocative new plays and musicals, including 73 world and American premieres, as well as offering a distinguished education program, which reaches more than 20,000 students annually.

Since Tresnjak’s appointment in 2011, the theatre has presented the world premieres of the new musical Anastasia by Terrence McNally, Stephen Flaherty and Lynn Ahrens—currently on Broadway; A Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder on Broadway, winner of four 2014 Tony Awards, including Best Musical and Best Direction of a Musical by Tresnjak; Rear Window with Kevin Bacon; Quiara Alegria Hudes’ Water by the Spoonful, winner of the 2012 Pulitzer Prize for Drama; Breath & Imagination by Daniel Beaty; Big Dance Theatre’s Man in a Case with Mikhail Baryshnikov; and Reverberation by Matthew Lopez.

Hartford Stage has earned many of the nation’s most prestigious awards, including the 1988 Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre. Other national honors include Outer Critics Circle, Drama Desk, OBIE, and New York Critics Circle awards. Hartford Stage has produced nationally renowned titles, including the New York transfers of Enchanted April; The Orphans’ Home Cycle; Resurrection (later retitled Through the Night); The Carpetbagger’s Children; and Tea at Five.

The leading provider of theatre education programs in Connecticut, Hartford Stage’s offerings include student matinees, in-school theatre residencies, teen performance opportunities, theatre classes for students (ages 3-18) and adults, afterschool programs and professional development courses.
There’s tons of fun happening at Hartford Stage Youth Studio all year long!

With classes for ages 3-17, there’s sure to be something for all of the creative kids in your family.

Fall Studio Classes now on sale!

Musical Theatre Cabaret Jr. • Mini-Production: Mirthful Myths!
Acting for the Camera • Production Class
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Email education@hartfordstage.org or call 860-520-7244 for information on upcoming classes. Returning students save 10%!
The Hartt School/Hartford Stage Partnership in Training

Now in its twelfth year, The Hartt School/Hartford Stage Partnership in Training offers a unique alliance of an undergraduate acting conservatory program and a respected professional theatre—one of only two such collaborations in the country. This partnership helps ensure that acting students at the Hartt School receive rigorous training and bring their skills, imagination and intellect to the demands of a professional theatre setting. Hartford Stage staff and guest artists lead classes and workshops and faculty and students appear in Hartford Stage productions. Hartt students have been seen in *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, *A Christmas Carol*, *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, *Noises Off!*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, the Brand:NEW Festival of New Work, *Antony & Cleopatra*, *Snow Falling on Cedars*, *The Crucible*, *The Tempest*, *Twelfth Night* and *Hamlet*.

The University of Massachusetts Graduate Internships at Hartford Stage

Linking one of the most respected graduate programs in theatre with the Tony Award-winning Hartford Stage, the University of Massachusetts Graduate Internships give Master of Fine Arts students in design, directing and dramaturgy the opportunity to work alongside the country’s most exciting artists. The Graduate Internships provide a valuable professional testing ground for students and are a natural complement to the practical, hands-on approach of UMass’ graduate program. In turn, Hartford Stage is enriched by the participation of the next generation of theatre artists. UMass students have worked on *Boeing-Boeing*, *Zerline’s Tale*, *Gee’s Bend*, *Motherhood Out Loud*, *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, *Snow Falling on Cedars*, *The 39 Steps*, *Macbeth*, *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*, and *Hedda Gabler*.

*From Top:* Hartt School student Ben Cole in *The Tempest*. • Nafe Katter and Hartt School student Douglas Lyons in *To Kill a Mockingbird*. • Hartt Students Kendra Underwood and Michael Gregory in *Antony & Cleopatra*. 
Short Takes: News from Hartford Stage

ON DISPLAY IN BOTH LOBBIES: FRAMING OUR HISTORY

Take a glimpse at Hartford Stage history by viewing past show posters enhanced by hand-crafted frames created by members of our own Scene & Paint Shop staff. Each frame takes its inspiration from the scenic, lighting and costume design of the production.

KEEP KIDS LEARNING!

Help Hartford Stage and the United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut “Stuff the Bus” with NEW school supplies during the month of August! Please consider purchasing one of these much-needed items for Greater Hartford Area students grades K-5: spiral notebooks, #2 pencils, ballpoint pens, crayons, highlighters, glue sticks, markers, erasers, and/or pocket folders. You may drop off “Stuff the Bus” donations at Hartford Stage during Our Great Tchaikovsky (August 19-27)! The United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut will distribute the supplies to local classrooms throughout the academic year to help students stay on track and perform better in school.

MEET OUR NEW EBENEZER SCROOGE!

Michael Preston will be taking on the role of Ebenezer Scrooge for the 20th anniversary of Michael Wilson’s beloved production of A Christmas Carol – A Ghost Story of Christmas. Well known to Hartford audiences from his six seasons with the company playing the larger-than-life Mr. Marvel, Michael Preston has performed on Broadway and internationally with the Flying Karamazov Brothers and is on the faculty at Hartford’s Trinity College. Tickets are on sale now!

CONNECTICUT CRITICS CIRCLE AWARDS

Hartford Stage was honored with six awards during the 27th annual Connecticut Critics Circle Awards on Monday, June 26. Receiving recognition: Vanessa R Butler – Outstanding Actress in a Play (Queens for a Year); Mia Dillon – Outstanding Featured Actress in a Play (Cloud 9); Cleavant Derricks – Outstanding Featured Actor in a Play (August Wilson’s The Piano Lesson); Fabio Toblini – Costume Design (The Comedy of Errors); Jane Shaw – Sound Design (The Comedy of Errors); and Hartford Stage Artistic Director Darko Tresnjak – Set Design (The Comedy of Errors). James Lecesne (The Absolute Brightness of Leonard Pelkey) received a special award from The Connecticut Critics Circle in honor of his work with LGBTQ youth.
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