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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**February 14, 2019**

## **FORD'S THEATRE SOCIETY ANNOUNCES CAST OF**

***INTO THE WOODS***  
**Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim**  
**Book by James Lapine**  
**Choreographed by Michael Bobbitt**  
**Directed by Peter Flynn**

**March 8 to May 22, 2019**  
**Tickets Now On Sale**

Washington, D.C. – Ford's Theatre Society announced full casting and design team for ***Into the Woods***, directed by **Peter Flynn** and choreographed by **Michael Bobbitt**. The production features **Evan Casey** and **Awa Sal Secka** as the Baker and Baker's Wife, **Rachel Zampelli** as the Witch, with **Samy Nour Younes** as Jack, **Erin Driscoll** as Cinderella, **Jade Jones** as Little Red Ridinghood, **Christopher Mueller** as Cinderella's Prince/First Wolf, **Quynh-My Luu** as Rapunzel, **Hasani Allen** as Rapunzel's Prince/Second Wolf and **Scott Sedar** (Narrator/Mysterious Man). The musical plays **March 8 to May 22, 2019**, at historic Ford's Theatre. The production is recommended for ages 12 and older.

In Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine's imaginative, darkly comical remix of beloved fairy tales, a baker and his wife set out to reverse a witch's curse in hopes of having a child of their own. The couple's quest takes them into the woods, where they encounter Little Red Ridinghood, Jack and his beanstalk, a cautious Cinderella, a sequestered Rapunzel and a couple of lovelorn princes. Sondheim's lush Tony-winning score and James Lapine's Tony-winning book conjure a world where "giants can be good and witches can be right." Peter Flynn returns to direct this fanciful tale about the lengths to which we'll go to get what we wish.

"*Into the Woods* encourages us to think about how we can carry on and build community in the face of adversity," says **director Peter Flynn**. "I am fascinated by Sondheim and Lapine's writing, enthralled by the music and riveted by the concept of what happens when what we wish for isn't possible,

or, is possible but gives us more than we bargained for. It's a story filled with wonder, danger and curiosity, and I'm thrilled to be back to tackle this work at Ford's with this group of artists."

**Tickets for *Into the Woods* are now on sale and range from \$20 to \$83.** Discounts are available for groups, senior citizens, military personnel and those younger than age 35.

A media performance is scheduled for **March 19, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.**

*Into the Woods* is made possible by **Lead Underwriter Altria Group** and **Production Underwriter The Home Depot. Chevron** is the Ford's Theatre Society's 2018-2019 Season Sponsor.

## THE CAST

**Casey, Secka, Zampelli, Nour Younes, Driscoll, Jones, Mueller, Luu, Allen and Sedar** are joined in the cast by **Tiziano D'Affuso** (Milky White), **Wyn Delano** (Steward), **Maria Egler** (Cinderella's Stepmother), **Rayanne Gonzales** (Jack's Mother), **Ashleigh King** (Lucinda), **Justine "Icy" Moral** (Florinda), **Christopher Michael Richardson** (Cinderella's Father) and **Karen Vincent** (Cinderella's Mother/Granny/Giant), **Ryan Burke** and **Kristen Garaffo**.

## THE DESIGNERS

**Milagros Ponce de León's scenic design** includes multi-colored vines, trees and other natural elements that disguise tucked-away turrets, windows and rooms where magic spells are possible and fairy tale characters feel at home. **Costume Designer Wade Laboissonniere** combines different period looks to create a fairy-tale world featuring finely tailored details and rich textures, plus puppetry and stilt-walking wolves.

The Ford's Theatre design team for *Into the Woods* also includes **Choreographer Michael Bobbitt** (*Ragtime, Spelling Bee, 1776, Black Pearl Sings!*), **Music Director William Yanesh** (Ford's debut), **Lighting Designer Rui Rita** (*The Wiz, Ragtime, A Christmas Carol, The Guard, others*), **Projection Designer Clint Allen** (*The Wiz, Ragtime, Glass Menagerie, others*), **Orchestrator Kim Scharnberg** (*Ragtime; Freedom's Song; Hello, Dolly!, 1776; others*), **Sound Designer David Budries** (*The Wiz, Ragtime, Freedom's Song, Spelling Bee, others*), **Hair and Make-up Designer Anne Nesmith** (*Born Yesterday, Jefferson's Garden, Death of a Salesman, Ragtime, others*) and **Dialects and Voice Director Rachel Hirshorn-Johnston**.

Musicians for *Into the Woods* include William Yanesh and Victor Simonson on keyboards; Kelsey Mire on piccolo, flute, clarinet and bassoon; Craig Taylor on trumpet and flugelhorn; Chandra Cervantes on Horn in F; Kyung LeBlanc on violin; Greg Watkins on bass; and Danny Villanueva on percussion.

The production team also includes **Production Stage Manager Craig A. Horness** and **Assistant Stage Manager Taryn Friend**.

## SPECIAL PERFORMANCES AND EVENTS

There are **audio-described** performances of *Into the Woods* on March 26, 2019, at 7:30 p.m. and May 4, 2019, at 2:00 p.m. A **sign-interpreted** performance is April 4, 2019, at 7:30 p.m. A **captioned performance** is April 27, 2019, at 2:00 p.m. A **sensory-friendly** performance is scheduled for May 11, 2019, at 2:00 p.m.

