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Aurora Theatre's 2016-17 GGC Harvel Lab Series to SWEEP Atlanta with top-notch performances

SINGLES IN AGRICULTURE, SWEEP and A BICYCLE COUNTRY all part of the Studio series;
Holiday classics 12 DATES OF CHRISTMAS and A CHRISTMAS CAROL return

ATLANTA (June 28, 2016) – Theatergoers of all ages are invited to sit back, relax and enjoy the show, as **Aurora Theatre** presents its highly anticipated **2016-2017 GGC Harvel Lab Series!** Led by Co-founders Anthony Rodriguez and Ann-Carol Pence, the upcoming Studio season offers top-notch contemporary productions performed by some of the region's leading actors. This season's diverse lineup includes the laugh-out-loud livestock-inspired comedy **SINGLES IN AGRICULTURE**; the zany, out-of-this-world adventure **SWEEP**; Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Nilo Cruz's moving drama **A BICYCLE COUNTRY/PAIS DE BICICLETA**; and the return of two metro-Atlanta holiday traditions **12 DATES OF CHRISTMAS** and **CHARLES DICKENS' A CHRISTMAS CAROL**, which celebrates its 10th consecutive year!

"The GGC Harvel Lab Series was started with the intention of building a series of shows that would appeal to college students and young adults," explains Rodriguez. "Aurora's mission is to create a new generation of theatergoers, and in order to do that, we must offer programming that authentically draws from issues and stories that resonate with the audience. Moreover, this series gives Aurora the freedom to experiment and create exciting, intimate and intense productions for adventurous theatergoers."

SINGLES IN AGRICULTURE

By Abby Rosebrock

September 16– October 9, 2016

An unconventional convention filled with laugh-out-loud livestock-inspired comedy, *Singles in Agriculture* brings together lonely farmers looking for love – or at least the next best thing. At the center is *Modern Family*-obsessed, goat farmer Priscilla, who is slipped a key card to repressed dairy man Joel's hotel room. Will she accept the invitation or fly-the-coop for another opportunity? Like everything else on the farm, Priscilla will have to decide whether a rendezvous with Joel is worth stepping into something that might get a little messy.

CHARLES DICKENS' A CHRISTMAS CAROL

Adapted for the stage by Tony Brown

November 25– December 23, 2016

Aurora Co-founder Anthony P. Rodriguez returns to the stage this holiday season to celebrate 10 years of his mesmerizing solo performance of *Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol*. Not unlike Dickens did in the 1800s, through the use of voice and mannerisms, Rodriguez's elaborate storytelling brings to life the characters of Ebenezer Scrooge, Bob Cratchit, Jacob Marley and the remarkable ghosts found in the greatest Christmas story of all time.

12 DATES OF CHRISTMAS

By Ginna Hoben

November 25– December 23, 2016

While the most wonderful time of the year beckons outward displays of affection, audiences are invited on a different adventure into the mishaps of one woman's attempt to get her jingle back in the world of dating! After seeing her fiancé kiss another woman on national TV, Mary is set up, hooked up, strung up and fed up as she attempts to meet Mr. Right in the New Year. This smash-hit comedy returns with even more hilarity this holiday season!

SWEEP

By Georgina Escobar

February 10– March 5, 2017

A strange imagining by Georgina Escobar, “multiverse” hit women Luna and Siri are armed with deadly broomsticks, sweeping the world’s mistakes into oblivion one human flaw at a time. But when they fail to clean up Adam and Eve’s apple situation, the two superhero sweepers find themselves unleashed on a cosmic journey through time! With Dragon Con sensibilities, this world premiere play is rife with the humor and adventure of a great graphic novel.

A BICYCLE COUNTRY/PAIS DE BICICLETA

By Nilo Cruz

April 7-30, 2017

From Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Nilo Cruz – the creative behind last season’s stirring SOTTO VOCE – comes the tale of three Cuban refugees with a lust for freedom and the hope to achieve liberty. Paralyzed by the oppression of Cuba’s totalitarian society, Julio, Ines and Pepe find the courage to finally leave their current lives behind and embark on the harrowing journey across the Caribbean Sea from Havana to Miami. The play’s magical realism, accented by whip-fast dialogue, encompasses the Latin love of music and dance in this powerful display of what can happen when one dreams big enough. Part of the Teatro Aurora initiative, A BICYCLE COUNTRY/PAIS DE BICICLETA is performed in Spanish with English supertitles.

The 2016-2017 GGC Harvel Lab Series Lineup includes:

SINGLES IN AGRICULTURE

September 16 – October 9, 2016

12 DATES OF CHRISTMAS/ A CHRISTMAS CAROL

November 25 – December 23, 2016

SWEEP

February 10 – March 10, 2017

PAIS DE BICICLETA (A BICYCLE COUNTRY)

April 7-30, 2017

Individual ticket prices for the **2016-2017 GGC Harvel Lab Series** range from \$20-\$30 and go on sale to the public starting July 5. A 2016-17 Studio Season Pass is \$55 and includes admission to the three non-holiday shows, as well as one ticket to be used to the holiday show of choice; season passes are available for purchase starting now. For more information on the series or to become a season subscriber, please visit auroratheatre.com, or call the **Box Office** at **678.226.6222**.

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Under the artistic leadership of Co-Founders Anthony Rodriguez (Producing Artistic Director) and Ann-Carol Pence (Associate Producer), now in its 21st Season, Aurora Theatre produces professional live entertainment to suit everyone’s taste. Aurora Theatre is home to over 650 events each year. Two series of theatrical productions, the Peach State Federal Credit Union Signature Series and the GGC Harvel Lab Series, are comprised of the biggest Broadway plays and musicals alongside exciting contemporary theatre. Additionally, Aurora produces concerts, stand-up comedy, children’s programs, metro Atlanta’s top haunted attraction (Lawrenceville Ghost Tours), as well as Atlanta’s only professional Spanish language theatre, Teatro Aurora. Aurora Theatre is a world class theatrical facility with two performance venues. Nestled on the square in historic downtown Lawrenceville, Aurora has FREE attached covered parking and is surrounded by restaurants and shops. Aurora Theatre has garnered numerous accolades highlighted by recent achievements that include winner of five 2015 Suzi Bass Awards, Creative Loafing’s “2010 Best Theatre Company,” Georgia Trend Magazine’s “2011 Best Places to Work in Georgia,” Atlanta Business Chronicle’s “2012 Best Places to Work”, Atlanta Magazine’s “Best of Atlanta 2013”, Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce’s 2014 President and CEO Award for Excellence in Arts, and Gwinnett Chamber’s 2015 IMPACT Regional Business Award for Hospitality .