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DALLAS THEATER CENTER Announces Betty Buckley and Tovah Feldshuh in *Arsenic and Old Lace*

Directed by Scott Schwartz

Kalita Humphreys Theater • 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. (at Blackburn)

Previews: Feb. 4 – Feb. 10 • **Opening Night: Friday, Feb. 3 8:00 p.m.** • **Full Run:** Feb. 4 – March 13

Tickets: 214-880-0202 or www.dallastheatercenter.org

DALLAS (January 11, 2011) – Dallas Theater Center has announced the complete cast and creative team who will join award-winning Broadway legends Betty Buckley and Tovah Feldshuh in *Arsenic and Old Lace*, which begins performances on February 4. Ms. Buckley and Ms. Feldshuh make their DTC debut as the homicidal Brewster sisters in Joseph Kesselring's classic black comedy, directed by Scott Schwartz.

"*Arsenic and Old Lace* is one of the most beloved, classic comedies in Broadway history," says DTC Artistic Director Kevin Moriarty. "It is a real privilege to be able to provide the Dallas community the opportunity to see master actors of the caliber of Betty Buckley and Tovah Feldshuh on our stage, collaborating with members of our resident acting company and many local and national artists who have previously graced our stage."

Ms. Buckley made her Broadway debut in 1976 as Martha Jefferson and won a Tony Award for her role in *Cats*. Ms. Feldshuh has won four Drama Desk Awards and is best known for her roles in *Yentl* and *Golda's Balcony*.

Acclaimed Broadway director Scott Schwartz will lead the production. "I've been a fan of Scott's work since I saw the original production of *Bat Boy* off-Broadway ten years ago," says Moriarty. "His vision for this production will bring great acting and fresh imagination to allow the play to seem as funny and new as if it were written yesterday."

"Ms. Feldshuh and Ms. Buckley are hilarious and incredibly creative," says *Arsenic and Old Lace* director Scott Schwartz. "They are going to be phenomenal in this production and will dedicate themselves to the Brewster sisters completely. I have no doubt that Tovah and Betty will redefine these delightfully dangerous women and make them feel fresh. They will bring depth and truth to their roles, as well as comedy."

Joining Ms. Buckley and Ms. Feldshuh on stage are Brierley Resident Acting Company members Abbey Siegworth and Lee Trull. Having just completed an acclaimed run as Ali Hakim in Arena Stage's grand re-opening production of *Oklahoma*, Nehal Joshi returns to DTC for the first time since playing the role of Captain Walker in DTC's groundbreaking production of *The Who's Tommy*. Also returning to Dallas Theater Center are J. Brent Alford (*A Christmas Carol*), SMU acting professor James Crawford (*Pride and Prejudice*), Paul Taylor (*It's a Bird, It's a Plane, It's Superman*) and SMU student Sean O'Connor (*Henry IV*). Making their DTC debuts are Jason Douglas, Steven Powell and Diana Sheehan.

"It was wonderful coming to Dallas to cast the rest of the show," says Schwartz. "I discovered a huge wealth of talent in the area, including members of DTC's resident company. We've found a group of really brilliant, funny actors, and I'm thrilled to see the way the characters develop during the rehearsal process."

The comical plot of *Arsenic and Old Lace* follows the Brewster sisters, Abigail (played by Tovah Feldshuh) and Martha (played by Betty Buckley), who believe killing old men to relieve them of their loneliness is an act of kindness. When their newly married nephew Mortimer (Lee Trull) arrives and discovers that nothing is as he thought it was, comedy ensues.

All performances of *Arsenic and Old Lace* will be held in the Kalita Humphreys Theater located at 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. (at Blackburn), where it runs Feb. 4 – March 13. Preview performances are Feb. 4 – Feb. 10. Opening night is **Friday, Feb. 11 at 8:00 p.m.** Performance times are Tuesday through Thursday evenings at

7:30 p.m.; Friday and Saturday evenings at 8 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m.; and select Sunday evenings at 7:30 p.m. Ticket prices are \$15-\$90 and are available by calling the box office at 214-880-0202 or by visiting www.dallastheatercenter.org. The Pay What You Can performance of *Arsenic and Old Lace* will be Friday, Nov. 26 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets will be available at the Kalita Humphreys Theater Box Office beginning at 5:30 p.m. on the day of the performance. Pay What You Can allows patrons to purchase ANY seat in the house for ANY amount they choose. For as little as a penny, theatergoers can see world-class live theater at Dallas Theater Center.

