

molly smith
artistic director

stephen richard
executive director

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founding director

MEDIA RELEASE

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ARENA STAGE ANNOUNCES CHANGE IN 2006/07 SEASON

***** OBIE Award-winning musical *Peter & Wendy* flies into the Kreeger as Arena postpones the world premiere of *The Women of Brewster Place* *****

(Washington D.C.) Arena Stage Artistic Director Molly Smith has announced the postponement of the world premiere of Tim Acito's musical, *The Women of Brewster Place* (originally scheduled to close the 2006/07 season). Smith will direct a series of workshops in the next year to continue to develop the production. In its place, Arena Stage will present *Peter & Wendy*, a musical created by the pioneering Mabou Mines Theatre Company of New York that reinvents J.M. Barrie's classic tale through east Asian puppetry and an original Celtic score by Johnny Cunningham. Lee Breuer, the co-founder of Mabou Mines and co-creator of many well-known productions including *The Gospel at Colonus*, directs.

"Arena Stage is eager to work hard to bring *The Women of Brewster Place* to its full potential for its premiere in the 2007/08 season," said Smith. "This decision provides Arena Stage with the perfect opportunity to present the D.C.-area premiere of *Peter & Wendy*. In every city where it has been performed, *Peter & Wendy* has been met with rave reviews and enthusiastic audiences. From the first notes I heard of the stunning musical score, I knew Arena Stage had to bring this alluring production to Washington audiences."

Peter & Wendy

- Spectacular musical / D.C. premiere •

Adapted and produced by Liza Lorwin
Music composed and arranged by Johnny Cunningham
Designed by Julie Archer
Directed by Lee Breuer
April 27 through June 24, 2007
In the Kreeger

The story of Peter Pan and the Darling family comes magically to life in *Peter & Wendy*, a visually stunning and aurally breathtaking theatrical experience. Adults and children alike will be enchanted by this sophisticated production, an OBIE award winner based on J.M. Barrie's novel. Influenced by art from around the globe, *Peter & Wendy* reimagines a classic tale through elegant east Asian puppetry and a gorgeous Celtic musical score, resulting in a uniquely imaginative spectacle for the stage. See for yourself why this internationally celebrated musical was hailed by *The New York Times* as "having so much vitality and originality ... that a classic seems reborn" and why *The San Francisco Chronicle* saluted *Peter & Wendy* as "what it means to be carried away in the theater."

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