



Old Globe Theatre | Cassius Carter Centre Stage | Lowell Davies Festival Theatre

News

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OLD GLOBE PRESENTS WEST COAST PREMIERE OF
ARTHUR MILLER'S SATIRE: RESURRECTION BLUES

CELEBRATED PLAYWRIGHT ARTHUR MILLER'S LATEST WORK TAKES
ON POLITICS, RELIGION AND THE MEDIA

San Diego – The Tony Award®-winning Old Globe is pleased to present the West Coast premiere of *Resurrection Blues*, a new satire by Arthur Miller, directed by Mark Lamos, playing in the Old Globe Theatre March 20 through April 25, 2004. (press opening: **Thursday, March 25 at 8pm**).

Set in an unnamed South American country riddled with environmental and economic problems, *Resurrection Blues* follows the actions of totalitarian ruler General Felix Barriaux and a Christ-like dissident. This young revolutionary leader has generated a stir in the countryside, prompting speculation that he could be the next messiah, and as his power grows among the common people, he threatens to upset the current military rule. When he is finally captured, Felix sees an opportunity to recover his country's finances by selling exclusive broadcast rights to the young man's execution – by crucifixion – to an American television network. Several other characters become involved, including the beautiful female TV director assigned to shoot the event, with whom Felix falls in love; Felix's cousin Henri Schultz, amateur philosopher and heir to a pharmaceutical fortune; as well as Jeanine, Henri's suicidal daughter and close friend of the arrested leader. Celebrated or condemned according to differing political stands, the messianic figure, known by several names, only appears in the play as a beam of light. Is he a real person or not? Either way, this man's reverberating charisma dramatically affects everyone in the play, and when he vanishes shortly before the planned execution, all must acknowledge what the crucifixion truly meant to them.

At once poetic, humorous and thought provoking, *Resurrection Blues* brilliantly satirizes misguided global politics and the predatory nature of a media-saturated culture. The play speaks to the playwright's profound concern for humanity's future in the new millennium as he expands his lifelong examination of intriguing contemporary moral dilemmas. According to *USA Today*, "*Resurrection Blues* is proof that after nearly seven decades, Miller's ear is still finely tuned to the pulse of modern life."

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For more than half a century **Arthur Miller** has stood as one of America's quintessential playwrights. He has received countless awards for his contributions to the theatre, including four Tony Awards®, including a special award for Lifetime Achievement, an Obie Award, an Olivier Award, the George Foster Peabody Award, the Kennedy Center Honors Lifetime Achievement Award, the Lucille Lortel Lifetime Achievement Award, and a Drama Desk Award for Lifetime Achievement. Born in New York City in 1915, his plays include *The Man Who Had All the Luck* (1944), *All My Sons* (1947), *Death of a Salesman* (1949), *The Crucible* (1953), *A View from the Bridge* (1955), *A Memory of Mondays* (1955), *After the Fall* (1964), *The Price* (1968), *The Creation of the World and Other Business* (1972), *The American Clock* (1980), *The Ride Down Mt. Morgan* (1991), *The Last Yankee* (1993), and *Broken Glass* (1994), among others. Miller has also written several screenplays, including *The Misfits*, *Everybody Wins*, *Playing for Time* (for television), and the recent adaptation of *The Crucible*, for which he received an Academy Award nomination. His books include *Situation Normal*, *Focus*, *In Russia*, *Chinese Encounters*, *Salesman in Beijing* and his acclaimed memoir *Timebends*.

Helming the production is the acclaimed director **Mark Lamos**, who was last represented at the Globe with his acclaimed productions of *Pentecost* (San Diego Critics Circle Award for Outstanding Direction, KPBS Patté Award for Best Production) and *Compleat Female Stage Beauty*. Born and raised in Chicago and educated at Northwestern University, Lamos began his career in the theater as an actor – in Chicago, on Broadway and in regional theater, including the Globe, where he played the title role in *Hamlet*, directed by Jack O'Brien. Lamos spent 17 seasons as artistic director of the Hartford Stage Company, during which he staged acclaimed productions of many classics, including 14 Shakespeare plays, as well as a cycle of Ibsen dramas, including the full-length *Peer Gynt*, starring Richard Thomas. In addition, the theater premiered new work by Tony Kushner, Simon Gray, Tom Stoppard, Richard Foreman, Anne Bogart, and many others. His Broadway credits include *Our Country's Good* (Tony nomination), *The Gershwin's Fascinating Rhythm* and *The Deep Blue Sea*. Off-Broadway credits include *Tiny Alice* (Lortell Award, Drama Desk nomination), Lee Blessing's *Thief River*, Jon Robin Baitz's *The End of the Day* and *Measure for Measure* (Lortell Award). Lamos also directed *Desire Under the Elms* at Moscow's Pushkin Theater, making him the first American to direct a Russian company in the former U.S.S.R. His extensive work in opera includes new productions for the Met, including *Wozzeck*, *I Lombardi*, and the world premiere of John Harbison's *The Great Gatsby*, as well as numerous productions for New York City Opera, San Francisco Opera, Glimmerglass Opera, among many others. Opera world premieres include *Central Park* (Emmy nomination, PBS), Dominick Argento's *The Aspern Papers* (PBS Great Performances), and John Harbison's *The Winter's Tale* (San Francisco Opera). He has held the Algur H. Meadows Chair in Performing Arts at Southern Methodist University, lectured at Yale, and is currently on the faculty of the School of Music, Dept. of Theater at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