CAST:

BETTY BUCKLEY (*Martha Brewster*) won a Tony Award for her performance in the Broadway show *Cats*. She received her second Tony Award nomination for *Triumph of Love*, and an Olivier Award nomination in London for her performance in *Sunset Boulevard*, which she repeated to more rave reviews on Broadway. She received an Outer Critic's Circle nomination for her performance in the Musical *Carrie*. Her other Broadway credits include *1776*, *Pippin*, *Song And Dance*, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* and *Carrie*. She starred in the London production of *Promises, Promises*. Off Broadway she has starred in *White's Lies*, *Juno's Swans* and *Edwin Drood* for the NYSF. Regional credits include *Gypsy*, *Threepenny Opera*, *Camino Real* and *Buffalo Gal*. Her film credits include M. Night Shyamalan's *The Happening*, Brian de Palma's *Carrie*, Bruce Beresford's *Tender Mercies*, Roman Polanski's *Frantic*, Woody Allen's *Another Woman* and Lawrence Kasden's *Wyatt Earp*. Her TV credits include the mini-series *The Pacific* and the series *OZ* for HBO. She starred for four seasons as Abby on *Eight is Enough* and has made guest appearances on *Law & Order: SVU* and *Without A Trace*. She also starred in the miniseries *Evergreen* and *Roses for the Rich* and various films for television. She has received two Emmy nominations. Ms. Buckley has recorded 13 CD's, most recently *Bootleg: Boardmixes From The Road* and the forthcoming *Ghostlight* produced by T Bone Burnett. She has received two Grammy nominations and tours extensively in concert with her ensemble of musicians. For over thirty-nine years Ms. Buckley has been a teacher of scene study and song interpretation in various universities and arts conservatories and currently gives Master Classes in Fort Worth, Texas. In 2009, Ms. Buckley was given the Texas Medal of Arts Award for Theater and was inducted into the Texas Film Hall of Fame in 2007, and has been awarded two honorary doctorates from Marymount College and the Boston Conservatory of Music for her contributions to musical theater. Visit www.bettybuckley.com.

TOVAH FELDSHUH (*Abigail Brewster*) For her work on Broadway - from *Yentl*, *Saravá*, *Lend Me a Tenor*, *Golda's Balcony* to *Irena's Vow* - Feldshuh has earned four Tony nominations for Best Actress and won four Drama Desk, four Outer Critics Circle, the Obie, the Theatre World, the BroadwayWorld.com, and the Lucille Lortel Awards for Best Actress. Off-Broadway, she has starred in dozens of plays including *Love, Loss & What I Wore*, *The Vagina Monologues* and solo musicals *Tallulah: Hallelujah!* and *Tovah: Out Of Her Mind!*. Films include: *Kissing Jessica Stein* (Golden Satellite Award), *A Walk on the Moon*, *Lady in the Water*, *Just My Luck*, *Brewster's Millions*, *Love Comes Lately*, *The Idolmaker* and the soon to-be-released *Buddy Gilbert Comes Alive* and *Ten Stories Tall*. For her television work, she received two Emmy nominations: one as Czech freedom fighter Helena in the mini-series *Holocaust*; the second as defense attorney Danielle Melnick on *Law & Order*. Recent appearances include: *Ugly Betty*, *The Good Wife*, and *Crossing Jordan*. Ms. Feldshuh continues to tour the world with her one-woman show, *Tovah: Out Of Her Mind!*, which sold out in London's West End, and culminated in a symphonic concert with Billy Crystal at Los Angeles' Royce Hall. The Boston Globe selected *Tovah: Out Of Her Mind!* as the best one-person show of the year. Ms. Feldshuh's latest concert entitled *Mining Golda: My Journey to Golda Meir* also played the West End, Manchester, Leeds, Johannesburg and Sydney. In the past year, Ms. Feldshuh received an honorary doctorate from Yeshiva University, the Silver Bistro Award, and was honored by Town Hall, the Friar's Club, Carnegie Hall, and the Holocaust and Human Rights Education Center for her work in the development, enrichment, and support of the Jewish community through the arts. She is the recipient of the Israel Peace Medal and the Eleanor Roosevelt Humanitas Award. She is the proud wife of New York attorney Andrew Harris Levy. They have two children: Garson Brandon and Amanda Claire. Visit www.tovahfeldshuh.com.

