



**THEATREWORKS PRESENTS
FIRST POST-BROADWAY PRODUCTION
OF TONY AWARD-WINNING
“GREY GARDENS”
August 20-September 14, 2008**

MT. VIEW (18 July 2008) – **TheatreWorks**, the nationally-acclaimed theatre of Silicon Valley, proudly presents the first post-Broadway production of the Tony Award-winning and scandalously delicious musical **GREY GARDENS**. Adapted for the stage by Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright **Doug Wright**, composer **Scott Frankel**, and lyricist **Michael Korie**, the enigmatic and musically-astounding **GREY GARDENS**, winner of three Tony Awards, takes us on the alternately heart-warming and heart-breaking journey of the eccentric Edith and Edie Bouvier Beale (aunt and cousin to Jacqueline Kennedy) who became East Hampton’s most notorious recluses. Helmed by acclaimed Bay Area director Kent Nicholson, TheatreWorks has assembled a stellar cast that includes New York actors **Dale Soules** (from the original New York cast of **GREY GARDENS**) **Beth Glover**, **Nicholas Galbraith**, **Elisa Van Duyne**, and **Michael Winther**, along with Bay Area actors **Michael LeRoy Brown**, **Kathryn Foley**, **Carolyn Di Loreto**, **Isabella Wilcox**, and **Paul Myrvold**. **GREY GARDENS** plays **August 20-September 14 (press opening: August 23)** at **TheatreWorks at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts**. For tickets (\$26-\$64) and information, the public may call **(650) 903-6000** or visit **TheatreWorks.org**.

Edith ("Big Edie") Ewing Bouvier Beale and her daughter Edith ("Little Edie") Bouvier Beale were once the toast of the New York social circle of the 1940s. **GREY GARDENS** brings to life a delightfully eccentric tale of fallen American royalty. Once among the brightest names in the pre-Camelot social register, the Beales became East Hampton’s most notorious recluses. This alternately hilarious and heartbreaking saga, called “An experience no passionate theatergoer should miss” by *The New York Times*, chronicles their journey from giddy fortune to seclusion. The story was first told in the 1975 documentary “Grey Gardens,” which was adapted into this musical by composer **Scott Frankel**, and lyricist **Michael Korie**, with book by Doug Wright. **GREY GARDENS** opened off-Broadway at Playwrights Horizons in 2006, and transferred to Broadway

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later that year. The show ran for 33 previews and 307 performances, and went on to be nominated for ten Tony Awards in 2007, winning three.

Doug Wright's stage works include *I Am My Own Wife* (which won him the Tony Award for Best Play and the Pulitzer Prize for Drama), *Quills* (for which he received a Golden Globe nomination), and his adaptation for the stage of Disney's *The Little Mermaid*. His adaptation of **GREY GARDENS** won Tony Awards for actresses Christine Ebersole and Mary Louise Wilson for their work as "Big Edie" and "Little Edie." Composer **Scott Frankel** worked on Broadway shows such as the Tony Award-winning **INTO THE WOODS** and **FALSETTOS** before he began collaborating with operatic lyricist **Michael Korie** to create the music for several Broadway productions. Their collaborative works include **MEET MISTER FUTURE**, **DOLL**, and **GREY GARDENS**.

TheatreWorks is happy to welcome **Dale Soules**, who will play the role of "Big Edie" Bouvier Beale (Act 2), the part she understudied and went on to play on Broadway. A veteran of more than 40 years on the New York stage, she made her Broadway debut in **HAIR**. Her other Broadway credits include **THE CRUCIBLE** and **THE MAGIC SHOW**, in which she introduced the Stephen Schwartz songs "The Lion Tamer" and "West End Avenue." Her Off-Broadway, regional, film and television credits are extensive.

Joining TheatreWorks in **GREY GARDENS** as Edith Bouvier Beale (Act 1) and "Little" Edie Beale (Act 2) is **Beth Glover**, whose career has spanned film, television, and stage. She has been featured in several national tours, including **ALL SHOOK UP; DIRTY BLONDE; PROMISES, PROMISES;** and **ANYTHING GOES**, and even opened for Ray Charles. Some of her off-Broadway work includes the Drama Desk Award-nominated **TAKE ME ALONG, HEARTBREAK, PRIME TIME PROPHET,** and **THE FALL**.

