FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 30, 2015

THEATER PROGRAM OF BRYN MAWR AND HAVERFORD COLLEGES PRESENTS FALL PLAY, NOVEMBER 13-15, 19-21

Production of Erik Ehn’s Saint Plays Explores Faith, Sacrifice, and Spiritual Gatherings

BRYN MAWR, PA – The Theater Program of Bryn Mawr and Haverford Colleges (Mark Lord, Chair) presents four selections from Erik Ehn’s collection of short plays, The Saint Plays, directed by Catharine K. Slusar, a Barrymore Award-winning Philadelphia actor and director and assistant professor in the Bryn Mawr College Theater Program. Playwright Erik Ehn has written over 150 Saint Plays, loosely based on the lives of saints, of which the program will present four: Wholly Joan; The Freak; Thistle; and Tree of Hope, Stand Firm. Of Ehn’s work, Bonnie Marranca, in Plays for the End of the Century, notes, “His joyful drama sings the praises of the poetic voice and image in portraits of people crafted like beautiful holy cards.”

In a confluence of forces this fall, Philadelphia emerged as the center of a temporary but powerful spiritual vortex — visited by the Pope and hundreds of thousands of his pilgrims in September and then by representatives of the Dalai Lama and many Buddhist followers as he was honored at the Constitution Center in October. Curious as to what brings people to make sacrifices and journey long distances to witness or partake in these spiritual gatherings, Slusar sought to investigate the extreme sacrifice and faith exemplified in the lives of saints in Ehn’s works. She explains, “Ehn takes the lives of saints and explodes them, putting them into a contemporary or popular context mixed with a dash of mysticism. These plays are about devotion, faith, and the imagination. They ask us to investigate our notion of self, and what we will sacrifice for our beliefs.”

The Saint Plays open the Theater Program’s 2015-2016 season, with six performances (November 13-15 and 19-21) at the Hepburn Teaching Theater (Goodhart Hall, Bryn Mawr College). Opening night is Friday, November 13.

TICKET INFORMATION AND PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE
Tickets for The Saint Plays are free and open to the public. Reservations can be made online at https://brynmawr.wufoo.com/forms/theater-reservations/, via email to reservations@brynmawr.edu, by phone at (610) 526-5210, and in person at the Bryn Mawr College Office for the Arts (Goodhart Hall).

Performance Schedule:
Friday, November 13, 7:30pm - Opening Night
Saturday, November 14, 7:30pm
Sunday, November 15, 7:30pm
Thursday, November 19, 7:30pm
Friday, November 20, 7:00pm
Saturday, November 21, 7:30pm
THE CREATIVE TEAM
Mark Lord, Producer
Catharine K. Slusar, Director
Maiko Matsushima, Scenic and Costume Designer
Justin McDaniel, Technical Director
Amy Radbill, Production Manager and Props Designer
Henry Bradford, Assistant Technical Director
Amelia Couderc (BMC ’16), Assistant Director
Kristin Kury (BMC ’16), Assistant Director
Saskia Levy-Sheon (BMC ’16), Assistant Director
Alexandra Seits (BMC ’16), Assistant Director
Erin Romano (BMC ’18), Stage Manager
Mark Valenzuela, Sound Designer
Alec MacLaughlin, Composer
Lily Fossner, Lighting Designer
Sam Wall (BMC ’16), Master Electrician
Paige Toft (BMC ’16), Sound Assistant, Scenic Assistant
Maya Neville (BMC ’16), Assistant Production Manager

FEATURING
Patrick Adams (HC ’19)
Cathy Campo (BMC ’19)
Amelia Couderc (BMC ’16)
Miciah Foster (BMC ’19)
Yuri Hamashima (BMC ’17)
Tian Jin (HC ’17)
Rory Kennison (HC ’18)
Saskia Levy-Sheon (BMC ’16)
Precious Robinson (HC ’16)
Erin Romano (BMC ’18)
Alexandra Seits (BMC ’16)
Tom Sternberg (HC ’17)
Roz Sullivan-Lovett (HC ’19)
Sandra Torres (BMC ’19)
Jill Zimmerman (HC ’19)
Kristin Kury (BMC ’16)

About The Theater Program
The Theater Program of Bryn Mawr and Haverford Colleges strives to foster creative collaboration between students and faculty, and its productions have won accolades from area critics for years. Of a recent production, Philadelphia Weekly wrote, “The entire production is as professional—if not more so, simply in the students’ evident commitment to these roles—as anything you might see [in the city]. Clearly Lord and Iwasaki respect these students and their vision.”

For more information, please visit www.brynmawr.edu/theater. For news and exclusive content, please like "Bi-College Theater Program at Bryn Mawr College" on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/pages/Bi-College-Theater-Program-at-Bryn-Mawr-College and follow BrynMawrArts on Twitter.

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