J. BRENT ALFORD (*Teddy Brewster*) DTC: *A Christmas Carol*. Alford received rave reviews for his performance as Henry Higgins in Lyric Stage's acclaimed production of *My Fair Lady*. His work has been seen in the DFW area at Theatre Three, WaterTower Theatre, Stage West, Trinity Shakespeare Festival, Shakespeare in the Park (Fort Worth), and Casa Mañana. A former company member of Houston's Tony Award-winning Alley Theatre, Brent has also performed Off-Broadway and at regional theaters across the country, and has received numerous awards including citations from the DFW Critics Forum, Houston Critics Circle and FW Weekly.

JAMES CRAWFORD

(*Officer O'Hara*) has appeared in many productions at DTC, including: *Pride & Prejudice*; *Joe Egg*; *The Importance of Being Earnest*; *The Real Thing*; *Our Town*; *Twelfth Night*; *The Night of the Iguana*; *Inexpressible Island* and *A Christmas Carol*. Other favorite roles: *Much Ado About Nothing*; *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*; *Sick*; *Shadowlands*; *Picnic*; *A Streetcar Named Desire*; *Stones in His Pockets*; *Cloud Nine*; *Betrayal* and *Angels in America*. In 2007 James was named Best Actor by the *Dallas Observer*, *Dallas Voice* and *D Magazine*. James teaches acting at SMU.

JASON DOUGLAS (*Jonathan Brewster*) recently relocated from Houston, and is delighted to be making his DTC debut. Mr. Douglas appeared regularly on Houston stages, including the Alley Theatre, Stages Repertory, and Houston Shakespeare Festival. Notable roles include the title role in *Macbeth*, Salvador Dali in *Lobster Alice*, Benedick in *Much Ado About Nothing*, and a Garland award nominated performance in *The Turn of the Screw*. TV highlights: *Chase*; *The Good Guys*; *Friday Night Lights*. Film highlights: *Sin City*; *A Scanner Darkly*; *No Country for Old Men*. Education: University of Houston School of Theatre.

NEHAL JOSHI (*Dr. Einstein*) DTC: *The Who's Tommy*. Broadway: *Les Miserables* (Enjolras u/s, 2006 revival cast), *The Threepenny Opera* (Roundabout Theatre Company). Off-Broadway: *Falling For Eve* (York. Regional credits include: *Working World* Premiere-2008 revised version/Asolo Repertory Theatre); *Mister Roberts* (John F. Kennedy Center); *Señor Discretion himself* (World Premiere/Arena Stage); *Recent Tragic Events* (World Premiere/Woolly Mammoth); *Mother Teresa is Dead* (City Theatre Company); The 25th & 26th annual Humana Festival of New American Plays (Actors Theatre of Louisville). Film/TV credits include: HBO's *The Wire*; *Blackout* (2007 Tribeca Film Festival).

CHRIS McCREARY (*Officer Brophy*) is ecstatic to make his professional acting debut at DTC in one of his favorite plays. Chris is a graduating theatre Studies major at SMU. His SMU credits include acting in *Betrayed* directed by Stan Wojewodski, as well as directing *In Arabia, We'd All Be Kings*. All my thanks to family and friends. SEAN O'CONNOR (*Officer Klein*) is a senior theatre major this year at Southern Methodist University. He is very excited to be returning to the DTC stage after appearing in *Henry IV* last fall. He has been involved with several productions at SMU, including *Intimate Apparel* (Mr. Marks) and *Closer* (Larry).

