

Oscar Wilde's classic comedy *Lady Windermere's Fan* plays at Taproot Theatre

SEATTLE, WA – January 29, 2018 – Taproot Theatre cordially invites you to the play of the season. *Lady Windermere's Fan*, Oscar Wilde's enduring comedy about a good woman and her fan, features **Maya Burton** (Taproot Theatre's *A Civil War Christmas*) in the title role of Lady Windermere and **Richard Nguyen Sloniker** (Seattle Shakespeare Company's *The Merchant of Venice*) as her counterpart, Lord Windermere. The talented, multi-racial cast is co-directed by **Karen Lund**. Single tickets are available online at taproottheatre.org, by phone at 206.781.9707 or in person at 204 N 85th St. Discounts are available for seniors/students, ages 25 and under, and groups of 8 or more.

It's the party of the social season, but instead of celebrating, Lady Windermere suspects her husband is having an affair with a mysterious and beautiful stranger. As rumors swirl and secrets are revealed, the Windermere's lives are upended and threatened to end in disgrace. This comedy classic from Oscar Wilde will charm you with its cleverness and wit.

Karen Lund has proven her comedy chops directing productions of *The Explorers Club*, *Jeeves in Bloom*, *An Ideal Husband*, *The Importance of Being Earnest* and more for Taproot Theatre. Lund also serves as Taproot's Associate Artistic Director and is the Vice President of the Board of Directors for Theatre Puget Sound.

The cast also features **Laura Lee Caudill** (Taproot Theatre's *Room Service*) as Lady Agatha Carlisle, **Rebecca M. Davis** (Seattle Public Theatre's *Vanishing Point*) as the Duchess of Berwick, **Melanie Hampton** (Taproot Theatre's *Room Service*) as Lady Plymdale/Rosalie, **Frank Lawler** (Taproot Theatre's *Busman's Honeymoon*) as Mr. Dumby, **Kim Morris** (Taproot Theatre's *Room Service*) as Lady Jedburgh, **Conner Nedderson** (Wooden O's *Much Ado About Nothing*) as Mr. Cecil Graham, **Nolan Palmer** (Taproot Theatre's *Busman's Honeymoon*) as Lord Augustus Lorton, **Tyler Trerise** (Seattle Public Theatre's *Grand Concourse*) as Lord Darlington, **Nikki Visel** (Taproot Theatre's *Room Service*) as Mrs. Erlynne and **Brad Walker** (Taproot Theatre's *Busman's Honeymoon*) as Mr. Hopper.

The production team includes **Marianne Savell** (Tidewater Stage's *The Christians*), co-director; **Mark Lund** (Taproot Theatre's *Crowns*), scenic and sound design; **Jocelyne Fowler** (Taproot Theatre's *A Civil War Christmas*), costume design; **Kent Cabbage** (Taproot Theatre's *A Civil War Christmas*), lighting design; **Michelle Rodriguez** (Taproot Theatre's *Busman's Honeymoon*), stage manager; **Anthea Carns** (Taproot Theatre's *The Trial of Ebenezer Scrooge*), dramaturg and **Ben Wippel** (Taproot Theatre's *Persuasion*), dialect coach.

Following *Lady Windermere's Fan* is the West Coast Premiere of *Sweet Land, the musical*, playing July 11 – August 18, 2018. Karen Lund will return to direct following her success with 2017's *Persuasion*.

SPECIAL DATES FOR THE AUDIENCE

Post-Play Discussions: TTC staff and cast members will join the audience to discuss the play and its production process. Post-play discussions are held after every Wednesday performance and after the Midweek Matinee performances on May 22 at 2:00 PM (*limited availability*) and May 30 at 10:30 AM and June 13 at 2:00 PM.

Pay What You Can (PWYC): May 23 at 7:30 PM; a limited number of \$10 tickets are available at noon, tickets may be purchased in person or by phone (card fees may apply). Beginning at 5:00 PM, tickets are name-your-own-price; these tickets may be purchased in person only. Limit 4 tickets per person. Seating for PWYC performances is General Admission, there is no reserved seating. If you have accessible seating needs please call the Box Office directly.

Intergenerational Matinee: May 30 at 10:30 AM (*with guided post-play discussion, limited availability*); With \$10 student/chaperone tickets, play guides and a guided post-play discussion, our Intergenerational Matinee enhances student education, providing theatre as a tool and springboard for learning, growth and communication.

