

PRESS RELEASE

CONTACT: Dan Brick
(301) 694-4744 ext. 303
dbrick@marylandensemble.org



31 W. Patrick Street
Frederick, MD 21701
301.694.4744
MARYLAND ENSEMBLE THEATRE marylandensemble.org

MARYLAND ENSEMBLE THEATRE PRESENTS *THE GLASS MENAGERIE*

Press Night: Sunday, February 10 @ 7pm (Reception @ 6pm)
RSVP to dbrick@marylandensemble.org or 301.694.4744

FREDERICK, MD (January 18, 2013) - The **Maryland Ensemble Theatre** is proud to present the fourth show in its fifteenth anniversary season: **Tennessee Williams'** much-lauded classic, ***The Glass Menagerie***. *The Glass Menagerie* is an American masterpiece that announced the presence of one of the greatest dramatists of the 20th Century. Williams' semi-autobiographical heartbreaking yet often humorous memory play about a young struggling poet and his tenuous relationships with his overbearing mother and his fragile sister is an emotionally charged portrait of hope in 1930s **St. Louis** that is timeless in its ability to capture the imagination and hearts of audiences.

The original **Broadway** production won the **New York Drama Critics Circle Award** in 1945 and has inspired two movie adaptations (one in 1950 starring **Kirk Douglas** and another in 1987 starring **Paul Newman** and **Joanne Woodward**), multiple radio and TV productions (including one 1973 TV adaptation starring **Katharine Hepburn**), and countless stage productions. As **Broadway Magazine** puts it: "Glass may break, candles may go out, but *The Glass Menagerie* endures. Unarguably one of the greatest American plays ever written."

In Maryland Ensemble Theatre's production, associate artist **Peter Wray** directs the tightly-knit cast. MET **Associate Artistic Director Julie Herber** stars as **Amanda Wingfield**, the tour-de-force yearning for the good old days while trying to keep her family together at the same time. The production also features MET ensemble members **Vanessa Strickland** as **Laura**, **Matt Lee** as narrator **Tom**, and **Joe Jalette** as pot-stirrer **Jim**. Wray and the actors are assisted by stage manager **Caitlin Joy**, assistant stage manager **Courtney McLaughlin**, lighting designer **Paul Schillinger**, costume designer **Jennifer Adams**, set designer **Ira Domser**, sound designer **Kevin Lloyd** and prop master **James McGarvey**.

Playwright Tennessee Williams, a treasure of the American theatre, was born in **Columbus, Mississippi**, in 1911. Born **Thomas Lanier Williams III**, he got the nickname Tennessee in college. His family life, like the **Wingfields'**, was turbulent, which reportedly inspired his short story "**Portrait of a Girl in Glass**" that would become *The Glass Menagerie*. Buoyed by the success of *Menagerie*, William's would go on to pen other classics of the American stage including ***A Streetcar Named Desire*** (1947), and ***Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*** (1955).

Maryland Ensemble Theatre's production of *The Glass Menagerie* will run from February 7 to March 3, every Thursday through Sunday at the MET, located in the historic **FSK Hotel** at 31 W. Patrick Street. A \$5 preview performance (cash only/no reservations) will take place on Thursday, February 7 at 8PM. There will be a gala opening on Sunday, February 10 sponsored by **Mistero** preceding the show at 6PM. Tickets are \$15 through \$24 and can be purchased at **301.694.4744**, **marylandensemble.org**, or in person at the MET box office. The show is recommended for ages 12 and up.

The MET has brought provocative, invigorating theatre to the Frederick region for over fifteen years with family entertainment, bellyfuls of laughs with the Comedy Pigs, artist-in-residence programs in local public

---MORE---

schools, and classes for all ages.

THE GLASS MENAGERIE INFORMATION

Directed by Peter Wray

Cast: Julie Herber (Amanda Wingfield)* Matt Lee (Tom Wingfield)* Vanessa Strickland (Laura Wingfield)* Joe Jalette (Jim O'Connor)*

*Maryland Ensemble Company Members

Production Team: Caitlyn Joy (Stage Manager)* Courtney McLaughlin (Assistant Stage Manager)* Paul Schillinger (Lighting Designer) Jennifer Adams (Costume Designer) Ira Domser (Set Designer) Kevin Lloyd (Sound Designer) James McGarvey (Prop Master)*

Where: Maryland Ensemble Theatre, 31 West Patrick Street, Frederick, Maryland 21701

Dates: February 7 through March 3, every Thursday through Sunday

Performance Times:

Fridays & Saturdays @ 8PM, Sunday 2/10 & 3/4 @ 7PM, Sunday 2/16 & 2/24 @ 2PM. Ticket

Prices: \$25.50 Adult, \$21.50 Student/Senior, \$16.50 Thursdays (Price includes all service fees).

Box Office: 301-694-4744 or marylandensemble.org or at the MET (Tuesday - Thursday 10am - 3pm, Friday 11am - 3pm and 1 hour before each show.)

Press Photos & Press Releases: marylandensemble.org/press | Contact Dan Brick at dbrick@marylandensemble.org or 301-694-4744