

NEWS for immediate release August 2014

Contact Emily Morrison, 703-998-4555 (TACT Office)

E-mail <u>pr@americancentury.org</u> or emilylovemorrison@me.com

AMERICAN CENTURY THEATER ANNOUNCES 2014-2015 SEASON

For its 20th and final season, The American Century Theater will present a diverse retrospective highlighting the best of 20th Century American theater, as well as all-star reprises of some of the most acclaimed and popular productions from the past two decades. The 2014-2105 season launches with laughs in George Axelrod's 1955 *The Seven Year Itch*, followed, in January 2015, by "Crime and Punishment in America," an evening of two one-acts in repertory: *Cops* by Terry Curtis Fox and *Hello Out There* by William Saroyan. *American Century's Broadway Hit Parade*, a retrospective of songs from favorite TACT musicals, will be presented for five yet-to-be-announced dates in the spring. The curtain will close on the season, and the theater, in August, with the remounting of TACT's first stage production, *Twelve Angry Men* by Reginald Rose, to be directed by TACT Artistic Director, Jack Marshall.

TACT's full production history can be found on the company's website.

The Seven Year Itch

Directed by Rip Claassen September 20-October 11, 2014 Opening/Press Night Saturday, September 20 at 8:00 pm

First produced by TACT in 2002 and one of the company's all time best comedies, *The Seven Year Itch* became the inspiration for the film classic and gave Marilyn Monroe her most famous role. A bored husband in the midst of a mid-life crisis sees his erotic dreams come within his grasp as an attractive neighbor stirs his passions and conscience.

"Crime and Punishment in America"

An evening of One-Acts *Cops*, Directed by Stephen Jarrett *Hello Out There*, Directed by Ellen Dempsey January 9 – 31, 2015
Opening Night Friday, January 9; Press Night Saturday, January 10

Terry Curtis Fox's 1976 play, *Cops*, first produced by TACT in 2008, is a real-time portrayal of a bloody hostage showdown between police and a fugitive in a gritty diner. In *Hello Out There* (1941) by William Saroyan, a lonely, jailed hero forms an unlikely romance that evokes both hope and hopelessness. TACT first produced this show in 1997.

American Century's Broadway Hit Parade, compiled and scripted by Jack Marshall Directed by Jacqueline Manger Musical Direction by Tom Fuller Dates TBD

A parade of musical comedy stand-outs from TACT's history includes musical highlights from shows such as Lady in the Dark, The Cradle Will Rock, I Do! I Do!, Call Me Mister, One Touch of Venus, archy and mehitabel, Dear World, Hellzapoppin, Danny and Sylvia, and more.

Twelve Angry Men by Reginald Rose
Directed by Jack Marshall
July 17 – August 8
Opening Night Friday, July 17. Press Night Saturday, July 18

The company's very first show, and first hit was produced in 1994, before its first full season. TACT founding Artistic Director Jack Marshall directs this ultimate jury drama with an all-star cast of veterans from TACT's production history.

###

Performance Information

The American Century Theater performs at **Theatre II**, **Gunston Arts Center**, 2700 S. Lang Street, Arlington, Virginia. Subscription season packages are available. More information is available at www.AmericanCentury.org, by email at info@americancentury.org, or by calling the theater at 703-998-4555. Special rates for active duty military, seniors, students, and groups are available. *Children under18 are admitted free with an adult paying full price (space permitting, limit 5)*.

Special Note - Audience Guides

The American Century Theater offers comprehensive Audience Guides for every production. Each includes detailed information about the playwright, characters, setting, period, costumes, scenic design, music, general theatre lore and links to other resources. They are available at the box office.

About TACT

The American Century Theater's mission is to promote 20th century theater as a vital part of our cultural dialogue. Our mission is based on the firm conviction that this theatrical repertoire -- influential and critically acclaimed dramas, comedies, and teleplays first produced during what Henry Luce called the American Century -- portrays a uniquely American vision that is vital to our shared cultural heritage.

The American Century Theater is a 501(c)(3) professional nonprofit theater company dedicated to producing significant 20th century American plays and musicals at risk of being forgotten. TACT is supported in part by Arlington County through the Arlington Commission for the Arts and Arlington Cultural Affairs, a division of Arlington Economic Development; the Virginia Commission for the Arts; the National Endowment for the Arts; and many generous donors.