

ARENA STAGE MEDIA RELEASE

Molly Smith Artistic Director Edgar Dobie Executive Producer Zelda Fichandler Founding Director

ARENA STAGE MEDIA UPDATE

January 29, 2014

RON RIFKIN AND RICHARD THOMAS TO STAR IN WORLD PREMIERE OF CAMP DAVID
AND LEVI KREIS JOINS CAST OF SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE – THE SONGS OF LEIBER AND STOLLER
AS PART OF ARENA STAGE'S 2013-14 SEASON

Tony Award winner Ron Rifkin (*Alias*, Broadway's Cabaret) and Emmy Award winner Richard Thomas (*The Waltons*) will star in the world premiere historical drama <u>Camp David</u> at Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater as Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin and President Jimmy Carter, respectively. Penned by Pulitzer Prize winner <u>Lawrence Wright</u> and under the direction of Artistic Director <u>Molly Smith</u>, Camp David runs March 21-May 4, 2014 in the Kreeger Theater.

Tony Award winner and recording artist Levi Kreis (Broadway's Million Dollar Quartet) joins the previously announced E. Faye Butler and Nova Y. Payton in the rock, rhythm and blues revue Smokey Joe's Café - The Songs of Leiber and Stoller. Directed by Randy Johnson (Broadway's A Night with Janis Joplin), the production runs April 25-June 8, 2014 in the Fichandler Stage.

Additional casting for Camp David and Smokey Joe's Café – The Songs of Leiber and Stoller will be announced at a later date. For complete season information, visit <u>arenastage.org/shows-tickets/the-season</u> or e-mail <u>press@arenastage.org</u>.

Ron Rifkin received the Tony Award for his performance in the Broadway revival of Cabaret. Additional Broadway credits include Wrong Mountain, A Month in the Country and Broken Glass. He originated the role of Isaac Geldhart in Jon Robin Baitz's Substance of Fire and was recently seen off-Broadway in The Twenty-Seventh Man and The Paris Letter. Film credits include The Words, Peep World, The Sum of All Fears, Dragonfly, The Majestic, Boiler Room, Keeping the Faith, The Negotiator, L.A. Confidential, Husbands and Wives, Manhattan Murder Mystery, Last Summer in the Hamptons, Wolf and JFK. Ron starred as Arvin Sloane on ABC's Alias and as Saul Holden on ABC's Brothers & Sisters. Additional TV credits include Law & Order: SVU, One Day at a Time, The Trials of Rosie O'Neill, Sex and the City, ER, Nero Wolfe and The Outer Limits.

Richard Thomas received an Emmy Award for his role as John Boy on the TV series *The Waltons*. He was recently seen on Broadway in *An Enemy of the People* and *Race*. Richard's theater career began at age seven on Broadway with *Sunrise at Campobello* and has continued with such shows as *Fifth of July*, *The Seagull*, *The Front Page*, *Tiny Alice*, *Peer Gynt*, *Richard II*, *Richard III*, *Hamlet*, *The Stendhal Syndrome*, *Democracy* and *A Naked Girl on the Appian Way*. He is currently appearing on the hit FX series *The Americans* and previously appeared on *Just Cause*, *It's a Miracle* and *Swiss Family Robinson*. Film credits include *The Wonder Boys*, *Battle Beyond the Stars*, *The Todd Killings*, *Red Sky at Morning* and *Taking Woodstock*.

Levi Kreis received the 2010 Tony Award for Best Featured Actor in a Musical for originating the role of Jerry Lee Lewis in *Million Dollar Quartet*. He is an Outer Critics Circle Award winner, a Drama League Award winner and a Jeff Award nominee. Levi starred as George in the musical *One Red Flower*, written and directed by Emmy Award winner Paris Barclay, played Roger in *Rent* (Benny Company) and has starred in several films, most notably as Fentin Meeks in Bill Paxton's directorial debut *Frailty*. As a singer/songwriter, Levi's music has been featured on major TV shows including *The Vampire Diaries*, *Sons of Anarchy* and *The Apprentice*.

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