



NEWS RELEASE CALENDAR LISTING

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 6, 2010

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CLASSICAL THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS DICKENSIAN STORIES FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON

Houston, TX – The Classical Theatre Company (CTC) presents the first installment of this year’s Reading Series with a staged reading of *Christmas Stories* adapted from stories by Charles Dickens. The performance will be presented on Wednesday, December 15th at 7:00pm at the Brazos Bookstore. A pre and post wine reception and holiday shopping open house will accompany the reading starting at 6:30pm. **The event is free and open to the public.**

CTC is proud to present this pairing of stories, directed by CTC Board of Directors member Kate Pogue and written by Father Christmas himself- Charles Dickens. Though not his most famous Christmas work (that of course would be *A Christmas Carol*), this small collection of short stories is equally enchanting. Adapted for the stage by CTC Associate Artist, Kalob Martinez, *Christmas Stories* will include *The Haunted House* and *The Goblin Who Stole a Sexton*, which make an excellent pairing of tales. “We scoured his many Christmas stories and selected the two most dramatic ones to use in our Reading Series,” says CTC Executive Artistic Director John Johnston, “They match each other well and, though different, hearken a bit back to Dickens’ most recognizable piece – *A Christmas Carol*.” CTC endeavors to expose audiences to the lesser-known plays from the classical cannon in its annual Reading Series.

The Classical Theatre Company is dedicated to being the preeminent producer of classical theatre in the nation, presenting the classical canon on the stage, in the community, and in the classroom in an engaging, visceral, and visually spectacular way. CTC is the only theatre in the Houston area that offers a reading series, a unique opportunity to present lesser-known works in a non-theatrical setting. Founded by Houston actor and artistic director John Johnston, the CTC “looks to indelibly change the Houston arts community, and strives to be a cultural force in the region for years to come.”

This is the seventh collaboration between CTC and Brazos Bookstore. Brazos is nationally renowned for its author events and locally cherished for its careful, intelligent book selection, Brazos now offers online ordering, as well as a new Brazos Kids' Room for all ages. Located near Rice University, the store maintains an extensive inventory of literary fiction, non-fiction, biography, history, poetry, literary criticism, philosophy, travel, and one of the finest selections of architecture and art books in the region.

For more information on the upcoming event, or to arrange interviews with director Kate Pogue and actors participating in the reading of *Christmas Stories*, please email blairk@classicaltheatre.org.

John Johnston – Executive Artistic Director www.ClassicalTheatre.org

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE PO Box 541324 Houston TX 77254 T 713.963.9665 F 713.963.0605



CLASSICAL THEATRE COMPANY FACT SHEET

READING: Christmas Stories by Charles Dickens

DIRECTOR: Kate Pogue

CAST: Ted Doolittle, Philip Hays, Leigh Patterson, Matt Trammel

DATE: Wednesday December 15, 2010

TIME: 7:00pm Wine reception and holiday shopping open house begins at 6:30pm

TICKETS: The event is free and open to the public

LOCATION: Brazos Bookstore
2421 Bissonnet
Houston, TX 77005
Tel: 713-523-0701
Fax: 713-523-1829

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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John Johnston – Executive Artistic Director www.ClassicalTheatre.org

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