STEVE POWELL (*Mr. Gibbs/Mr. Witherspoon*) is delighted to be making his DTC debut. He has appeared in productions at Casa Mañana, WaterTower Theatre, Plano Repertory, Texas Star Theatre, Circle Theater, Dallas Children's Theater, Stage West, Lyric Stage, Windmill Dinner Theatre, and the Dallas and Utah Shakespearian festivals. Steve has appeared in numerous commercials and films. He has also been a guest artist for the Plano and Irving Symphony Orchestras. Steve is a native of McKinney, Texas and a graduate of Baylor University.

DIANA SHEEHAN (*Understudy for Ms. Buckley and Ms. Feldshuh*) Off-Broadway and National Tour: *Forbidden Broadway*. Regional: *Grey Gardens* (2009 Critics Forum and Column Awards, Best Leading Actress in a Musical), *Black Pearl Sings* (with Liz Mikel), WaterTower Theatre; *The Sound of Music*, Casa Mañana; *As Thousands Cheer*, Lyric Stage (2008 Critics Forum Award). Other regional credits include; San Francisco Shakespeare Festival; American Stage; North Shore Music Theatre; Merrimack Repertory Theatre. Diana is a graduate of Smith College, B.A.D.A. and a proud member of Actors' Equity Association.

ABBEY SIEGWORTH (*Elaine Harper*) is a member of the Brierley Resident Acting Company. DTC: *A Christmas Carol*; *Henry IV*; *The Beauty Plays*; *Midsummer Night's Dream* and *In the Beginning*. She has worked regionally with Northlight Theatre in Chicago, IL; Next Act Theatre, Bialystock & Bloom, and Milwaukee Shakespeare in Milwaukee, WI; and Montana Shakespeare in the Parks in Bozeman, MT. Education: BFA University of Illinois; MFA Southern Methodist University.

PAUL TAYLOR (*Lt. Rooney/Reverend Doctor Harper*) is delighted to be returning to DTC after making his debut in last season's *It's a Bird... It's a Plane... It's Superman*. Favorite career highlights: *The Last Empress* (Lincoln Center); *Shear Madness* (Kennedy Center); Frank N. Furter in *The Rocky Horror Show* (Contemporary Theatre); Ned in *The Normal Heart* (Uptown Players, DFW Critics Forum Award); Lockstock in *Urinetown* (WaterTower Theatre, Leon Rabin Award); and Sparky in Casa Mañana's *Forever Plaid*. Film/TV: *Sin City*; *Soul Men*; *Wonderful World; W; Super* (2011); *Prison Break*; *Friday Night Lights*.

LEE TRULL (*Mortimer Brewster*) is a member of the Diane and Hal Brierley Resident Acting Company and an Associate Artist at DTC where his credits include: *The Beauty Plays*; *A Midsummer Night's Dream*; *In the Beginning*; *A Christmas Carol*; *365 Days/365 Plays*; *Psychos Never Dream*; and *Des Moines*. Work at other theaters includes: Classical Acting Company; Theatre Three; Water Tower Theatre; Stage West; Dallas Children's Theater; and Shakespeare Dallas. As a playwright: *Huck Finn*; *Gift of the Magi* (CAC); *Puppet Boy* (Stage West). Mr. Trull is a member of the Artistic Company at Kitchen Dog Theater, an artistic consultant for Second Thought Theater, and he serves on the National New Play Network's (NNPN) Ambassador's Council.

