



**NEWS
RELEASE**
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CONTACT: Kathy Graves, 612-928-7003
kathy@parenteaugraves.com or
Michelle Hensley, 612-724-4494

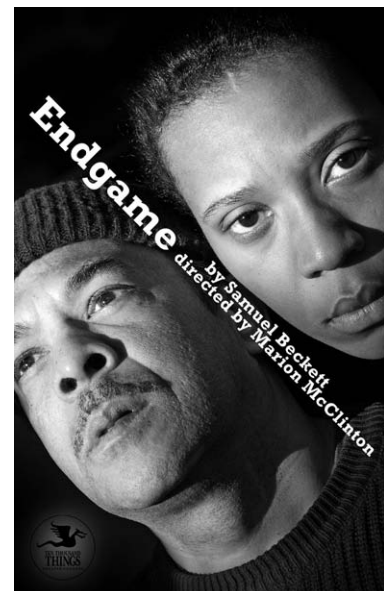
TICKETS: 800-838-3006 or
www.tenthousandthings.org

**Tony-Nominated Director Marion McClinton to Stage
Ten Thousand Things' ENDGAME**

**Samuel Beckett's Tale Tours to Prisons, Housing Projects and Homeless
Shelters Followed by Three Weekends at Open Book**

(Minneapolis, MN) Ñ Tony-nominated director **Marion McClinton** makes his Ten Thousand Things debut in February with Samuel Beckett's **ENDGAME**. The classic match between Hamm, the blind master who cannot stand up, and his servant Clov, who cannot sit down, features **Terry Bellamy** and **Christiana Clark**, respectively, with **Steve Hendrickson** and **Barbra Berlovitz** as Hamm's parents, Nagg and Nell.

ENDGAME tours to audiences in prisons, housing projects and homeless shelters February 12-March 12, with performances for the public over three weekends at Open Book in Minneapolis: Fridays through Sundays, February 27-March 1, March 6-8, and March 13-15.



The title of the show refers to the final part of a chess game, when few pieces remain but the end is inevitable. Hamm and Clov are in the 'endgame' of their lives, with death closing in, but Hamm cannot accept the end and Clov cannot leave him. First performed in Paris and London in 1957, Endgame has become one of Beckett's most influential works.

‘With where my life and journey are at this timeÑand because of some hard and tough questions I have been asking myself latelyÑENDGAME is very real and personal to me,’ says McClinton. ‘I might understand Sam [Beckett] a lot more today than I did yesterday, and I might even know a couple more things about the fear of dying before overcoming the fear of living.’

McClinton appeared in a production of Beckett's *Waiting for Godot* with Terry Bellamy in 1981. ‘That very important show helped me choose an artistic path, one that seeks to find a secular religious connection between the audience and theater,’ says McClinton. ‘Beckett speaks to everybody plainly and clearly, and the audience sees something familiar in their own lives on stage.’

“Filling up time while you wait is something that many of our audiences in prisons and shelters are quite familiar with, as well as the dark humor that accompanies such waiting, so I suspect Beckett will really speak to many of them,” says TTT Artistic Director Michelle Hensley.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

McClinton directed many of August Wilson's premieres on Broadway and for numerous regional theaters, including Pittsburgh Public Theater, Seattle Rep, Mark Taper Forum, Goodman Theatre, and the Kennedy Center. Locally, he staged *Yellowman* and *Pure Confidence* at Mixed Blood Theatre; *Piano Lesson*, *Tracers*, *Resurrection of Lady Lester*, *Dutchman* and *A Soldier's Play* at Penumbra Theatre; and *Waiting for Godot* at Park Square Theatre. McClinton won an Obie Award for *Jitney*, an Audelco Award for *Jitney* and *East Texas Hot Links*, a Tony nomination for *King Hedley II*, a Drama Desk Award for *Jitney*, and the Joseph Kesserling Award for *Police Boys*.

ABOUT TEN THOUSAND THINGS

Ten Thousand Things productions brings lively, intelligent theater to people with little access to the wealth of the arts. This barebones, award-winning theater company invigorates ancient tales, classic stories, and contemporary plays through its search for honest, open interactions between actors and audience.

