

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Theatre School at DePaul University Presents: THE DUCHESS OF MALFI

CHICAGO, IL, (March 23, 2015) – The Theatre School at DePaul University is pleased to present *The Duchess of Malfi*, by John Webster, on the Fullerton Stage Theatre at The Theatre School at DePaul University. The production, directed by Lavina Jadhvani, premieres on Friday, April 17, and runs through Sunday, April 26, 2015. Performances are Wednesdays through Saturdays at 7:30 PM and Sundays at 2 PM. Previews are on April 15 and 16, at 7:30 PM.

About the play: The Duchess asserts her freedom of choice to marry whom she pleases, even if her beloved Antonio is “beneath her class.” Her brothers retaliate in protest and send their henchman, Bosola, to keep an eye on the Duchess. The result: a tragedy full of complex players, destruction, violence, greed, secrets, madness, murders, double crosses, poison, treachery, and good old-fashioned aristocratic revenge.

Notoriously one of the greatest blood baths of the stage, this Jacobean drama is reimagined by Lavina Jadhvani, MFA Directing, Class of 2015.

Tickets are \$15, preview tickets are \$10, and student tickets are always \$5. Subscriptions and group rates (6 or more people) are available. All tickets are reserved seating. Tickets are available by calling (773) 325-7900 or visiting the online box office at <http://theatre.depaul.edu>.

The Theatre School at DePaul University is located at 2350 N Racine Ave (at Fullerton). The school is easily accessible via the Fullerton CTA Station and the Fullerton (74) bus. Visitors and audience members can park in DePaul University’s Clifton Parking Deck, located at 2330 N Clifton Avenue. Please call the Box Office for more information or for help in planning your trip.

For patrons who are blind or have low-vision, the performance will be audio described on April 24 (7:30 PM) with a pre-performance touch tour. Call 773.325.7900. The performance on April 26 (2 PM) will be interpreted

in American Sign Language. TTY: 773.325.7975. Wednesday, April 22 (7:30 PM) is USO of IL Night, U.S. Armed Forces personnel and their families can attend the performance for free. Visit www.tixfortroops.org to reserve tickets, or call 773.325.7900 for more information. Additional special events include an Opening Night Reception following the performance on April 17, and post-show discussions on April 19 and 23.

The cast features **Christian Cook** (Roderigo/Executioner), **William Delforge** (Pescara/Executioner), **Bernard Gilbert** (Antonio), **Jalen Gilbert** (Bosola), **Kayla Holder** (Cariola/Nun), **Noah Laufer** (Cardinal), **Ashlyn Lozano** (Duchess), **Erika Miranda** (Julia), **Hugh Smith** (Ferdinand), and **Peter Varga** (Delio).

The production staff includes **Lavina Jadhvani** (Director), **Thom Pasculli** (Movement Coach), **Chuck Coyl** (Fight Choreographer), **Claudia Anderson** (Vocal Coach), **Greg Pinsoneault** (Scenic Designer), **Stephanie Tomey** (Costume Designer), **Lindsay Rosenfeld** (Lighting Designer), **Kevin A Cushman** (Sound Designer), **Aaryanna Renee** (Dramatrug), and **Julia Bates** (Stage Manager).

Lavina Jadhvani (Director) is a Chicago-based freelance director in her third and final year of the MFA Directing program at The Theatre School. She is an Artistic Associate at Silk Road Rising (*Ching Chong Chinaman, Gold Boy/Emerald Girl*) and Oak Park Festival Theatre (*Hamlet, Twelfth Night, Two Gentlemen of Verona*). She is also the Casting Director at Lifeline Theatre. Lavina's work has been seen at Apple Tree, Bailiwick, Chicago Dramatists, Rasaka Theatre Company (Artistic Director, 2007-2013), Raven Theatre, Remy Bumpo, the side project, Stage Left, Teatro Vista, and Victory Gardens. She is the recipient of the Drama League's Classical Directing Fellowship, an SDCF Observership, an Illinois Board of Higher Education Fellowship, and an LMDA Residency Award. Lavina was named *Time Out Chicago's* "Best Next Generation Stage Director" in 2013.

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The Theatre School at DePaul University educates, trains, and inspires students of theatre in a conservatory setting that is rigorous, disciplined, and culturally diverse. The school and its students strive for the highest level of professional skill and artistry. A commitment to diversity and equality in education is central to its mission. As an integral part of the training, The Theatre School produces public programs and performances from a wide repertoire of classic, contemporary, and original plays that challenge, entertain, and stimulate the imagination. The school seeks to enhance the intellectual and cultural life of the university community, the city, and the profession.