



Tony Estrella, Artistic Director · Jason Cabral, Executive Director
1245 Jefferson Blvd., Warwick, RI 02886 · 401.723.4266 · gammtheatre.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Gail Hulbert, Director of Advancement & Communications
(401) 723-4266 or gail@gammtheatre.org

MOZART, MUSIC, AND (MAYBE) MURDER ON STAGE AT THE GAMM IN PETER SHAFFER'S *AMADEUS*

WARWICK, RI (October 15, 2024) – The Sandra Feinstein-Gamm Theatre (The Gamm) presents *Amadeus*, Peter Shaffer's multi-award-winning play reimagining the lives of 18th-century composers Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Antonio Salieri. Gamm Artistic Director Tony Estrella directs The Gamm's production. Michael Liebhauser (Sebastian in *Twelfth Night*, Isaac in *Describe the Night*) is rowdy young prodigy Mozart, who arrives in Vienna determined to make a splash. Steve Kidd (Harry in *Hangmen*, Stan in *Sweat*) is court composer Antonio Salieri, awestruck by the boy genius' talent yet seized by obsessive and destructive jealousy.

Combining intrigue, comedy, and passion, *Amadeus* won the Tony Award for best play in 1981. The film version of Shaffer's play won the Oscar for best picture in 1985.

Amadeus is brought to life by some of the most moving music ever written. The Gamm's production features live accompaniment by Judith Lynn Stillman, an internationally renowned pianist and composer, as well as an artist-in-residence and professor of music at Rhode Island College. She is also this production's music director and composer.

Estrella said he is thrilled to direct Shaffer's iconic play exploring mediocrity, genius, and the quest for artistic immortality.

"*Amadeus*, aside from being one of the great epic masterpieces of the modern theater, has one of my all-time favorite play titles. We assume it's about Mozart because it's his middle name. In fact, the Amadeus of the title, which means lover of God, is the tormented composer Salieri who wages a battle with God by way of the body and mind of Mozart himself. So it's a war play with the greatest soundtrack ever composed," Estrella said. "That so much of the music is being played live by the ingenious Judy Stillman really ups the ante. We get to hear and see Mozart's virtuosity in action while Salieri sets out to revenge himself on his Creator. High melodrama, tragedy, farce, and musical all rolled into one, makes *Amadeus* exhilarating, electric theater."

Amadeus runs from November 7-December 1 at The Gamm Theatre, 1245 Jefferson Blvd., Warwick, RI. Tickets: \$65-\$75; preview performances (November 7-10) are \$55. Information about rush tickets, as well as discounts for seniors, students, groups and more at gammtheatre.org/discounts. Call 401-723-4266 or go to gammtheatre.org/amadeus

ABOUT AMADEUS

Join us for a journey of passion, obsession, and the timeless power of music in this Tony Award-winning epic masterpiece. *Amadeus* transports us to 1823, Vienna. Emperor Joseph II's opulent court is abuzz with whispers that Mozart didn't die from natural causes and that Antonio Salieri, court composer, and Mozart's bitter rival poisoned him. Dumbstruck by the vulgar, petulant boy genius, Salieri declares war on God himself in this tour de force production that delves deep into the psyche of two musical maestros at war. *Amadeus* explores the price of fame, the pain of mediocrity in the shadow of genius, and the eternal quest for artistic immortality.

Rhode Island State Council on the Arts is a generous season supporter.

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

Amadeus by Peter Shaffer

Directed by Tony Estrella

Music direction & composition by Judith Lynn Stillman

CAST

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**Michael Liebhauser***
Antonio Salieri.....**Steve Kidd***
Constanze.....**Alison Russo***
Emperor Joseph II.....**Casey Seymour Kim***
Count Johann Kilian Von Strack.....**Bruce Kaye**
Count Franz Orsini-Rosenberg..... **Liam Roberts**
Baron Gottfried Van Swieten.....**Steven Liebhauser***
Katherina Cavalieri.....**Emily Turtle**
Venticelli 1.....**Helena Tafuri***
Venticelli 2.....**John Cormier**
Valet.....**Omar Laguerre-Lewis**
Cook.....**John Clarke**
Pianist.....**Judith Stillman**

Ensemble roles played by members of the cast.

CREW

Set Design/Director of Production **Jessica Hill Kidd**
Costume Designer **Mikayla Reid**
Lighting Designer **Steve McLellan**
Sound Designer **Peter Sasha Hurowitz**
Language Consultant **Liam Roberts**
Stage Manager **Robin Grady***
Assistant Stage Manager **Kelsey Emry**
Assistant to the Director **Ayrin Ramirez**

*Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

ABOUT THE GAMM THEATRE

Founded in 1984, the non-profit Gamm Theatre is proud to tell stories that entertain, provoke, and engage seriously with the most important issues of our time. The Gamm further serves the public with educational programming that enriches the cultural and civic life of our community. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Tony Estrella and Executive Director Jason Cabral, The Gamm is a regionally recognized, award-winning theater and a proud member of New England Area Theatre (NEAT), a bargaining unit of the Actors' Equity Association.

###