ARTISTIC AND PRODUCTION:

SCOTT SCHWARTZ (Director) Broadway: *Golda's Balcony* starring Tovah Feldshuh, Jane Eyre (co-directed with John Caird). Off-Broadway: *Bat Boy: The Musical*; *tick, tick... Boom!*; *Rooms a rock romance*; *The Foreigner* starring Matthew Broderick; Franz Kafka's *The Castle*; *Miss Julie*; *No Way To Treat a Lady*; *Golda's Balcony* also in London, on tour, in Los Angeles at the Wadsworth Theater, and in San Francisco at A.C.T. Regional theaters include: Alley; Alliance; Arizona Theatre Company; Asolo Rep; Berkshire Theater Festival; Colorado Shakespeare Festival; Denver Center; La Jolla Playhouse; Old Globe; Prince Theater; Rubicon; Signature Theater; Studio Arena; Theatre Works; Virginia Stage Company. Upcoming: Séance On a Wet Afternoon at New York City Opera. Associate Artist at the Alley and a graduate of Harvard University.

ANNA LOUIZOS (*Scenic Designer*) For DTC Anna designed *Sarah, Plain and Tall* in 2009. Broadway credits: *In the Heights*; *High Fidelity* (both earning Tony Award nominations); *Avenue Q*; *Curtains*; Irving Berlin's *White Christmas*; *Steel Magnolias*; *Golda's Balcony*; *All About Me*; *To Be Or Not To Be*. Off-Broadway: *Vanities, the Musical*; *In Transit: Crimes of the Heart*; *The Foreigner*; *Altar Boyz*; Jonathan Larson's *tick, tick... BOOM!*. Regional: *The Underpants*; *Disney Live Winnie the Pooh*; *Minsky's*; *Baby It's You*; *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*; *The Baker's Wife*; *Emmet Otter's Jug-Band Christmas*; *Me and My Girl*. Art Direction film/TV: *Sex and the City* (HBO).

WILLIAM IVEY LONG (Costume Designer) Currently running: *Chicago*, now in its 15th year on Broadway, and North American tours of *Young Frankenstein* and *9 to 5*. Broadway: *9 to 5*; *Pal Joey*; *Young Frankenstein*; *Grey Gardens*; *The Boy From Oz*; *Hairspray*; *The Producers*; *The Music Man*; *Swing*; *Contact*; *Cabaret*; *Steel Pier*; *Smokey Joe's Café*; *A Christmas*

Carol; Guys and Dolls; Crazy For You; Six Degrees of Separation; Assassins; Nine. Other credits include the recent North American Tour of *Dreamgirls*, Siegfried and Roy at the Mirage Hotel and the upcoming Broadway production of *Catch Me If You Can*. Mr. Long is a five-time Tony Award winner who was inducted into the Theatre Hall of Fame in 2005.

JEFF CROITER (*Lighting Designer*) DTC: *Henry IV; It's a Bird... It's a Plane... It's Superman.* Broadway: *The Pee-Wee Herman Show; Next Fall; Kiki and Herb Alive;* concerts and The New Amsterdam including: *Chess; Hair;* and *On the 20th Century.* Other NYC credits include: *Love, Loss, and What I Wore; A Lie of the Mind; Ordinary Days; Streamers; Almost, Maine; Family Guy Sings!; Jerry Springer The Opera;* Rufus Wainwright's Judy Concert at Carnegie Hall; *Love Child; Adrift in Macao; The Voysey Inheritance; The Internationalist; Drumstruck; Jacques Brel; Trumbo; Matt & Ben; Cam Jensen; Miss Witherspoon; Privilege; The Dazzle; Fiction;* and Jennifer Muller *The Works.*

CURTIS CRAIG

(*Sound Designer*) is an active freelance sound designer and composer, as well as the head of the sound design program at Penn State University. In 2009, his composition and sound design work for *Pentecost* was awarded the grand prize at the World Stage Design exposition in Seoul, South Korea. In 2007, he delivered a talk at the Scenofest portion of the Prague Quadrennial entitled "Deconstructing the Vocal Instrument" concerning the acoustics of the human voice. Recently, his work has been seen and heard at the Clarence Brown Theater, WaterTower Theatre, Dallas Theater Center, Arkansas Rep, and Pennsylvania Centre Stage.

