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**CASTING ANNOUNCED FOR WORLD-PREMIERE PRODUCTION OF *TEDDY FERRARA*
BY PULITZER PRIZE FINALIST CHRISTOPHER SHINN**

*****EVAN CABNET DIRECTS NEARLY ALL-CHICAGO CAST IN GOODMAN THEATRE COMMISSIONED WORK,
FEBRUARY 2 – MARCH 3, 2013*****

(Chicago, IL) Goodman Theatre announces casting for the world-premiere production of *Teddy Ferrara* by Pulitzer Prize finalist Christopher Shinn, praised as "among the most provocative and probing of American playwrights today" (*The New York Times*) and noted as having "his finger firmly on both the political and dramatic pulse of our times" (*The Telegraph*). A Goodman Theatre Commission—and part of the Goodman's 2011 *New Stages* festival—*Teddy Ferrara*, directed by Evan Cabnet, explores what happens when a tragedy sparks a movement—and the truth gets lost along the way. The cast includes **Liam Benzvi** (Gabe), **Patrick Clear** (University President), **Rashaad Hall** (Nicky), **Ryan Heindl** (Teddy Ferrara), **Christopher Imbrosciano** (Jay), **Jax Jackson** (Jaq), **Dev Kennedy** and **Fawzia Mirza** (Campus Police), **Paloma Nozicka** (Jenny), **Adam Poss** (Drew), **Josh Salt** (Tim), **Kelli Simpkins** (Ellen) and **Janet Ulrich Brooks** (University Provost). The design team includes **Jenny Mannis** (Costume Designer), **Keith Parham** (Lighting Designer), **Lee Savage** (Set Designer) and **Richard Woodbury** (Sound Designer). Headshots and bio information can be found in the [Press Room](#). *Teddy Ferrara* runs February 2 - March 3, 2013 in the Owen Theatre ([opening night is Monday, February 11](#)). Tickets (\$14 - \$45; subject to change) go on sale Friday, December 14 and are available at GoodmanTheatre.org, by phone at [312.443.3800](tel:312.443.3800) or at the box office (170 North Dearborn). A full performance calendar and information on other special events appear below.

Teddy Ferrara takes place during Gabe's senior year of college. His future looks bright: he runs the Queer Students Group, he finally has a single room and he recently started dating a great guy. But when a campus tragedy occurs that makes national headlines it ignites a firestorm and throws Gabe's world into disorder. When new evidence surfaces, Gabe discovers that the events surrounding the tragedy aren't as straightforward as they seem, and he is forced to question popular assumptions—and his own life's contradictions.

"In 2010, there was a lot on the news about bullying and suicide in the gay youth community, and I found myself thinking a lot about my own experience and the pain and despair I felt at that age," said Shinn. "This now very public issue became a catalyst to explore the dynamics behind bullying in a play that is relevant to today's young audiences. I didn't aim to write a play about an issue—I aimed to write a play about complex human beings moving through the world."

Katten Muchin Rosenman is the Corporate Sponsor Partner for *Teddy Ferrara*. The Time Warner Foundation is the Major Supporter of New Play Development and The Glasser and Rosenthal Family and the Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust are Supporters of New Work Development. The Davee Foundation is the Major Contributor to Research and Development for New Work. The Joyce Foundation is the Principal Supporter of Artistic Development and Diversity Initiatives.

Christopher Shinn is a New York-based playwright and the author of *Four, Other People, The Coming World, What Didn't Happen, On the Mountain, Where Do We Live, Dying City, Now or Later* and *Picked*. His work has been produced at the Royal Court Theatre, Lincoln Center Theater, Manhattan Theatre Club, Vineyard Theatre, Playwrights Horizons, South Coast Repertory and Soho Theatre, among others. His adaptation of *Hedda Gabler* for Roundabout Theatre Company premiered on Broadway in 2009. Mr. Shinn is the recipient of an Obie Award in Playwriting and a Guggenheim Fellowship, was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in Drama in 2008 and was shortlisted for the Evening Standard Theatre Award for Best Play in 2009. He has received grants from the National Endowment for the Arts/Theatre Communication Group (TCG) Residency Program and the Peter S. Reed Foundation, and was the recipient of the Robert Chesley Award. Mr. Shinn teaches playwriting at the New School for Drama. His plays are published in a collection from TCG, in the UK by A&C Black and in acting editions from Dramatists Play Service and Playscripts.