Also making her TheatreWorks debut is **Elisa Van Duyne** as the youngest Edie Beale (Act 1) in **GREY GARDENS**. Van Duyne's credits include roles on Broadway in productions of **110 IN THE SHADE, BEAUTY & THE BEAST,** and **42ND STREET**, in addition to the off-Broadway New York City premiere of Christopher Durang's **ADRIFT IN MACAO**. She has

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toured nationally and internationally in **WHITE CHRISTMAS**, as Betty, and **PHANTOM OF THE OPERA**, as Christine, and with Tommy Tune in **DOCTOR DOLITTLE**.

Director **Kent Nicholson** is Director of New Works for TheatreWorks, where he most recently helmed *Ambition Facing West*, *Vincent in Brixton*, and an acclaimed revival of Arthur Miller's *All My Sons*. Other recent directing credits include the West Coast Premiere of *The Good German* at Marin Theatre Company and the World Premiere of *We Are Not These Hands* at Crowded Fire Theatre Company, where he acts as the co-Artistic Director. Additional directing credits include *Sacramento!* with Dave Eggers at Campo Santo, *Five Flights* starring Alice Ripley at the Rattlestick Theatre in New York, the World Premiere of *Kissing the Witch* and the American Premiere of *Stones in His Pockets*, both for the Magic Theatre, where he served as Associate Artistic Director. Nicholson has also directed notable productions of *Barrio Hollywood* for Borderlands Theatre and *Swimming in the Shallows* by Adam Bock (winner of Bay Area Critics Circle Awards for Best Production, Best New Play, and Best Ensemble) for Shotgun Players, where he also directed David Mamet's *The Water Engine*. New play development credits include pieces for TheatreWorks, Theatre of NOTE (LA), Playwrights Horizons (NY), and The Lark (NY).

Following **GREY GARDENS**, the company presents Pulitzer Prize-winner August Wilson's final play, **RADIO GOLF**, in October. Off-Broadway sensations Brendan Milburn and Valerie Vigoda of the rock band GrooveLily bring their latest musical to TheatreWorks for the holidays (in a co-production with City Theatre in Pittsburgh), the World Premiere musical **LONG STORY SHORT** in December, followed by the Regional Premieres of Tony Award-winning farceur Ken Ludwig's **TWENTIETH CENTURY** in January, and the sizzling Broadway hit musical **IT AIN'T NOTHIN' BUT THE BLUES** in March. The Regional Premiere of Lisa Loomer's **DISTRACTED** closes the season in April.

With nearly 10,000 subscribers and over 100,000 patrons per year, TheatreWorks has captured a national reputation for artistic innovation and integrity, often presenting Bay Area theatregoers with their first look at acclaimed musicals, comedies, and dramas, directed by award-winning local and guest directors, and performed by professional actors cast from across the country.

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FOR CALENDAR EDITORS:

WHAT: TheatreWorks, the nationally-acclaimed theatre of Silicon Valley, continues its 39th season with the first post-Broadway production of the scandalously delicious **GREY GARDENS**. Adapted for the stage by Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Doug Wright, this beguiling musical, winner of three Tony Awards and an Outer Critics Circle Award, brings to life a delightfully eccentric tale of fallen American royalty. Once among the brightest names in the pre-Camelot social register, Edith and Edie Bouvier Beale, aunt and cousin to Jacqueline Kennedy, became East Hampton’s most notorious recluses. This alternately hilarious and heartbreaking saga, called “An experience no passionate theatergoer should miss” by *The New York Times*, chronicles their journey from giddy fortune to seclusion.

WHEN: Previews: August 20, 21, 22
Press Opening: **Saturday, August 23**
Closes: Sunday, September 14

SHOWS: Previews: **8pm**
Tuesdays and Wednesdays: **7:30pm**
Thursdays and Fridays: **8pm**
Saturdays: **2pm, 8pm**
Sundays: **2pm, 7pm**

Pre-show “How TheatreWorks” discussion on Thursday, August 21 at 6:30 at the Mountain View City Council Chambers with Director Kent Nicholson and Casting Director Leslie Martinson. Post-show discussions with the cast and artistic staff after each Wednesday performance, 8/27, 9/3 & 9/10. “Visual Voice” audio-described performances are available September 12, 13 at 8pm, and September 14 at 2pm.

WHERE: **TheatreWorks at the Mountain View
Center for the Performing Arts
500 Castro St. (at Mercy)**

TICKETS: \$26-64; savings available for youth, students, seniors, and members. For tickets, information, and subscription information, the public may call **(650) 903-6000** or visit **theatreworks.org**.

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Media Sponsor for the TheatreWorks 2008-09 Season is The San Jose Mercury News