

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Wednesday, January 18, 2017

MEDIA CONTACT – Michael Duncan Smith | 617-923-7060 x8205 | michaelsmith@newrep.org

NEW REPERTORY THEATRE PRESENTS
ARLEKIN PLAYERS:
NATASHA'S DREAM

by Yaroslava Pulinovich translated by John Freedman
directed by Igor Golyak featuring Darya Denisova
FEBRUARY 14, 20, 21 at 7:30PM

[WATERTOWN] New Repertory Theatre presents Arlekin Players: *Natasha's Dream*, February 14, 20, 21 at 7:30pm in the Black Box Theater at the Mosesian Center for the Arts, 321 Arsenal Street, Watertown, MA. Tickets are \$19-\$35 and may be purchased by calling the New Rep Box Office at 617-923-8487 or visiting newrep.org. Student and senior discounts are available.

In *Natasha's Dream*, a girl tells the story of her life in a small-town orphanage, and her desire to be free; to fly away and break the vicious circle of life. From the inside of a courtroom, she makes twists and turns through her unique appeal to audiences, letting them into her world where she dreams about love, family, acceptance, adjusting, and her future.

Arlekin Players's production has been translated into English by John Freedman, who calls it "one of the most resonant texts to have emerged in Russia over the last two or three years," and "an incisive look at the complex life of one teenage girl who runs up against insensitive teachers, shifty classmates, a journalist who unwittingly wins her heart, and a couple of experiences that most likely will scar her life forever."

About NEW REP PRESENTS

New Rep Presents continues the conversations we explore during our season, channeling our mission to speak powerfully to the essential ideas of our time. Whether it's a one night special event such as conversations with *New Yorker* cartoonist Roz Chast, playwright and author Colm Tóibín, and cultural satirists

Fran Levowitz, or our limited engagement of The Poets' Theatre's *Albatross*, New Rep Presents expands the discussion and delves into topics that have become the cornerstone of the New Rep experience.

About NEW REPERTORY THEATRE

New Repertory Theatre is the award-winning, professional theatre company in residence at the Mosesian Center for the Arts in Watertown, MA. For over 30 years, New Rep has been a leader of self-produced theatre in greater Boston, producing contemporary and classic dramas, comedies, and musicals in both the 340-seat Mainstage Theater and the 90-seat Black Box Theater. Annually, New Rep serves over 40,000 patrons, including 2,000 season subscribers. In addition to its mainstage productions, New Rep produces Next Voices, a program dedicated to developing new plays through staged readings and world premiere productions. Under its Lifelong Enrichment Arts Programs (LEAP), New Rep also produces its Classic Repertory Company, Page To Stage, Insider Experiences, and Spotlight Symposium Series.

New Rep's Mission

New Repertory Theatre produces plays that speak powerfully to the vital ideas of our time.

What we do:

- Through the passion and electricity of live theater performed to the highest standards of excellence, New Rep seeks to spark community conversations on crucial contemporary issues.
- Our work expands and challenges the human spirit of both artists and audiences. We present world premieres, contemporary plays and classic works in several intimate settings. Our productions are designed to be accessible to all. We are committed to education and enrichment for learners of all ages, with a special dedication to the creation of innovative in-school programming and outreach to underserved audiences. We embrace theatre as the basis for enduring connections with our community and as a springboard for meaningful civic engagement.
- New Rep is an active advocate for the arts and a major voice in the national dialogue defining the role of theater in our culture.

About ARLEKIN PLAYERS

Arlekin Players Theatre was created in Boston in 2009 and has since toured in New York, Chicago, and Hartford. On March 5, 2011, Arlekin's production of Anton Chekhov's *The Bear* was the winner of the New England Regional Festival in Concord, NH, selected to move on to the American Association of Community Theatre's national level of competition in Rochester, NY that following June. The Company was a guest

participant of the 2012 International Festival Golden Lion in Lviv, Ukraine, after which Arlekin was invited to perform its production of Alexander Pushkin's *The Guest* at the Moscow Art Theatre School. Performed on one of the most admired stages in Moscow, the production was greeted with a standing ovation. In 2013, Arlekin was honored to represent the United States with their production of Anton Chekhov's *The Bear* at the prestigious Mondial du Théâtre in Monaco, hosted by Prince Albert. Arlekin takes strong pride in their emphasis on self-identity; they are viewed as a Russian troupe to English audiences, yet they are not viewed in the same regard to their international audiences. Essentially, they are a company of immigrants performing works that play on the ideas of cross-culture, home, and traditions, challenging the idea of nationality, and finding common themes that unite us all.

Artistic Bios

Darya Denisova (Natasha) joined Arlekin's Studio in 2013, during which time she was also studying acting at the Russian Academy of Theatre Arts in Moscow. She has since graduated and has played some bright and memorable roles, such as in Arlekin's *Memorial Player* in 2014 and most recently in *Tales of the Last Wednesday*. Natasha is her first starring role with the Company. She fills Pulinovich's text with an energy, destructive and creative all at the same time. Simple words about love and dreams turn into a spell. Denisova absorbs the energy of her viewers, and from her first word, she is Natasha in dialogue with her audience, trying to open her confined space and mind, and showing there is so much more within.

Igor Golyak (Director and Arlekin Players Artistic Director) graduated from the prestigious Schukin Theatre Institute in Moscow, Russia in 2002 with a specialization in acting. While attending the school, Igor acquired such awards as Best Student Performance at the Yaroslavl Theater Festival for his role in the *Portrait*, and Best Actor Award in the Vienna Theater Festival for his role in the *Diary of a Madman*. Upon graduation, he was accepted to Teatr u Nikitskih Vorot and performed with the theatre for two years. At the same time, he acquired a professional teaching/directing degree from the Russian Academy of Theater Arts in Moscow. Igor has taught seminars at Wellesley College, Russian Academy of Theatre Arts/Middlesex University, Moscow Specialized Institute for the Arts, ARBOS Theatre festival, New Art Studio.

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NATASHA'S DREAM at a glance

Presenter: New Repertory Theatre

Artistic Director: Jim Petosa

Managing Director: Harriet Sheets

Producer: Arlekin Players

Play: *Natasha's Dream*

Venue: Black Box Theater | Mosesian Center for the Arts
321 Arsenal Street | Watertown, MA 02472

Author: Yaroslava Pulinovich

Translator: John Freedman

Director: Igor Golyak

Cast: Darya Denisova Natasha Banina

Performance Schedule: Tuesday, February 14, 7:30pm
Monday, February 20, 7:30pm
Tuesday, February 21, 7:30pm

Tickets: \$19-\$35 Student and senior discounts available.
Telephone: 617-923-8487, Online: newrep.org
In Person: 12-5 Tue-Sun and 12-curtain on show days
Mosesian Center for the Arts
321 Arsenal Street, Watertown, MA 02472

Parking: Free, six-level parking garage next to the

Mosesian Center for the Arts

Public Transportation: #70 or #70A bus to the School Street stop from
Central Square Station, Red Line

Accessibility: Wheelchair Accessible

Season Sponsors: WGBH
Massachusetts Cultural Council
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Xfinity
Branch Line

For Media Inquiries: Michael Duncan Smith | Marketing & PR Director
617-923-7060 x8205 | michaelsmith@newrep.org

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