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09/10 By Local Series at the Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts continues with four unique performances ranging from electronic chamber music and live video projections to a 24-hour play

Featured Philadelphia artists include Pieris Music, Brat Productions, Winged Woman Dance and Kate Watson-Wallace/anonymous bodies

(Philadelphia, December 7, 2009) — The Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts 09/10 By Local season continues with four unique performances by some of Philadelphia's most popular artists and performers. **Pieris Music** transforms the Annenberg Center lobby with live electronic chamber music mixed with DJ interludes and live video immersion on **Thursday, December 10 at 8:00 PM**. After experiencing enormous success this fall with the multi-sensory production *Haunted Poe*, **Brat Productions** revives their wildly popular play *A 24-Hour The Bald Soprano*. The absurdly funny performance is performed every hour on the hour – for 24 hours! The first performance begins in the Harold Prince Theatre at **8:00 PM on Friday, January 22, 2010** with the last performance ending on **Saturday, January 23, 2010 at 8:00 PM**. **Tina Heuges** and the Philadelphia-based dance troupe **Winged Woman Dance** perform *Residue*, an investigation into the complexity of the human condition on **Saturday, February 6, 2010 at 7:30 PM** in the Harold Prince Theatre. Director of **anonymous bodies**, **Kate Watson-Wallace** creates site-based performances that re-imagine everyday spaces. Her production, *the mentalist*, follows a woman into her imagination, one pattern at a time. Consumed by the repeating patterns of her surroundings, represented in graffiti writing and video animation, a woman goes slowly mad. This performance, the final performance of the 09/10 By Local Series, takes place in the Harold Prince Theatre on **Saturday, February 14, 2010 at 8:00 PM**.

Tickets for all By Local performances are \$25. Tickets for *A 24-Hour The Bald Soprano* are \$25 but will be sold in two hour time blocks. For tickets or for more information, please visit AnnenbergCenter.org or call 215.898.3900. Tickets can also be purchased in person at the Annenberg Center Box Office.

PIERIS MUSIC – FOUNTAIN

Pieris Music is a Philadelphia-based performance, education and advocacy group that puts on inventive multimedia chamber music concerts in unconventional venues. *Fountain* is an original suite of electronic chamber music composed by Pieris Music founder Eric Haeker and performed by the Lumia Ensemble, which includes pianist Hugh Sung, violinist Hannah Cole, bass player Gene Orlando, Noah Pascarell on drums and Haeker triggering prerecorded backing tracks from his laptop. DJ Tleilaxu will keep the music going before, between and after the two movements of *Fountain* while Ricardo Rivera bathes the Annenberg lobby in architectural video known as klip//effect.

BRAT PRODUCTIONS – A 24-HOUR THE BALD SOPRANO

Brat Productions, one of Philadelphia's most adventurous theatre companies, teams up with the Annenberg Center to present their signature production, A 24-Hour *The Bald Soprano*. Written as a continuous loop, Absurdist Eugene Ionesco's one-hour play contains stage instructions in the final scene to start the performance over from the very beginning. In Brat's hands, the play will be performed every hour, on the hour, for 24 hours, and the actors playing the main characters of Mr. and Mrs. Smith and Mr. and Mrs. Martin will switch roles for each new performance as the play continues its madcap loop.

A 24-Hour *The Bald Soprano* was first performed to rave reviews by Brat Productions in 1998. Original director and Brat founder Madi Distefano returns to the helm for this performance marathon.

WINGED WOMAN DANCE – RESIDUE

Founded in 1999 by choreographer and University of the Arts alum Tina Heuges, **Winged Woman Dance** is a Philadelphia-based ensemble dedicated to promoting in-depth collaborations between modern dancers and visual artists. The creation of *Residue* began when Heuges asked the question "What resides within us when we are spiritually separated or connected to God?"

KATE WATSON-WALLACE/anonymous bodies – the mentalist

Inspired by Charlotte Perkins Gillman's short story, "The Yellow Wallpaper," in which a woman is taken over by her imagination, getting lost in the repeating pattern of her bedroom's wallpaper, **Kate Watson-Wallace/anonymous bodies' the mentalist** follows a woman into her imagination, one pattern at a time. Consumed by the repeating patterns of her surroundings, represented in graffiti writing and video animation, a woman goes slowly mad. Retreating into memory after memory, and finally re-appearing, larger-than-life, in video. This piece will feature an all-male cast. Other works by Watson-Wallace, a 2007 Pew Fellow in the Arts in Choreography and a Philadelphia-based choreographer and performer, include *CAR*, a performance for 4 audience members who sit in the

back seat of a moving car, *HOUSE*, a show inside a row home and *STORE*, a performance piece about American greed.

The Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts

The University of Pennsylvania's Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts has been the region's leading multi-disciplinary performance venue for Theatre, Dance, Jazz, World Music, New Music and children's programming since its inception in 1971. The Annenberg Center's curatorial vision emphasizes four primary values: artistic integrity, cultural diversity, curatorial balance and a willingness to take risks. By presenting world renowned and cutting edge artists and companies who express adventuresome perspectives on contemporary issues, timeless ideas and diverse cultures, the Annenberg Center promotes critical thinking and dialogue among its audiences, creating a uniquely rewarding arts experience.

The Annenberg Center has achieved national recognition for its outstanding Dance Celebration series (presented in partnership with Philadelphia's Dance Affiliates), touring theatre series, and for its superior offerings for children, including both its Student Discovery Series and the acclaimed 25-year-old Philadelphia International Children's Festival, the oldest festival of its kind in the United States. Through a generous grant from the Wallace Foundation, the Annenberg Center also showcases its commitment to local artists each year through its By Local series.

Throughout its history, the Annenberg Center has presented innovative and critically-acclaimed theatre productions with some of the biggest stars of stage and screen including Liv Ullmann and Sam Waterston in *A Doll's House*, *A Streetcar Named Desire* with Glenn Close, Jessica Tandy in Beckett's *Not I*, and Tennessee Williams' *Sweet Bird of Youth* with Irene Worth and Christopher Walken of which Ms. Worth won a Tony® for her performance when the show moved to Broadway. University of Pennsylvania alumnus and noteworthy Broadway producer and director Harold Prince and Joseph Papp staged many of their plays at the Annenberg Center before taking them to Broadway. As part of the Dance Celebration series, a broad range of world-class and emerging dancers and companies have appeared at the Annenberg Center each season including the Pilobolus Dance Theatre, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, MOMIX, Parsons Dance Company, Martha Graham, Merce Cunningham, Paul Taylor and Alvin Ailey.

PIERIS MUSIC

Fountain

Thursday, December 10 at 8:00 PM

Main Lobby at the Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts

Join Eric Haeker and Pieris Music for a multi-dimensional experience complete with live electronic chamber music, DJ interludes, and an aqueous video immersion. The Lumia Ensemble's amplified violin and piano meld with hip-hop, reinventing the Peirene story in two movements. Tleilaxu provides live electronic remix sets while Ricardo Rivera's klip collective bathes the lobby in projected video.

Tickets: \$25. For more information please call 215.898.3900 or visit www.AnnenbergCenter.org

The Annenberg Center's By Local Series is funded in part by The Wallace Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Brat Productions

A 24-Hour *The Bald Soprano*

Friday, January 22 at 8:00 PM – Saturday, January 23 at 8:00 PM

Harold Prince Theatre at the Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts

Six Actors. Twenty-four performances. No breaks. No kidding. Eugene Ionesco's one-hour masterpiece of metaphysical nonsense will be performed every hour, on the hour, for 24 hours! Suburban life gets an extreme makeover when the Smiths and Martins find themselves trapped in a world of conformity, social manners and paranoid suspicions. Identities shift, secrets are revealed and all sense of decorum and communication breaks down in a delirious rush of words and gestures. Enjoy one performance or all 24!

Tickets: \$25. Note: Tickets will be sold in two hour increments. For more information please call 215.898.3900 or visit www.AnnenbergCenter.org

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WINGED WOMAN DANCE

Residue

Saturday, February 6 at 7:30 PM

Harold Prince Theatre at the Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts

Join Winged Woman Dance for a provocative experience in which intimate and emotionally wrought segments of movement investigate the complexity of the human condition that compels us to do everything without the help or need of a loving God. Winged Woman Dance is a Philadelphia based ensemble founded by Tina Heuges that is dedicated to in-depth collaborations between visual artists, musicians and dancers.

Tickets: \$25. For more information please call 215.898.3900 or visit www.AnnenbergCenter.org

The Annenberg Center's By Local Series is funded in part by The Wallace Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts.

KATE WATSON-WALLACE/anonymous bodies

the mentalist

Sunday, February 14 at 8:00 PM

Harold Prince Theatre at the Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts

Follow a woman into her imagination, one pattern at a time, in *the mentalist*. Inspired by imagery in Charlotte Perkins Gillman's short story, "The Yellow Wallpaper," a woman goes slowly mad, consumed by the repeating patterns of her surroundings. She retreats into memory after memory, and finally reappears, larger-than-life, in video. The mentalist is a movement installation that transforms an empty room on site, covering the space with sound, video paintings, live graffiti writing, punk-rock ramblings and breath-taking dancing.

Tickets: \$25. For more information please call 215.898.3900 or visit www.AnnenbergCenter.org

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For further press information or to set up interviews, please contact:

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