MICHAEL HOLLAND (*Composer/Lyricist*) Incidental music: Alley Theatre; Old Globe; Colorado Shakespeare; Playwrights Horizons; Juilliard; NYU Tisch; Rattlestick; Provincetown Rep. Composer/Lyricist: *Hurricane* (NYMF 2009); *Believe in Me... a Bigfoot musical* (fringeNYC 2004); *Live! Under Broadway* (fringeNYC 2007); *Times Square Centennial Celebration* (2006); *Mikey Writes It!* (2002 MAC Award: Best Revue). Performer/musical director of multi-award winning NYC favorite *Gashole!* Since 2001. Recordings: world premiere of "Another Day in the Modern World" on *The Maury Yeston Songbook*; 4 solo CDs. Upcoming: orchestrations/ vocal arrangements for *Godspell* (Broadway 2011); new music/lyrics/orchestrations for *Disney's Nightmare Before Christmas.*

TARA RUBIN CASTING (*Casting*). DTC: *It's a Bird... It's a Plane... It's Superman.* Broadway: *Promises, Promises; A Little Night Music; Billy Elliot; Shrek; Guys and Dolls; Country Girl; Rock N' Roll; Farnsworth Invention; The New Mel Brooks Musical: Young Frankenstein; Little Mermaid; Mary Poppins; My Fair Lady; Pirate Queen; Les Misérables; History Boys; Spamalot; Jersey Boys; The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee; Producers; Mamma Mia!; Phantom; Oklahoma!; Happiness; Frogs; Contact; Thou Shalt Not Yale* Repertory Theatre.

JEFF GIFFORD (*Production Manager*) is in his third season with DTC. Jeff and family moved to Dallas from southern California where he worked for eleven years at South Coast Repertory. While at SCR he helped guide more than twenty-five world premiere plays to their first Opening Night. He holds an MFA from California Institute of the Arts and has been an AEA Stage Manager for more than twenty years.

MELISSA DAROFF (*Production Stage Manager*) DTC: *A Christmas Carol '10 & '08; Henry IV; It's a Bird... It's a Plane..., It's Superman; Death of a Salesman; Give It Up!; A Midsummer Night's Dream; Sarah, Plain and Tall; In the Beginning; The Who's Tommy.* Regional: Huntington Theatre Company; American Repertory Theatre; North Shore Music Theatre; Hangar Theatre; Boston Playwrights' Theatre; The Nora Theatre Company; Stoneham Theatre; 16 productions at Trinity Repertory Company. Melissa is thrilled as always to be working at the Kalita!

KORE Y KENT (*Assistant Stage Manager*) is very excited to be returning to Dallas Theater Center. DTC credits: *A Christmas Carol '10* (Crew), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (PA). Up next, *Cabaret* (ASM). Korey works with various local theaters including Shakespeare Dallas and Kitchen Dog Theater where he serves in a variety of roles ranging from House Manager to Assistant Director to Costume Designer. He holds a BFA in Theater Studies from SMU, where he served as the Production Stage Manager from 2003 to 2005.

ABOUT DALLAS THEATER CENTER:

One of the leading regional theaters in the country, Dallas Theater Center (DTC) performs to an audience of more than 90,000 North Texas residents annually. Founded in 1959, DTC is now a resident company of the AT&T Performing Arts Center and presents its mainstage season at the Dee and Charles Wylie Theatre. DTC also presents productions at its original home, the Kalita Humphreys Theater, the only freestanding theater designed and built by Frank Lloyd Wright. The mission of DTC is to engage, entertain and inspire our diverse community by creating experiences that stimulate new ways of thinking and living. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Kevin Moriarty, DTC is committed to consistently producing plays, educational programs and community initiatives that are of the highest quality and reach the broadest possible constituency.

DTC gratefully acknowledges the support of our season sponsors: American Airlines, The Dallas Morning News, Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs, Lexus, National Endowment for the Arts, TACA, TCA, Texas Instruments and WFAA. DTC also acknowledges the support of associate producing partner Charles Schwabb and assistant producing partner Gardere Wynne Sewell, LLP.