

ARENA STAGE MEDIA RELEASE

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Greta Hays/Kirstin Franko press@arenastage.org, 202-600-4056

April 24, 2013

ARENA STAGE AT THE MEAD CENTER FOR AMERICAN THEATER HOLDS SPECIAL FOURTH OF JULY PERFORMANCE OF ONE NIGHT WITH JANIS JOPLIN

*** Exclusive evening includes buffet dinner and view of the National Mall fireworks display from the Mead Center terrace ***

(Washington, D.C.) Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater will hold a special fourth of July performance of the critically acclaimed musical event *One Night with Janis Joplin*, giving audience members the chance to celebrate Independence Day with the rock and blues music of Janis Joplin. The evening kicks off with a 6:00 p.m. performance of the live, concert-style production, packed with classic songs including "Piece of My Heart," "Summertime" and "Mercedes Benz" in the Kreeger Theater. Following the performance, audience members will be treated to a barbecue buffet with picnic style offerings and a clear view of the Washington Monument and the fireworks display on the National Mall from the Mead Center's outdoor terrace.

Tickets for this event are \$100, which includes the cost of the performance of *One Night with Janis Joplin*, the all-you-can-eat post-show buffet and the exclusive vantage point to watch the fireworks from the Mead Center terrace along the Southwest Waterfront.

Hailed by *Talkin' Broadway* as "an immersive and ecstatic event," <u>One Night with Janis Joplin</u> takes audiences on a musical journey into the life and inspirations of one of rock 'n' roll's greatest legends. Created, written and directed by **Randy Johnson**, *One Night with Janis Joplin* runs June 21-August 11, 2013 in the Kreeger Theater. This production is produced in partnership with The Pasadena Playhouse and Milwaukee Repertory Theater, in association with Todd Gershwin and Daniel Chilewich of One Night Productions, The Estate of Janis Joplin and Jeff Jampol of JAM, Inc.

Leading the production and backed by a live, on-stage band is **Mary Bridget Davies**, described by *The Washington Post* as "producing a version of the Joplin screech that starts somewhere around the singer's ankles, wends its way up into the back of her throat and shoots off into the farthest reaches of Arena's Kreeger Theater." Davies is joined by **Sabrina Elayne Carten** as the Blues Singer, whose "powerhouse voice" (*TheaterMania*) channels the legendary artists who influenced Joplin's incomparable blues-rock blend, including Aretha Franklin, Etta James, Odetta, Nina Simone and Bessie Smith.

Other special events and partnerships during the run of *One Night with Janis Joplin* include a brunch buffet onboard an Odyssey cruise through Entertainment Cruises followed by a performance of *One Night with Janis Joplin* and partnerships with some of the top D.C.-area hotels offering significant savings on hotel rooms. For more information on the fourth of July performance and these additional events and partnerships, including a full list of participating hotels, visit arenastage.org/shows-tickets/the-season/productions/one-night-with-janis-joplin/events.

-continued-

Fourth of July performance of One Night with Janis Joplin-Page 2

TICKETS: Tickets for One Night with Janis Joplin are \$40-\$99, subject to change and based on availability, plus applicable fees. For information on savings programs such as student discounts, Southwest Nights, Pay-Your-Age tickets, HOTTIX and Hero's Discounts, visit arenastage.org/shows-tickets/single-tickets/savings-programs/. Tickets may be purchased online at arenastage.org, by phone at 202-488-3300 or at the Sales Office at 1101 Sixth St., SW, D.C.

For additional production information, including company bios and HD video, please email press@arenastage.org. To download high-res photos visit photos/productions/one-night-with-janis-joplin (enter username/arenapress & password/arena1213 when prompted).

Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater is a national center dedicated to the production, presentation, development and study of American theater. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Molly Smith and Executive Director Edgar Dobie, Arena Stage is the largest company in the country dedicated to American plays and playwrights. Arena Stage produces huge plays of all that is passionate, exuberant, profound, deep and dangerous in the American spirit, and presents diverse and ground-breaking work from some of the best artists around the country. Arena Stage is committed to commissioning and developing new plays through the American Voices New Play Institute. Now in its seventh decade, Arena Stage serves a diverse annual audience of more than 300,000. arenastage.org.

Follow Arena Stage on **Twitter** @arenastage or <u>twitter.com/arenastage</u> and mention *One Night with Janis Joplin* with #ONWJJ. Find us on **Facebook** at <u>facebook.com/arenastage</u>.

###