Evan Cabnet's world premieres include *Warrior Class* with Second Stage Uptown, *Outside People* with Vineyard Theatre and *Naked Angels*, *All-American* with Lincoln Center Theater's LCT3, David West Read's *The Performers* on Broadway with Longacre Theater, *The Dream of the Burning Boy* with Roundabout Underground, *Oohrah!* with Atlantic Theater Company, Elizabeth Meriwether's *Oliver Parker!* with stageFARM, *The Mistakes Madeline Made* with Naked Angels, *Map Of Heaven* with Denver Center Theater Company, Donald Margulies' *Shipwrecked!* with Long Wharf Theatre (East Coast premiere), *The Gingerbread House* with the stageFARM at Rattlestick Playwrights Theater and his own adaptations of *Ubu Roi* and Salman Rushdie's *Haroun and the Sea of Stories* with the Williamstown Theatre Festival. He is the recipient of the 2008 Claire Tow Award for Emerging Artists, the 2003 Bill Foeller Fellowship and the 2002 Boris Sagal Fellowship. He will direct Daniel Pearle's *A Kid Like Jake* at Lincoln Center Theater in the spring of 2013.

Tickets to *Teddy Ferrara* (\$14 - \$45; subject to change) go on sale Friday, December 14 at GoodmanTheatre.org. Tickets and subscriptions can also be purchased at the box office (170 North Dearborn) or by phone at 312.443.3800. **Mezztix** are half-price mezzanine tickets available at 12 noon at the box office, and at 10am online (promo code MEZZTIX) day of performance; Mezztix are not available by telephone. **10Tix** are \$10 rear mezzanine tickets for students available at 12 noon at the box office, and at 10am online on the day of performance; 10Tix are not available by telephone; a valid student I.D. must be presented when picking up the tickets; limit four per student with I.D. All tickets are subject to availability and handling fees apply. Discounted **Group Tickets** for 15 persons or more are available at 312.443.3820. Purchase Goodman **Gift Certificates** in any amount at GoodmanTheatre.org. The flexibility of Goodman Gift Certificates allows recipients to choose the production, date and time of their performance. *Artists, dates and ticket prices are subject to change.*

TEDDY FERRARA		BY CHRISTOPHER SHINN DIRECTED BY EVAN CABNET		In the Owen FEBRUARY/MARCH 2013					
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat			
							2/2		
							8:00pm		
2/3	2/4	2/5	2/6	2/7	2/8	2/9			
2:00pm 7:30pm			7:30pm	7:30pm	8:00pm	8:00pm			
2/10	2/11	2/12	2/13	2/14	2/15	2/16			
2:00pm 7:30pm			7:30pm	7:30pm	8:00pm	2:00pm 8:00pm			
2/17	2/18	2/19	2/20	2/21	2/22	2/23			
2:00pm 7:30pm		7:30pm		7:30pm	8:00pm	2:00pm 8:00pm			
2/24	2/25	2/26	2/27	2/28	3/1	3/2			
2:00pm 7:30pm			7:30pm	7:30pm	8:00pm	2:00pm 8:00pm			
3/3									
2:00pm									

GoodmanTheatre.org
312.443.3800

Artist Encounter

Wednesday, February 6 | Polk Rehearsal Room

6pm, FREE for Subscribers, Donors and students with ID; \$5 for the general public (reservations required)

Join us for an intimate conversation with *Teddy Ferrara* director Evan Cabnet before the 7:30pm performance that evening. Moderator TBA. To reserve tickets, call the box office at 312.443.3800.

CONTEXT

Monday, February 25 | Goodman Theatre

7pm, FREE (reservations required)

More details TBA. To reserve tickets, call the box office at 312.443.3800.

PlayBack

Following each Wednesday performance of *Teddy Ferrara*, audiences are invited to attend free post-show discussions with members of the Goodman's artistic staff.

About Goodman Theatre

The Goodman's 2012/2013 Season features 11 productions on its two stages—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 four 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* 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); *Buzzer* by Tracey Scott Wilson (December 16); and *2666* co-adapted/directed by Robert Falls and Seth Bockley.

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](https://www.facebook.com/GoodmanTheatre); follow us at [Twitter.com/GoodmanTheatre](https://twitter.com/GoodmanTheatre); and peek behind the scenes at [YouTube.com/TheGoodmanTheatre](https://www.youtube.com/TheGoodmanTheatre).