THEATRE GOODMAN
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CASTING IS COMPLETE FOR GOODMAN THEATRE'S *OTHER DESERT CITIES* BY JON ROBIN BAITZ, DIRECTED BY HENRY WISHCAMPER, NEWEST MEMBER OF THE ESTEEMED ARTISTIC COLLECTIVE

*****THE CHICAGO PREMIERE STARS TRACY MICHELLE ARNOLD, DEANNA DUNAGAN, JOHN HOOGENAKKER, LINDA KIMBROUGH AND CHELCIE ROSS AND RUNS JANUARY 12 – FEBURARY 17, 2013*****

(Chicago, IL) Goodman Theatre Artistic Associate **Henry Wishcamper** announces the cast for the Chicago premiere of **Jon Robin Baitz'** *Other Desert Cities,* dubbed "the best new play on Broadway" (*The New York Times)*. The ensemble cast for *Other Desert Cities* includes **Tracy Michelle Arnold** (*Private Lives* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at Chicago Shakespeare Theater) as Brooke Wyeth; Tony Award-winning **Deanna Dunagan** (*August: Osage County* at Steppenwolf Theatre Company and Broadway, *Bounce*) as Polly Wyeth; **John Hoogenakker** (*The Iceman Cometh, The Good Negro)* as Trip Wyeth; **Linda Kimbrough** (*The Play About the Baby*) as Silda Grauman; and **Chelcie Ross** (AMC's *Mad Men*) as Lyman Wyeth. Tickets ($25 - $86; subject to change) go on sale Friday, December 7 and can be purchased at GoodmanTheatre.org, by phone at 312.443.3800 or at the box office (170 North Dearborn). Northern Trust is the Major Corporate Sponsor and Mayer Brown is the Corporate Sponsor Partner.

"*Other Desert Cities* makes its audience laugh, makes them think, makes them feel all at once," says director **Henry Wishcamper**. "It's a play about a dysfunctional family that desperately love each other. *Other Desert Cities* brings to the surface issues of secrecy, truth, love and shame that mirror our current culture and politics in a way that's both fascinating and moving."

When Brooke Wyeth (Tracy Michelle Arnold) arrives at her parents' Palm Springs mansion on Christmas Eve with the manuscript of her tell-all memoir in tow, she unearths a devastating family secret, throwing her parents, Polly (Deanna Dunagan) and Lyman (Chelcie Ross) into a panic that threatens to rip the clan apart. In its Broadway debut, *Other Desert Cities* was hailed a "boldly conventional yet altogether gripping work" (*Newsday*), "a full-bodied, emotionally alive play," (*The Hollywood Reporter)* and as having "the appeal of a Broadway hit from another age" (*The New York Times*).

Jon Robin Baitz's (Playwright) plays include *The Film Society, The Substance of Fire, The End of the Day, Three Hotels, A Fair Country* (Pulitzer Prize finalist 1996), *Mizlansky/Zilinsky, Ten Unknowns* and *The Paris Letter*, as well as a version of *Hedda Gabler* that appeared on Broadway in 2001. He is the creator of *Brothers & Sisters*, a television series that ran for five seasons on ABC until 2011. Other television work includes PBS's version of *Three Hotels,* for which he won the Humanitas Prize, and episodes of *The West Wing* and *Alias.* He is the author of two screenplays: the film script for *The Substance of Fire* (1996) and *People I Know* (2002). Baitz is a founding member of Naked Angels theater company, and on the faculties of the MFA programs at The New School for Drama and Stony Brook Southampton*. Other Desert Cities* won the Outer Critics Circle Award in 2011.

Henry Wishcamper's (Director) Goodman directing credits include his own adaptation of the Marx Brothers classic musical *Animal Crackers*, written by George S. Kaufman and Morrie Ryskind, with music and lyrics by Bert Kalmar and Harry Ruby and produced by the Oregon Shakespeare Festival and Lyric Stage Company, as well as Horton Foote's *Talking Pictures* as part of the 2008 Horton Foote Festival. New York directing credits include *Spirit Control* at Manhattan Theatre Club; *Graceland* at LCT3; *Port Authority* at Atlantic Theater Company; *Elvis People* at New World Stages; *The Polish Play* at Katharsis Theater Company (where he is Artistic Director); *Pullman Car Hiawatha* at Keen Company (Drama Desk nomination for Outstanding Revival of a Play); *So Frightful an Event is Single in the History of Man* at the McGinn/Cazale Theatre; *The Flying Doctor* and *The Imaginary Cuckold* with the Roundtable Ensemble and *'Tis Pity She's a Whore* at HERE Arts Center. Regional theater and other directing credits include the American premiere of Conor McPherson's *The Birds* at Guthrie Theater; *Engaging Shaw* and *The Mystery of Irma Vep* at The Old Globe; *Art* at Barrington Stage Company; *The Seafarer* and *Speech & Debate* at TheaterWorks; *The Good Thief* at Portland Stage Company and *Romeo and Juliet, As You Like It* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* for the Maine Summer Dramatic (where he was formerly artistic director). He has

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served as the assistant director of the Broadway productions of *August: Osage County* and *Shining City*. He serves on the Lincoln Center Theater Young Angels Artists Committee and Manhattan Theatre Club's Young Patrons Artists Committee. Wishcamper is a Drama League directing fellow and a graduate of Yale University.