- WHO:** Ten Thousand Things Theater Company
- WHAT:** *ENDGAME* by Samuel Beckett. Directed by Marion McClinton
- WHEN:** **Three weekends for the general public:**
Fridays-Sundays, February 27-March 1, March 6-8, and March 13-15, all at 8:00 pm
- WHERE:** Open Book, 1011 Washington Ave S, Minneapolis, MN
- INFO:** Full show schedule with free performances at www.tenthousandthings.org
- TICKETS:** \$25 at 800-838-3006 or www.tenthousandthings.org
(please note: reservations required for all free performances as well.)

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Ten Thousand Things Theater Company
Because theater is richer when everyone is in the audience.

TEN THOUSAND THINGS *ENDGAME* PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

PAID PERFORMANCES (tickets \$25)

All shows at 8:00 pm at Open Book, 1011 Washington Ave S, Minneapolis, MN
800-838-3006 or www.tenthousandthings.org

Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays at 8:00 pm

Fri Feb 27 † Sat Feb 28 † Sun Mar 1

Fri Mar 6 † Sat Mar 7 † Sun Mar 8

Fri Mar 13 † Sat Mar 14 † Sun Mar 15

FREE PUBLIC PERFORMANCES (reservations required)

Fri Feb 20, 10 am Wayside House (3705 Park Center Blvd, St Louis Park)
Tue Feb 24, 10:30 am Hubbs Center for Lifelong Learning (1030 University Ave W, St Paul)
Thu Feb 26, 7 pm St. Paul Jewish Community Center (1375 St Paul Ave, St Paul)
Wed Mar 4, 7 pm House of Charity (714 Park Ave, Minneapolis)
Thu Mar 5, 2 pm Dorothy Day Center (183 Old 6th St, St Paul)
Tue Mar 10, 2 pm Parker Skyview Manor (1815 Central Ave NE, Minneapolis)
Thu Mar 12, 10 am Northside ABE (1250 W Broadway Ave, Minneapolis)

PRISON PERFORMANCES (open to media only)

Thu Feb 12 Ramsey County Men's Correctional Facility, St Paul
Fri Feb 13 Hennepin County Women's Corrections, Plymouth
Sat Feb 14 Hennepin County Men's Corrections, Plymouth
Tue Feb 17 Men's Correctional Facility - St Cloud
Wed Feb 18 Ramsey County Women's Correctional Facility, St Paul
Thu Feb 19 Boys Totem Town, St Paul
Sun Feb 22 Shakopee Women's Corrections



THE CAST & CREATIVE TEAM

TERRY BELLAMY (Hamm) is one of the original founding members of Penumbra Theatre Company. The sum total of his theater experience is just shy of half a century. He has had the privilege of learning his craft from such noted professionals as Horace Bond, Robert Alexander, Lou Bellamy, David Leong, Claude Puroy, JoAnne Akalaitis, and Garland Wright. He was honored to play the leading role in Marion McClinton's Off-Broadway premiere of *Walkers*. He

has worked at such notable regional houses as The Goodman Theatre, Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Center Stage of Baltimore, Actors Theatre of Louisville, as well as locally at the Guthrie Theater, Park Square, Mixed Blood, and American History Theatre. His heart has, and always will remain, in Black Drama. He has performed in nine of the ten August Wilson's 20th Century Cycle, as well as in August Wilson's *Recycle*, *Placebo* and *Coldest Day of the Year*. He has been a dramaturg at the Playwright's Center, taught advanced acting at Children's Theatre Company and Black Drama at Penumbra Theatre for several years.

BARBRA BERLOVITZ (Nell) is an actor, director, teacher, and founding Artistic Director of Theatre de la Jeune Lune. This is Barbra's second show with TTT. Some of her representative roles are the title roles in *Antigone* and *Medea*, Dorine in *Tartuffe*, Milady in *Three Musketeers*, Arkadina in *The Seagull* and Viola in *Twelfth Night*. She is a recipient of a McKnight Fellowship, Minnesota State Arts Board Career Advancement Grant, Theatre Communications/ITI grant, the Quinn Martin Endowed Chair for Drama at University of California in San Diego, and a 2007 Fox Fellowship for Distinguished Achievement. Barbra is a member of the affiliate faculty in the University of Minnesota theater department.

