



Old Globe Theatre | Cassius Carter Centre Stage | Lowell Davies Festival Theatre

News

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Louis G. Spisto, *Executive Director*
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THE OLD GLOBE PRESENTS TONY AWARD-WINNING
PLAYWRIGHT RICHARD GREENBERG'S
THE VIOLET HOUR

CAROLYN CANTOR DIRECTS TOP-NOTCH CAST IN INTRIGUING DRAMA

San Diego – The Tony Award®-winning Old Globe is pleased to present *The Violet Hour*, by Richard Greenberg, directed by Carolyn Cantor, playing in the Old Globe Theatre May 20 through June 25, 2006 (press opening: May 25).

The hottest playwright in the country right now, **Richard Greenberg** will have three world-premieres of his plays opening this spring. Additionally, his acclaimed production of *Three Days of Rain* (presented at the Globe in 1999) is currently enjoying a major Broadway production starring Julia Roberts, which officially opens on April 19. Greenberg's Tony Award-winning *Take Me Out* was the hit of the Globe's 2005 season, becoming the best-selling non-musical production in Globe history.

Fresh from Princeton and World War I, John Pace Seaver stakes his trust fund on a small publishing house in Manhattan. He enlists the help of a frenzied man called Gidger to be his office manager. Seemingly thrown in as part of the deal is a mysterious machine that suddenly appears in the outer office—whirring and spewing out paper like a news press. Despite Gidger's alarm, John ignores the machine to address a bigger concern: he can only afford to publish one book to launch the firm. Should it be the massive novel of his classmate Denis McCleary or the elegantly simple memoir by his mistress, Jessie Brewster? Before John steps into a Broadway-bound cab that evening, he discovers the effect his actions will have — and that his story may have already been written. Tony Award-winner Richard Greenberg (author of the Globe's 2005 hit *Take Me Out*) re-creates an early era in the American century, while exploring the capricious nature of time.

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The cast of *The Violet Hour* includes Lucas Hall as “John Pace Seaver,” Patch Darragh as “Denis McCleary,” Christen Simon as “Jessie Brewster,” Kristen Bush as “Rosamund Plinth,” and T. Scott Cunningham, who received rave reviews for his performance as “Mason Marzac” in the Globe’s acclaimed 2005 production of *Take Me Out*, as “Gidger.”

The production team for *The Violet Hour* includes Carolyn Cantor, director; David Korins, scenic design; Robert Blackman, costume design; Matt Richards, lighting design; Paul Peterson, sound design; and Leila Knox, stage manager.

Tickets for *The Violet Hour* go on sale Sunday, April 30 and are available at (619) 23-GLOBE, on the Globe website at www.TheOldGlobe.org, or by visiting the Globe Box Office at 1363 Old Globe Way in Balboa Park. Ticket prices range from \$19 to \$59.

Renowned playwright **Richard Greenberg** is the author of *Take Me Out* (Tony Award; Pulitzer Prize finalist), *A Naked Girl on the Appian Way*, *The Dazzle* (Outer Critics Circle Award, John Gassner and Lucille Lortel nominations), *Everett Beekin*, *The Three Days of Rain* (presented at the Globe in 1999; L.A. Drama Critics Award, Pulitzer Prize finalist, Olivier Drama Desk and Hull-Warriner nominations), *Hurrah at Last*, and *Night and Her Stars*, among others. Greenberg received the Oppenheimer Award for best new playwright as well as the first PEN/Laura Pels Award, given to a playwright in mid-career. He is also an associate artist at South Coast Repertory and a member of the Ensemble Studio Theatre.

Carolyn Cantor is the Artistic Director of Edge Theater Company in New York City. For Edge she has directed *Living Room in Africa*, *Orange Flower Water*, *Now That’s What I Call A Storm*, *Stone Cold Dead Serious* and *Life Is A Dream*. Other off-Broadway directing credits include *EVE-olution* for Cherry Lane Theatre and *Kitty Kitty Kitty* for the Summer Play Festival. Regional credits include *The Diary of Anne Frank* for the Paper Mill Playhouse, *The King Stag* for the Williamstown Theatre Festival, *Get What You Need* for New York Stage and Film, *Rabbit Hole* for the Pacific Playwrights Festival, *Finer Noble Gases* and *After Ashley* for the Eugene O’Neill National Playwright’s Conference, *Nocturne* for the Ojai Playwrights Conference and *Kitty Kitty Kitty* for the Cape Cod Theatre Project, among others. She has also been the recipient of a Drama League Directing Fellowship and the Boris Segal and Bill Foeller Fellowships from the Williamstown Theatre Festival.

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The internationally-acclaimed, Tony® Award-winning Old Globe is one of the most renowned regional theatres in the country and has stood as San Diego’s flagship arts institution for 70 years. The Old Globe produces a year-round season of 15 plays and musicals on its three stages, including its highly-regarded Shakespeare festival. The Globe has become a gathering place for leading theatre artists from around the world, such as Tom Stoppard, Daniel Sullivan and Chita Rivera, among many others. Numerous Broadway-bound premieres and revivals, such as Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, The Full Monty and Damn Yankees, have been developed at The Old Globe and have gone on to enjoy highly successful runs in New York and at regional theatres across the country.

During this 70th Anniversary Winter Season, the Globe is presenting two fascinating world premieres, including Chita Rivera: The Dancer’s Life, an exciting musical biography of the acclaimed actress/singer/dancer, as well as THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN’, a thrilling new work by Twyla Tharp set to the music of the legendary Bob Dylan. Under the leadership of Executive Director Louis G. Spisto, Artistic Director Jack O’Brien and Resident Artistic Director Jerry Patch, the Globe is at the forefront of the nation’s leading performing arts organizations, setting a standard for excellence in American theatre.

**THE OLD GLOBE
THE VIOLET HOUR
FACT SHEET**

WHAT: *The Violet Hour*
By Richard Greenberg

WHEN: **May 20 – June 25, 2006; Press Opening: Thursday, May 25 at 8pm**
Performances: – Sun/Tue/Wed at 7pm
– Thu/Fri/Sat at 8pm
– Matinees: Sat/Sun at 2pm

WHERE: Old Globe Theatre, Balboa Park

WHO: Director: Carolyn Cantor Scenic Design: David Korins
Lighting Design: Matt Richards Costume Design: Robert Blackman
Sound Design: Paul Peterson Stage Manager: Leila Knox

Cast: Kristen Bush *Rosamund Plinth*
T. Scott Cunningham *Gidger*
Patch Darragh *Denis McCleary*
Lucas Hall *John Pace Seaverling*
Christen Simon *Jessie Brewster*

BACKGROUND:

While exploring the capricious nature of time, Richard Greenberg (author of the smash hit *Take Me Out*) re-creates an early era in the American century. Fledgling book publisher John Seaverling is trying to decide whether to print a book written by his best friend or his mistress. Before he steps into a Broadway-bound cab that night, he discovers the effect his actions will have — and that his story may have already been written.

TICKETS: \$19 – \$59

BOX OFFICE: (619) 23-GLOBE

Hours: –Mondays noon to 6pm
–Tuesday thru Saturdays: noon to 8:30pm
–Sundays: noon to 7:30pm
–Visa, American Express, MasterCard, Discover Card accepted