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SBT: THE SANTA BARBARA THEATRE CASTS VICTORIA TENNANT IN THE AWARD-WINNING **DOUBT**

Shanley's thrilling, moral cliffhanger
runs March 20th through 30th

SBT: The Santa Barbara Theatre presents the Central Coast Premiere of **DOUBT**, John Patrick Shanley's multiple award-winning play, at the Center Stage Theater, March 20 to 30.

In addition to Broadway's Tony Award for Best Play and the Pulitzer Prize for Drama, **DOUBT** also garnered kudos from the NY Drama Critics Circle, the Lucille Lortel, the Drama League, the Outer Critics Circle, the Obie and the Drama Desk. **DOUBT** was also selected by *Time*, *Newsweek*, the *Associated Press*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Entertainment Weekly*, and the *NY Daily News* as the #1 Play of 2004.

Directed by SBT Co-Artistic Director Asaad Kelada, **DOUBT** stars Victoria Tennant, William Dennis Hurley, Kirsten Kollender, and Judith Scott.

"As we read **DOUBT**, all of us at SBT were totally enthralled by this diabolically clever script," said Albert Ihde, SBT Producing Director. "In a time when absolute certainty is touted as a virtue, Mr. Shanley asks us to consider if doubting might be a healthier alternative."

"Asaad has assembled an exciting cast of talented actors," says Ellen Pasternack, SBT's Managing Director. "We know that our audiences will want to discuss this entertaining and thought provoking play, so we are already planning a number of 'Talkbacks' after the show at which our audience will have a chance to meet the actors and ask questions."

DOUBT will run for 10 performances at Center Stage Theatre in the Paseo Nuevo Mall, Tuesday through Saturdays at 8 pm and Sundays at 2 pm.

THE PLAY

The playwright has titled his work, **DOUBT, A Parable**. In one scene, an African American mother (Judith Scott) says to the white principal, a Catholic

nun, "Some things are not black and white." Then the woman *dressed* in black and white says, "And some things are." The play confronts the question: How certain can we be about anything, especially without evidence?"

Sister Aloysius (Victoria Tennant) is the principal of Saint Nicholas, a Catholic elementary school in the Bronx, NY in 1964. She suspects that the popular parish priest, Father Flynn, (William Dennis Hurley) may have acted inappropriately with one of the students. A young teacher, Sister James (Kirsten Kollender), is certain that there must be a reasonable explanation for the principal's concern. Doubt vs. Certainty.

JOHN PATRICK SHANLEY

Although the Oscar-winning screenwriter of 1988's *Moonstruck* has seen nearly a dozen of his plays produced off-Broadway (including *Italian-American Reconciliation*, *Four Dogs and a Bone*, *Savage in Limbo* and *Danny and the Deep Blue Sea*) **DOUBT** was Mr. Shanley's Broadway premiere.

VICTORIA TENNANT

Victoria trained for eight years at the Elmhurst Ballet School and for two years at the Central School for Speech and Drama in London. In her first film, she starred in the title role of *The Ragman's Daughter*, written by Alan Sillitoe (*The Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner*) and directed by Harold Becker. Subsequent films include *All Of Me* with Steve Martin and Lily Tomlin, *LA Story* with Steve Martin, *Stranger's Kiss* opposite Peter Coyote, *The Plague* opposite William Hurt, *The Handmaid's Tale* with Natasha Richardson and Robert Duvall, and the upcoming *Irene in Time* directed by Henry Jaglom. Extensive television work began with Emmy and Golden Globe nominations for the fifteen hour miniseries, *The Winds of War*, opposite Robert Mitchum and includes the six hour miniseries, *Chiefs*, with Charlton Heston and Danny Glover, the three hour television movies, *Dempsey* with Treat Williams and Sam Waterston and *Under Siege* with Hal Holbrook, the eight hour miniseries, *The Man From Snowy River*, with Guy Pearce, and the thirty hour miniseries, *War and Remembrance*, for which she received her second Emmy nomination. Among her many guest starring roles are appearances on *Monk*, *Scrubs*, *Providence*, *Diagnosis Murder*, *Hitchcock*, and *The Chris Isaak Show*. She also wrote and co-produced the film *Edie and Pen* starring Stockard Channing, Jennifer Tilly and Scott Glenn for HBO and produced *Sister Mary Explains It All*, starring Diane Keaton, for Showtime with her producing partner and husband, Kirk Stambler. Ms. Tennant's work in the theatre includes *The Vagina Monologues* at the Canon Theatre and the Napa Valley Opera House, *The Misalliance* at LA Theatreworks, *Love Letters* at Steppenwolf in Chicago, *Getting Married* at Circle-in-the-Square on Broadway, and *The Taming of the Shrew* at the Westport Playhouse.