The play features **John de Lancie** as “General Felix Barriaux” and Daniel Davis as “Henri Schultz.” De Lancie is best known to television audiences as “Q” on *Star Trek*. He has also appeared in the films *Woman on Top*, *Multiplicity*, *Fearless*, *The Hand that Rocks the Cradle*, *The Fisher King*, *Taking Care of Business*, and many others. His many television credits include *The West Wing*, *Sportsnight*, *Outer Limits*, *Ally McBeal*, *Picket Fences*, *Days of Our Lives*, among others. On stage he has appeared in *Saint Joan* and *The Taming of the Shrew* at Seattle Rep; *Man and Superman*, *Golden Girls* and *Childe Byron* at South Coast Rep, *Terra Nova* and *Aunt Dan and Lemon* at the Mark Taper Forum, and many others.

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Daniel Davis has worked in regional theatre in the U.S. and Canada since 1968, having held leading roles with the American Shakespeare Festival, the Stratford National Theatre of Canada, Actors Theatre of Louisville, Seattle Rep, the Guthrie, ten seasons with the Williamstown Theatre Festival, and six seasons with the American Conservatory Theatre. Highlights include Garland Wright’s production of *The Misanthrope*, the American premiere of David Hare and Howard Brenton’s *Pravda*, directed by Robert Falls, the world premiere of *The Film Society*, by Jon Robin Baitz, and title roles in *Peer Gynt*, *Hamlet* and *Arturo Ui*. On Broadway he has appeared in *Wrong Mountain*, for which he received a 2000 Tony Award® nomination; *The Invention of Love*, *Amadeus*, *The Frogs*, and *Coco* with Katharine Hepburn. His films include *The Hunt for Red October*, *K-9*, *Chain Letters*, and Sydney Pollack’s *Havana*. He has made guest appearances in several movies for television and episodics, most notably as “Professor Moriarty” on *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, and six seasons as “Niles the Butler” on *The Nanny*.

Additional company members include Bruce Bohne as “Stanley,” Chris Henry Coffey as “Skip Cheeseboro,” Jennifer Regan (featured in the Globe’s 2000 production of *The Trojan Women*) as “Emily Shapiro,” and Dana Slamp as “Jeanine.”

The **Insights Seminar** for *Resurrection Blues* will take place on **Monday, March 22** at 7:00pm in the Old Globe Theatre. The Old Globe will also present an **ASL-interpreted performance** of the production on **Sunday, April 4 at 2:00pm**. Insights Seminars are offered for each Globe production and provide patrons with an opportunity to be more closely connected to the work on stage and backstage at the Globe. Artists from all phases of a Globe production meet with patrons in a lively exchange of ideas and insights that enhance the theatre-going experience. Insights seminars are free to all Globe Members and Subscribers and \$5.00 for the general public.

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The internationally-acclaimed, Tony® Award-winning Old Globe is one of the most renowned regional theaters in the country and has stood as San Diego’s flagship arts institution for over 68 years. The Old Globe produces a year-round season of 15 plays and musicals on its three stages, including the highly-regarded Shakespeare festival. The Globe has become a gathering place for leading theater artists from around the world, as exemplified by Tom Stoppard, Daniel Sullivan, Tina Landau, Nora Ephron and John Goodman, among many others. Numerous Broadway-bound premieres and revivals, such as Imaginary Friends, The Full Monty, Pride’s Crossing and Damn Yankees, have been developed at The Old Globe and have gone on to enjoy highly successful runs in New York and at regional theatres across the country. Under the leadership of Artistic Directors Jack O’Brien and Craig Noel and Executive Director Louis G. Spisto, the Globe is at the forefront of the nation’s leading performing arts organizations, setting the standard for excellence in American theater.