Bio information and images for *Other Desert Cities* can be found in the Press Room.

OTHER DESERT CITIES BY JON ROBIN BAITZ DIRECTED BY HENRY WISHCAMPER

In the Albert JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1/12 8:00pm
1/13 2:00pm 7:30pm	1/14	1/15	1/16 7:30pm	1/17 7:30pm	1/18 8:00pm	1/19 8:00pm
1/20 2:00pm 7:30pm	1/21	1/22	1/23 7:30pm	1/24 2:00pm 7:30pm	1/25 8:00pm	1/26 8:00pm
1/27 2:00pm 7:30pm	1/28	1/29	1/30 7:30pm	1/31 2:00pm 7:30pm	2/1 8:00pm	2/2 2:00pm 8:00pm
2/3 2:00pm 7:30pm	2/4	2/5 7:30pm	2/6 7:30pm	2/7 2:00pm 7:30pm	2/8 8:00pm	2/9 2:00pm 8:00pm
2/10 2:00pm	2/11	2/12 7:30pm	2/13 7:30pm	2/14 7:30pm	2/15 8:00pm	2/16 2:00pm 8:00pm
2/17 2:00pm 7:30pm						

About Goodman Theatre

The Goodman's 2012/2013 Season features 11 productions on its two mainstages—six in the 856-seat Albert Theatre and three in the 400-seat flexible Owen Theatre, plus a Latino Theatre Festival that includes two additional productions. In addition, the annual *New Stages Amplified* new play series features two fully-staged workshop productions performed in repertory and three staged readings. The full season includes ***Sweet Bird of Youth*** by Tennessee Williams, directed by David Cromer (September 14 – October 28 in the Albert); ***Black n Blue Boys/Broken Men*** written and performed by Dael Orlandersmith, directed by Chay Yew (September 29 – October 28 in the Owen); the 35th annual production of Charles Dickens' ***A Christmas Carol*** directed by Steve Scott (November 17 – December 29 in the Albert); ***Other Desert Cities*** by Jon Robin Baitz, directed by Henry Wishcamper (January 12 – February 17, 2013 in the Albert); ***Teddy Ferrara*** by Christopher Shinn, directed by Evan Cabnet (February 2 – March 3, 2013 in the Owen); a **Latino Theatre Festival** in the Owen, including—Cuba's Teatro Buendía's production of ***Pedro Páramo*** by Raquel Carrió, co-directed by Flora Lautén and Henry Godinez and produced in association with the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago (March 22 – March 31), ***The Happiest Song Plays Last*** by Quiara Alegría Hudes, directed by Edward Torres (April 13 – May 12, 2013); and Albany Park Theater Project's production of ***Home/Land***, written collectively by the Albany Park Theater Project teen ensemble and directed collectively by the Albany Park Theater Project artistic staff (June 20 – June 30, 2013); ***By the Way, Meet Vera Stark*** by Lynn Nottage, directed Chuck Smith (April 27 – June 2, 2013 in the Albert); and ***The Jungle Book***, a new musical based on the Disney animated film and the stories of Rudyard Kipling, adapted and directed by Mary Zimmerman (June 21- July 28, 2013 in the Albert). ***New Stages Amplified*** runs December 8 – 23, including *Song for the Disappeared* by Tanya Saracho, directed by Laurie Woolery running in repertory with *The World of Extreme Happiness* by Frances Ya-Chu Cowhig, directed by Jonathan

Berry. The three staged readings round out the series: *Stutter* by Philip Dawkins (December 15); *The Solid Sand Below* by Martín Zimmerman (December 15); and *Buzzer* by Tracey Scott Wilson (December 16).

Goodman Theatre, "the leading regional theater in the nation's most important theater city" (*Time*), is a major cultural, educational and economic pillar in Chicago, generating nearly $250 million in economic impact over the past decade in its state-of-the-art two-theater complex on North Dearborn Street. Founded in 1925 and currently under the leadership of Artistic Director Robert Falls, "Chicago's most essential director" (*Chicago Tribune*), and Executive Director Roche Schulfer, Chicago's oldest and largest not-for-profit resident theater has welcomed nearly two million patrons to productions and events—including 10 festivals celebrating playwrights such as David Mamet, August Wilson and Horton Foote, as well as the biennial Latino Theatre Festival—and served legions of students through its Education and Community Engagement programs (including the FREE Student Subscription Series and other interactive programs). The Goodman has earned more than 90 awards for hundreds of productions, including the Pulitzer Prize for *Ruined* by Lynn Nottage—one of 25 new work Goodman commissions in the last decade. American Airlines is the Exclusive Airline of Goodman Theatre. Ruth Ann M. Gillis is Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Sherry John is President of Women's Board and Lauren Blair is President of the Scenemakers Board, the Goodman's young professionals auxiliary group.

Visit the Goodman virtually: watch artist interviews, view production photos, catch the latest news and more at GoodmanTheatre.org. Like us on Facebook.com/GoodmanTheatre; follow us at Twitter.com/GoodmanTheatre; and peek behind the scenes at YouTube.com/TheGoodmanTheatre.

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