



the mead center  
for american theater

# ARENA STAGE MEDIA RELEASE

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED MUSICAL EVENT *ONE NIGHT WITH JANIS JOPLIN*  
RETURNS TO ARENA STAGE AT THE MEAD CENTER FOR AMERICAN THEATER  
JUNE 21-AUGUST 11, 2013

\*\*\* 2013 Helen Hayes Award nominee Mary Bridget Davies reprises her role as the legendary blues-inspired rock star \*\*\*

(Washington, D.C.) Following a critically acclaimed run at Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater this past fall, *One Night with Janis Joplin*, hailed by *Talkin' Broadway* as "an immersive and ecstatic event," returns for a summer run. Leading the production is **Mary Bridget Davies**, described by *The Washington Post* as "looking uncannily like Joplin and 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." Created, written and directed by **Randy Johnson**, the production is produced in partnership with The Pasadena Playhouse in association with Todd Gershwin and Daniel Chilewich of One Night Productions, and The Estate of Janis Joplin and Jeff Jampol of JAM, Inc. *One Night with Janis Joplin* runs **June 21-August 11, 2013 in the Kreeger Theater.**

"Having *One Night with Janis Joplin* in the Kreeger last season was great fun, and now it will be a shot of adrenaline to start out your summer," shares **Arena Stage Artistic Director Molly Smith**. "Randy Johnson has created a moving portrait of a seminal American artist, Janis Joplin. For so many, her soundtrack defines a part of their youth and for others, it's meeting this wildly original artist for the first time. There is nothing quite like hearing her voice resounding through the Mead Center for American Theater."

"Arena Stage has become one of my theatrical homes away from home, and I'm thrilled to be working with Molly, Edgar and the entire staff at Arena Stage again," adds **Johnson**. "After the incredible critical response we received this past fall, I am confident that audiences are ready to embrace Janis and her legacy again. I feel as if the D.C. audiences are my old friends, and I can't wait to see them all again and return home with *One Night with Janis Joplin*."

**About *One Night with Janis Joplin*:** With a voice like whiskey and a laugh like pure joy, Janis Joplin took the music scene by storm. Simultaneously rough and vulnerable, Joplin was dubbed the Queen of Rock 'n' Roll, proving music wasn't just a man's world anymore. Packed with classic songs ("Piece of My Heart," "Summertime," "Mercedes Benz"), the show also shines the spotlight on trailblazers who influenced Janis—like Bessie Smith, Etta James and Aretha Franklin. Now, in a musical event featuring more than a dozen singers and band members, playwright-director Randy Johnson creates "a compelling portrait of an artist" (*Culturemob*) through the words, inspiration and music of one of America's greatest rock 'n' roll originals.

Full casting information will be announced at a later date.

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**One Night with Janis Joplin returns to Arena Stage—Page 2**

**TICKETS:** Tickets are available now as an add-on performance to full 2013/14 season subscribers. Single tickets will go on sale at a later date. Subscription packages are now on sale and may be purchased by calling the Arena Stage Sales Office at 202-488-3300.

*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](http://arenastage.org).*

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