Senior Matinees: May 22 (*with post-play discussion, limited availability*) & June 13 (*with post-play discussion*) at 2:00 PM; Our Senior Matinee program provides anyone aged 62 and older with an affordable way to participate in live theatre in convenient daytime performance.

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LADY WINDERMERE'S FAN FACT SHEET

WHAT: Taproot Theatre Company presents *Lady Windermere's Fan* by Oscar Wilde. It's the party of the social season, but instead of celebrating, Lady Windermere suspects her husband is having an affair with a mysterious and beautiful stranger. As rumors swirl and secrets are revealed, the Windermere's lives are upended and threatened to end in disgrace. This comedy classic from Oscar Wilde will charm you with its cleverness and wit.

WHEN: May 16 – June 23, 2018 • Wed/Thur, 7:30 PM; Fri/Sat, 8:00 PM; Sat matinee, 2:00 PM

Dates to note:

Previews: May 16 & 17, 7:30 PM

Opening Night: May 18, 8:00 PM

Pay What You Can: May 23, 7:30 PM

Midweek Matinees: May 22 at 2:00 PM (*limited availability, post-play discussion*), May 30 (*limited availability, guided post-play discussion*) at 10:30 AM and June 13 at 2:00 PM (*post-play discussion*).

Post-Play Discussions: Wednesday nights following performances, excluding Preview.

**Please note:* there is no matinee on June 23.

WHERE: Taproot Theatre Company's Jewell Mainstage Theatre, 204 N 85th St, Seattle, WA 98103

TICKETS: Single tickets are available online at taproottheatre.org, by phone at 206.781.9707 or in person at 204 N 85th St. Tickets range from \$27-50, depending on the performance. Taproot offers a \$5 senior/student discount off regularly priced tickets (excludes previews or specially

priced performances) and \$15 tickets for anyone aged 25 and under (excludes specially priced performances). Tickets for the Midweek Matinees are \$20. Discounts are available for groups of 8 or more by visiting taproottheatre.org/group-sales/ or by calling 206.781.9708. Tickets for the PWYC performance are available day-of-show at the Box Office window; contact the Box office for additional details.

AGE RECOMMENDATION: 12+

CAST (in alphabetical order)

Maya Burton	<i>Lady Windermere</i>
Laura Lee Caudill	<i>Lady Agatha Carlisle</i>
Rebecca M. Davis	<i>Duchess of Berwick</i>
Melanie Hampton	<i>Lady Plymdale/Rosalie</i>
Frank Lawler	<i>Mr. Dumbly</i>
Kim Morris	<i>Lady Jedburgh</i>
Conner Nedderson	<i>Mr. Cecil Graham</i>
Nolan Palmer	<i>Lord Augustus Lorton</i>
Richard Nguyen Sloniker	<i>Lord Windermere</i>
Tyler Trerise	<i>Lord Darlington</i>
Nikki Visel	<i>Mrs. Erlynne</i>
Brad Walker	<i>Mr. Hopper</i>

PRODUCTION

Karen Lund	<i>Co-Director</i>
Marianne Savell	<i>Co-Director</i>
Mark Lund	<i>Scenic & Sound Design</i>
Jocelyne Fowler	<i>Costume Design</i>
Kent Cabbage	<i>Lighting Design</i>
Michelle Rodriguez	<i>Stage Manager</i>
Anthea Carns	<i>Dramaturg</i>
Ben Wippel	<i>Dialect Coach</i>

PHOTOS: Press photos are available at <http://taproottheatre.org/for-the-press/> > Jewell Mainstage Theatre > Lady Windermere's Fan. *This link is not to be published.*

PR: Isaiah Custer, Communications Manager, 206, 529.3666, isaiahc@taproottheatre.org

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Taproot Theatre Company is a professional, non-profit theatre company with a multi-faceted production program. Founded in 1976, Taproot Theatre serves the Pacific Northwest with Jewell Mainstage Productions, Isaac Studio Theatre Productions, Touring Productions and the Acting Studio. Taproot Theatre Company creates theatre experiences to brighten the spirit, engage the mind and deepen the understanding of the world around us while inspiring imagination, conversation and hope. Taproot Theatre Company is a member of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), Theatre Puget Sound (TPS) and Phinney Ridge Neighborhood Association (PNA).

Scott Nolte, Producing Artistic Director | Karen Lund, Associate Artistic Director
204 N 85th St | Seattle, WA 98103
206.781.9705 | taproottheatre.org

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