



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 26, 2016

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CATCO is Kids Presents *The Kabuki Sleeping Beauty* May 13-22

Steven C. Anderson's illumination of the ancient theatre art form of Japanese Kabuki produced in association with Columbus Recreation and Parks

For its final show of the season, CATCO is Kids will present an illumination of the ancient theatre art form of Japanese Kabuki in *The Kabuki Sleeping Beauty* May 13-22, featuring a cast of six adults and nine central Ohio youth.

The story of Beauty stolen, silenced and redeemed in this original work by CATCO Producing Director Steven C. Anderson is told through the nanmichi, mie and other dramatic conventions. This tribute to the ancient theatre form tracing its origins in Japan to the beginning of the 17th Century is presented with traditional makeup, costumes, music, acting style and props, said Joe Bishara, CATCO's associate producing director and director of *The Kabuki Sleeping Beauty*.

"Our production is recommended for children age 4 and up, but even adults will enjoy experiencing our adaptation of Kabuki theatre, especially if they've never seen it before," Bishara said. The production has a run time of 45 minutes with no intermission. For more information about Kabuki theatre and hands-on activities to do with children before attending the play, CATCO is Kids has a play guide available at www.catcoistheatre.org.

All shows will be performed at the Shedd Theatre, Columbus Performing Arts Center, 549 Franklin Ave. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 for kids. CATCO is Kids is offering \$10 tickets for opening weekend shows, May 13-15. Use the code BEAUTY when ordering.

Performing in *The Kabuki Sleeping Beauty* are Joe Dallacqua (Otoosama); Priyanka Shetty (Okaasama); Matthew Sierra (Kaeru (Frog)); Colby Tarrh (Tomoya); Madison Rose Wilson (Kaeru (Dragon)); and Kristie Koehler Vuocolo (Naritsune).

Dallacqua was recently seen at CATCO in *Mothers and Sons*. Other CATCO and CATCO is Kids' performances include *The Jungle Books*, *The Rubenstein Kiss*, *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* and *Shipwrecked!*. Shetty, who is pursuing her Master of Fine Arts in Acting at the University of Virginia, has performed as Kyra Hollis (*Skylight*), Eliza Doolittle (*My Fair Lady*), Fruma Sarah (*FOTR*), while Sierra was most recently seen in Columbus Civic Theatre's production of *Skylight* as Edward Sergeant. Other acting credits include *The Illusion*, *Sleuth*, *A Christmas Carol*, and *Oklahoma*.

CATCO acting apprentices Tarrh and Wilson appeared in CATCO's season opener, *The Elephant Man* and CATCO is Kids' productions of *Elephant and Piggie's "We are in a Play!"* and *Hansel and Gretel*. Tarrh's roles include Frederic in the *Pirates of Penzance* and Rod in *Avenue Q* at Capital University; he also appeared as Prentiss in CATCO's December production of *Peter and the Starcatcher*. A graduate of Capital University with a degree in vocal performance and minor in theatre, Wilson appeared as Ruth in the *Pirates of Penzance* and Kira in *Xanadu*. The founder of Good Medicine Productions, Vuocolo performed in CATCO's production of *Always ... Patsy Cline* two years ago. In Chicago, she was an

ensemble member of the Neo-Futurists.

They are joined by the following central Ohio youth: Tali Boyd (Koken), Clintonville; Rose Clubok (San Ban), Bexley; Elliot Hattermer (Koken), Upper Arlington; Lexi Kepling (Koken), New Albany; Maggie Pepper (Young Naritsune), Columbus; Olivia Poling (Kiomi), Dublin; Anna Cochrane (Ichi Ban), Westerville; Sarah Stadler (Ni Ban), Westerville; and Jenny Tupper (Koken), Westerville.

Bishara has worked at regional theatres in Ohio, Tennessee, Virginia, and Florida as an actor, director, producer, and administrator. At CATCO, he directed *Hansel and Gretel*, *Elephant and Piggie's "We are in a Play!"*, *The Seussification of Romeo and Juliet*, [title of show], *Master Class*, *A Christmas Carol*, *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*, *Revenge of the Space Pandas*, *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, *The Rude Mechanicals*, and *Forbidden Broadway's Greatest Hits: Vol. 1*, and appeared in *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *Forbidden Broadway*, *The Story of My Life* and *Evil Dead The Musical*. Other acting credits include *Titanic*, *Forbidden Broadway: SVU*, *The Rocky Horror Show* and *The Last Five Years*. Additional directing credits include *The Spitfire Grill*, *Madeline's Christmas*, *Bat Boy: The Musical*, and *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie*, *The House at Pooh Corner* and *the Wind in the Willows*, *Encyclopedia Brown*, *Peter and the Wolf*, *Beauty and the Beast (Isabella e la Bestia)*, and *School House Rock Live!*

Show times for *Hansel and Gretel* are Friday, May 13 and 20, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, May 14 and 21, at 2:30 p.m.; and Sunday, May 15 and 22, at 2:30 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at the door and at the Ohio Theatre Ticket Office, 39 S. State St.; they can also be purchased at all Ticketmaster outlets, and www.ticketmaster.com.

Patrons interested in purchasing tickets by telephone can call 614.469.0939. The box office will open two hours before show time.

Presenting sponsor for *The Kabuki Sleeping Beauty* is Honda.

CATCO's 31th season is sponsored by support from The Ohio Arts Council, which helps fund the theatre with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, education excellence, and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans, and supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.

CATCO also appreciates the support of the Cathrine C. Hislop and Barbara J. Haddox Funds of The Columbus Foundation, assisting donors and others in strengthening our community for the benefit of all of its citizens, and the Greater Columbus Arts Council, supporting the city's artists and arts organizations since 1973. Other supporters include The Shubert Foundation Inc. and Nationwide Insurance Foundation.

CATCO's Season sponsor is L Brands; the season partner is the Columbus Metropolitan Library. For more information, visit catcoistheatre.org.

CATCO's remaining shows of the season are:

- ***Ring of Fire***
The Music of Johnny Cash
Created by Richard Maltby Jr.
Conceived by William Meade
Adapted from the Broadway production by Richard Maltby Jr. and Jason Edwards
Orchestrations by Steven Bishop and Jeff Lisenby
Additional arrangements by David Abbinanti
June 1-19, 2016

For more information about the 2016-17 season, visit www.catcoistheatre.org

About CATCO

CATCO is central Ohio's professional Equity theatre company, providing quality theatre and educational programs for all ages. The theatre organization has adopted an innovative strategy, building creative alliances that can sustain growth and development. For more information, visit catcoistheatre.org. Together, CATCO and CATCO is Kids provide quality theatre and educational programs for all ages. The theatres have adopted an innovative strategy, building creative alliances that can sustain growth and development.

CATCO Mission Statement

Theatre is a shared experience that illuminates the mysteries of our humanity. Its magic has the power to transform us whether on stage, in the classroom or in our diverse communities. CATCO creates theatre that delights, challenges, and transports.

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