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GOOD PEOPLE THEATER COMPANY'S FIRST SHOW WINS SIX "BEST OF 2012-2013" SCENIE AWARDS FROM STAGE SCENE LA

LOS ANGELES, September 10, 2013 — Producing Artistic Director Janet Miller and the Board of Good People Theater Company (GPTC) are pleased to announce the Company's debut show, LA's first fully staged production of *A MAN OF NO IMPORTANCE*, has earned six top honors in StageSceneLA "Scenies" awards for the 2012-2013 season, based on the awards announcement released yesterday.

In the category of *Scenies for Intimate Theaters (99 seats or less)*, GPTC's show won for **Best Production-Musical** and **Best Ensemble Cast Performance-Musical**, and individual members of the Good People team won distinction as well. **Best Direction of a Musical** honors went to GTPC's own Janet Miller. Dominic McChesney won for **Best Performance by a Lead Actor-Musical** for his portrayal of Dublin bus conductor Alfie Byrne. And McChesney's counterpart, Shirley Hatton, won **Best Performance for a Featured Actress-Musical** for her role as Alfie's sister Lily Byrne.

In the category of *Scenies for Choreography, Musical Direction and Design*, GPTC creative principal Corey Hirsch won **Best Musical Director** for both his work on *A MAN OF NO IMPORTANCE* and *LEGS DIAMOND* with Music Theater West.

"It was hard to close *A MAN OF NO IMPORTANCE*, because the team had such a wonderful time together. So waking up to the happy news yesterday that the show is not only remembered, but honored with six awards is a wonderful prize for all of us," reports Producing Artistic Director Janet Miller. "Steven Stanley puts such dedication into reviewing all the good work being done around Southern California, and we're thankful to be part of the party."

ABOUT STAGE SCENE LA "SCENIES"

Steven Stanley's StageSceneLA.com is a specialty website designed to "spotlight the best in Southern California Theater." Six years ago, Stanley began a sponsored awards program called "Scenies" which are designed to recognize the breadth and depth of talent in Southern California's theater scene. Stanley notes he receives more than 1000 requests for reviews and in the 2012-2013 season saw 276 productions, which serve as the basis for his awards selections.

ABOUT GOOD PEOPLE THEATER COMPANY

The Good People Theater Company believes there are three good reasons to launch another small theater company in Los Angeles:

We believe you can never have enough intimate plays and chamber musicals performed to the highest standards by actors and theater techs of many generations. We like seeing good people of all ages do great work.

We believe Janet Miller—the company's founding artistic director—is a walking theater encyclopedia and a true triple threat as a director of straight plays, a director of musicals and a choreographer. We believe Janet is one-of-a-kind. She deserves a professional forum for her talents and ideas, so we're giving it to her.

We believe quality theater changes people—the actors, theater techs, musicians, and audiences young and old who experience it—for the better. It's important to be good, to do good (including a charity fundraiser performance in every run) and to make a difference. So that's what we're doing.

Founding GPTC Board members include:

- Kimberly Fox, Board President; Former marketing agency president, now marketing consultant and life-long lover of all things theater.
- Janet Miller, Artistic Director (see full bio below)
- Steve De Forest; Consumer Goods Corporate Executive, Executive Recruitment Board Member and Officer, Theatre Producer and Actor
- Rhonda Kramer; Morning and Afternoon Traffic anchor for KFVB News/Talk 980, former owner / CEO of LA Network, providing traffic and news to multiple LA radio stations.
- Steve Julian; Theater actor, director and playwright, voice-over artist, and host of Morning Edition on 89.3 KPCC.
- Dr. Robert Fink; UCLA professor of musicology and former Gilbert and Sullivan Society conductor and performer.

ABOUT JANET MILLER

www.janetmiller.net

Janet Miller is a director, choreographer and educator. Her choreography has been showcased Off-Broadway at the Westside Theatre in *The Marvelous Wonderettes*. She received a Lucille Lortel Award nomination for Outstanding Choreographer for this production. Janet garnered a LA Stage Alliance Ovation nomination for her work on *TMW*, a Garland, a Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award for Best Choreography, a BroadwayWorld LA Award nomination for Best Choreography and was part of the team that won the Ovation Award for Best Intimate Musical in 2007. She also received a Garland and a LADCC choreography award for *Winter Wonderettes*.

Miller choreographed the European Premiere of *The Marvelous Wonderettes* for Teatro Franco Parenti in Milan Italy. She staged her award winning *Wonderettes* step-touch extensively throughout the US, most notably at Northlight in Chicago, San Jose Repertory Theatre, Capital Repertory in Albany, NY, Sacramento Music Circus, Pittsburgh CLO, The Plymouth Playhouse in Minneapolis, Cabrillo Music Theatre in Thousand Oaks, CA, Moonlight Stage Productions in Vista, CA, McCoy Rigby Entertainment, and The Merry-Go-Round Playhouse in Auburn, NY.

Miller was the Resident Director for Phantom Projects Theatre Group, based at the La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts. In 2010, she directed Lydia R. Diamond's adaptation of the Toni Morrison book, *The Bluest Eye* to critical acclaim. The following season, Phantom remounted this production at the Miles Playhouse in Santa Monica. Also for Phantom Projects, Miller directed *The Miracle Worker*, *The Crucible*, *Of Mice and Men*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)*, *Grapes of Wrath*, *The Giver* and *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

Miller's work has appeared on both coasts in productions of *Side By Side By Sondheim*, *South Pacific*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Kiss Me Kate*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Anything Goes*, *Baby*, *The Fantasticks*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Dames At Sea*, *Charlie Brown*, *Urinetown*, *The Odd Couple*, *The Nerd*, *The Man Who Came To Dinner*, *The Rimers of Eldritch*, and *Taming of the Shrew* to name a few. She has a special expertise in tap, which she has taught and choreographed worldwide most recently in China and Thailand. She was one of the founding members of Golden State Theatre, the Family Theatre of La Mirada, for eighteen years, directing and choreographing over 50 productions. Miller is the recipient of the 2003 Excellence in Art Award for Drama from the city of Torrance, where she was the Artistic Director/Resident Director at the Torrance Theatre Company for seven years, directing sixteen shows during her tenure. She is also the Artistic Director for the MB Players.

Miller holds a B.A. in musical theatre from CSUN, and an M.A. in theatre from CSULA. She is adjunct faculty at CSUN, CSULA and Cerritos College, and is a proud member of SDC.

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