CHRISTIANA CLARK (Clov), recipient of the Ivey Award for Emerging Artist of 2006, is a native Chicagoan trained at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in Hollywood. She was most recently seen in Jon Ferguson's production of *Animal Farm* at the Southern Theatre. Before that, she appeared with Pillsbury House Theatre as the title character in the regional premiere of *Bulrushier*, a Pulitzer finalist for drama. Other work includes *BLUE* with Penumbra Theatre; the History Theatre's *Lutefisk Champ & Other Frozen Holiday Tales*; starring roles in *Chicago* and *Wait Until Dark* at Paul Bunyan Playhouse in Bemidji; *Left Hand Singing*, *Constant Star*, and *You Can't Take it With You* with Park Square Theatre; *A Raisin in the Sun* with Starting Gate; and *Women of Troy* and *F*cking A* with Frank Theatre. Christiana also has worked with Pillsbury House's Breaking Ice Company and Chicago Avenue Project, and as an actor/educator for CLIMB Theatre.

STEVE HENDRICKSON (Nagg) is a Ten Thousand Things Artistic Associate and has been a professional actor for 28 years. With TTT he has appeared in *Measure for Measure*, *The Tempest*, *Cymbeline*, *Winter's Tale*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *Eurydice* and *Cyrano de Bergerac*, for which he received an Ivey Performance Award. Steve was the first performer to receive the Dayton-Hudson Distinguished Artist Fellowship.

MARION MCCLINTON (Director) directed many of August Wilson's premieres on Broadway and for numerous regional theaters, including Pittsburgh Public Theater, Seattle Rep, Mark Taper Forum, Goodman Theatre, and the Kennedy Center. Locally, he staged *Yellowman* and *Pure Confidence* at Mixed Blood Theatre; *Piano Lesson*, *Tracers*, *Resurrection of Lady Lester*, *Dutchman* and *A Soldier's Play* at Penumbra Theatre; and *Waiting for Godot* at Park Square Theatre. McClinton won an Obie Award for *Jitney*, an

Audelco Award for *Jitney* and *East Texas Hot Links*, a Tony nomination for *King Hedley II*, a Drama Desk Award for *Jitney*, and the Joseph Kesserling Award for *Police Boys*.

HEATHER BARRINGER (Music) a Percussionist/composer, has been a part of several Ten Thousand Things productions, including *Richard III*, *The Furies*, *King Lear*, *Antigone*, and *At Your Service*. She is one of the artistic co-directors of the new music group Zeitgeist, and is a member of Mary Ellen Child's ensemble Crash. She has worked with many other Twin Cities organizations, including Nautilus Music Theater Ensemble, Dale Warland Singers, and Theatre de la Jeune Lune. She received her musical education from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls and the University of Cincinnati-College Conservatory.

VERA MARINER (Costumes) is continuously active in the theater culture of the Twin Cities, having appeared with TTT in many productions, as well as lending her award winning costume designs for TTT shows. She has worked as an actor/singer with many theaters including Theater Latté Da, Skewed Visions, the Guthrie Theater, Frank Theater and Children's Theatre Company. Vera is an accomplished singer, appearing regularly with orchestras across the country as singer and narrator. She collaborates regularly with The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra as the host of her own wildly successful series, Xplorchestra. Next season she will reprise her indisputably infamous characterization of The Witch in *Hansel and Gretel* with The Minnesota Orchestra. All children all now officially forewarned.

STEPHEN MOHRING (Set Design) is a set designer and sculptor. Since he started with TTT in 1998, he has built 22 sets for the company. Stephen's artwork uses steam-bent wood, laminated wood, steel, medical imagery, video and robotics to explore systems of physical transformation. His artwork has been exhibited nationally, internationally, and has received numerous awards. Stephen is also an Associate Professor of Art at Carleton College where he teaches sculpture, woodworking, robotics, and critical theory.

NANCY J WALDOCH (Production Manager) is proud to be working on her seventh TTT show. When not with TTT, she is a carpenter for several other Twin Cities theatre companies including the Guthrie, the Jungle, and the History Theatre.

MICHELLE HENSLEY (Producer, Artistic Director) is the founding director of Ten Thousand Things. She has directed and produced over 35 tours for Ten Thousand Things, and is the recipient of a Minnesota State Arts Board Fellowship, a McKnight Theater Fellowship and the Francesca Primus Prize for outstanding contribution to the American theater by a female artist.