WILLIAM DENNIS HURLEY

William originated the role of The Playwright in Athol Fugard's *Exits and Entrances*, which opened SBT's inaugural season in 2005. This role brought him

the Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award and the Garland Award for Best Featured Actor in the World Premiere production of *Exits and Entrances* at the Fountain Theatre. Subsequent to the Santa Barbara production, William reprised this role in Florida, New Jersey, New York, and in Edinburgh, Scotland. He starred in the West Coast Premiere of *Among the Thugs* for which he won the Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award and the LA Weekly Award. Other LA stage credits include *The Boys Next Door* (Ovation Award Nominee), *Thanksgiving Cries*, *Bobby Gould in Hell*, *Eat Your Heart Out*, *Dinner and Drinks*, *Bird of Ill Omen*, *Watchman of the Night* and the National Tour of *Halfway There*. East Coast stage credits include *Biloxi Blues*, *Equus*, *Answers*, *Homefront*, *Spring Awakening* and *Streamers*. On Television he has guest starred on *Over There*, *Blind Justice*, *NYPD Blue* (multiple episodes), *The Practice*, *NYPD 2069* (Pilot), and *The Wayans Brothers*. His feature film credits include: *Family Tree*, *Bitter Harvest*, *14 Knives*, *Feel*, *Left of the Dial*, *Living End Bar and Grille* and the soon to be released *Relative Strangers* and *Dark Heart*.

KIRSTEN KOLLENDER

Kirsten is making her West Coast debut at SBT. A recent Cornell University graduate, Kirsten spent the summer at Williamstown Theatre Festival before relocating to the west coast this fall. Favorite credits include *Home Baking Made Easy*, *Mommy Says I'm Pretty* (Williamstown Theatre Festival-Workshop), *The Glass Menagerie* (Kitchen Theatre), *As You Like It*, *The Hairy Ape* (Hangar Theatre), *Little Women*, *The Skin of Our Teeth*, and *Metamorphoses* (Schwartz Center for the Performing Arts). She has appeared on television in *As The World Turns*.

JUDITH SCOTT

Judith has a recurring role on *Dexter* for Showtime. Her movie credits include *Fracture*, *Guess Who* and *Flightplan*. She is an alumnae of the Second City Theatre, having performed in the Chicago and Toronto companies. Most recently, she appeared in Ernest Schnitzel's *Anatol* at Pacific Resident Theatre and Byrony Laverny's *Frozen* at Ventura Court Theatre, and *To Be Young Gifted and Black* at the Fountain Theatre. She also appeared as Caliban in *The Tempest* and Luciana in *The Comedy of Errors* with Shakespeare Festival/LA.

ASAAD KELADA

Asaad is a Founder and Co-Artistic Director of SBT. He is a graduate of the Yale School of Drama and has directed in theatres across the country including Seattle Rep., Old Globe Theatre, South Coast Rep, and the Mark Taper Forum. For television he has directed several long-running series and over 400 shows including *Two and a Half Men*, *Family Ties*, *Dharma and Greg*, and *Everybody Loves Raymond*. He directed the acclaimed production of Tom Stoppard's *The Real Thing* in Santa Barbara in the 2004-2005 season. Last April, he directed Lee Blessing's *TWO ROOMS* for SBT at the Lobero Theatre.

SBT: THE SANTA BARBARA THEATRE

Founded in February, 2005 by Albert Ihde, Ellen Pasternack, Asaad Kelada and Stephen Sachs, SBT is now in its third subscription season. It is one of only two professional, Actors' Equity Association theatre companies in all of Santa Barbara County. SBT is also the only theatre company between Los Angeles and the Bay Area working under a League of Resident Theatre's (L.O.R.T.) contract with Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers.

This season and last, SBT performed three plays at the Lobero Theatre and one at Center Stage Theater. SBT's next production is the American Premiere of Athol Fugard's latest play, *Victory*, at the Lobero Theatre from May 8th through the 11th.

In December, SBT will produce the American Theatrical Premiere of Leonard Bernstein's *Peter Pan* at the Lobero Theatre.

TICKET INFORMATION

Ticket prices are as follows:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday at 8 PM:	\$32.50
Friday at 8 PM and Sunday at 2 PM:	\$40.50
Saturday at 8 PM:	\$47.50

There is a Center Stage Theater facility fee of \$1.50 per ticket.

Special Two-Play Introductory Subscriptions are available. See both plays, DOUBT and VICTORY, for one low price, from \$65 to \$92, and receive all the benefits of subscription.

Discounts are available for groups of 10 or more.

Call SBT at (805) 963-7282.

SBT presents

DOUBT

By John Patrick Shanley

March 20 to 30, 2008

Center Stage Theatre

Paseo Nuevo Mall, Santa Barbara, CA

SBT: The Santa Barbara Theatre

P.O. Box 23211

Santa Barbara, CA 93101

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