### **Free First Preview: March 8 at 7:30 p.m.**

Ford's Theatre partners with TodayTix to give out free tickets for the first performance of each mainstage production in our theatrical season. Six-hundred tickets are available via the TodayTix app, beginning 10:00 a.m. ET on March 1 for the March 8, 7:30 p.m. performance of *Into the Woods*. Visit [www.fords.org/free](http://www.fords.org/free) for lottery entry details.

### ***Into the Woods* Generation Abe Nights: April 12 and May 4 following the 7:30 p.m. performances**

Patrons younger than age 35 can use promo code UNDER3519 to purchase discounted tickets to Friday evening performances of *Into the Woods*. On April 12 and May 4, Generation Abe patrons can enjoy a complimentary glass of beer or wine after the show, meet new people and see Ford's Theatre in a new light. Tickets may be purchased in advance at [www.fords.org](http://www.fords.org). You must show ID at the Box Office once arriving at the theatre. Limit of six per person.

### ***Into the Woods* Meet and Mingle: April 27 following 7:30 p.m. performance**

Following the performance of *Into the Woods* at Ford's Theatre, talk theatre with fellow audience members and members of the cast at nearby restaurant Asia Nine, around the corner on E Street near Ford's Theatre. Event is free. Cash bar available. Performance tickets sold separately at [www.fords.org](http://www.fords.org).

### **Sensory-Friendly Performance: May 11, 2019, at 2:00 p.m.**

The May 11 matinee performance of *Into the Woods* is designed for anyone who might benefit from an adjusted theatre environment—including those on the autism spectrum or others with sensory sensitivities. The performance will feature adjustments to lighting and sound effects, a relaxed theatre environment that allows for movement, designated break spaces and pre-visit materials to prepare attendees for the theatre. Tickets range \$25-\$30 and are available for purchase by calling the Ford's Theatre box office at (202) 347-4833, option 7.

### **Ford's Theatre Society**

One of the most visited sites in the nation's capital, Ford's Theatre reopened its doors in 1968, more than a hundred years after the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln. Operated through a partnership between Ford's Theatre Society and the National Park Service, Ford's Theatre is the premier destination

in the nation's capital to explore and celebrate Abraham Lincoln's ideals and leadership principles: courage, integrity, tolerance, equality and creative expression.

The Ford's Theatre Society was founded under the guidance of executive producer **Frankie Hewitt**, who, during her 35-year tenure, established Ford's as a living, working theatre producing performances that highlighted the diversity of the American experience. Since the arrival of **Paul R. Tetreault** as Director, critics and the theatregoing public have recognized Ford's for the superior quality of its artistic programming. With works from the Tony-nominated *Come From Away* and nationally acclaimed *Big River* to the world premieres of *Meet John Doe*, *The Heavens Are Hung In Black*, *Liberty Smith*, *Necessary Sacrifices*, *The Widow Lincoln* and *The Guard*, Ford's Theatre is making its mark on the American theatre landscape. For its accomplishments, the organization was honored in 2008 with the National Medal of Arts. For more information, visit [www.fords.org](http://www.fords.org).

**#FordsWoods**

**Ford's Theatre on Twitter and Instagram:** @fordstheatre

**Ford's Theatre on Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/fordstheatre](http://www.facebook.com/fordstheatre)

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**FACT SHEET: INTO THE WOODS**  
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**Directed by Peter Flynn; Choreographed by Michael Bobbitt**

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**DATES: March 8 to May 22, 2019**  
**Media Performance: March 19, 2019**

**TICKETS: \$20-\$83**

**LOCATION:** Ford's Theatre is located at 511 10th Street NW, between E and F streets.

**TIMES:** Mondays through Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. (except March 14); Fridays and Saturdays at 2:00 p.m. (except March 15, 16, 22, 29 and May 17). Weekday 2:00 p.m. matinee March 13. Noon matinees are March 22, 29 and May 17.

**ACCESSIBILITY:** Ford's Theatre is accessible to persons with disabilities, offering wheelchair accessible seating and restrooms, audio enhancement Braille and large print playbills. There are **audio-described** performances of *Into the Woods* on March 26, 2019, at 7:30 p.m. and May 4, 2019, at 2:00 p.m. A **sign-interpreted** performance is April 4, 2019, at 7:30 p.m. A **captioned performance** is scheduled for April 27, 2019, at 2 p.m.

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**PARKING:**

Paid parking is available at several independent neighborhood garages: the 24-hour QuickPark at the Grand Hyatt (entrance on 10th Street between G and H Streets NW), the Central Parking Garage (entrance on 11th Street between E and F Streets NW), and the One Parking garage below Ford's Theatre (at 511 10th Street, NW).

**METRO:**

Metro Center station (Red, Blue, Orange and Silver Lines) is two and one half blocks north of the theatre from the Eleventh Street exit. Gallery Pl-Chinatown station (Red, Yellow and Green Lines) is two and one half blocks north of the theatre from the G Street exit. For further information, call Metro at (202) 637-7000.

Tickets at [www.fords.org](http://www.fords.org)  
Information: (202) 347-4833 -- Toll Free: (888) 616-0270 -- Groups: (202) 638-2367  
Ford's Theatre on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook: @fordstheatre #FordsWoods