

THE PUBLIC THEATER TO OPEN 2014-15 DOWNTOWN SEASON WITH BRIDGET EVERETT'S *ROCK BOTTOM*

World Premiere By
Bridget Everett, Marc Shaiman, Scott Wittman,
Adam "Ad-Rock" Horovitz, & Matt Ray

Previews Begin Tuesday, September 9 at Joe's Pub

July 8, 2014 – The Public Theater will open its 2014-15 downtown season at Astor Place with the world premiere of **Bridget Everett's** *ROCK BOTTOM* at Joe's Pub. Created by **Bridget Everett, Marc Shaiman, Scott Wittman, Adam "Ad-Rock" Horovitz, and Matt Ray**, *ROCK BOTTOM* was originally commissioned as part of the Joe's Pub 2013 New York Voices series. This shockingly funny and moving new show will begin performances on Tuesday, September 9 and run through Saturday, October 11 at Joe's Pub, with an official press opening on Wednesday, September 17. Before the full theatrical run this fall at The Public, Everett, who has performed regularly at Joe's Pub and recently appeared on Amy Schumer's Comedy Central show and comedy tour, will offer a sneak peak of her new show to Joe's Pub audiences on July 9 and July 10 at 9:30 p.m.

Written by the ferociously talented Bridget Everett with Tony Award-winning songwriting duo Marc Shaiman and Scott Wittman, Adam "Ad-Rock" Horovitz and Matt Ray, *ROCK BOTTOM* is the entertainer's first major production since her 2007 musical *At Least It's Pink*. *ROCK BOTTOM* is the story of what happens when you're too passionate to give up, and too big to fail. In it, Everett barrels through life tip-toeing toward disaster, wine bottle by wine bottle and man by man. However, instead of succumbing to a chardonnay-induced stupor, Everett embraces a series of revelations that lead her and her voice of an angel to redemption. It features new original songs written with Shaiman, Wittman, Ray and Horovitz, as well as familiar favorites heard in Everett's monthly sold-out showcase with her band The Tender Moments at Joe's Pub.

The New York Times describes Everett as ..."a woman with more personality and drive than one body can handle. A pure id on the rampage...." *New York Magazine* hails her live performances as one with "raw power."

Member tickets go on sale on Thursday, July 10. Single tickets to *ROCK BOTTOM*, priced at \$33, go on sale Tuesday, July 29, and can be purchased by calling **(212) 967-7555**, www.publictheater.org, or in person at The Taub Box Office at 425 Lafayette Street. Joe's Pub at The Public serves food nightly but there is no food or drink minimum for *ROCK BOTTOM*.

BRIDGET EVERETT has been called one of the Funniest People in New York by *Time Out*. Her film, theater and television credits include "Inside Amy Schumer," "Two Broke Girls," *Sex And The City*, "Bridget and Neal are F*cking and Adam Is Watching," *At Least It's Pink*, and most recently a guest spot at Carnegie Hall performing with the legendary Patti Lupone. Everett has appeared at Montreal's Just For Laughs Festival, HBO's Aspen United States Comedy Arts Festival, The Adelaide International

Cabaret Festival, The San Francisco Sketchfest, and Bonnaroo. Everett and her band, The Tender Moments, perform regularly to sold-out crowds and have welcomed special guests as varied as Fred Armisen, Patti LuPone, Flea, Dan Finnerty (The Dan Band), Tonya Pinkins, Marc Shaiman, Erin Markey, Peaches, Neal Medlyn and Jake Shears (Scissor Sisters). Their album, POUND IT, is available now on iTunes.

MARC SHAIMAN along with Scott Wittman, was recently honored by The NY Pops at Carnegie Hall. Shaiman is a Tony, Grammy, Emmy winning and Oscar-nominated composer/lyricist, producer, arranger and orchestrator. His Broadway credits include *Hairspray*, *Martin Short: Fame Becomes Me* and *Catch Me If You Can*. His West End credits include *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. Television credits include "Saturday Night Live" ("The Sweeney Sisters"), Johnny Carson's final "Tonight Show" with Bette Midler, multiple Billy Crystal and Neil Patrick Harris Oscar, Emmy and Tony Award numbers and most recently NBC musical drama "Smash." Film credits include *When Harry Met Sally*; *Beaches*; *Misery*; *The Addams Family*; *City Slickers*; *A Few Good Men*; *Sister Act*; *Sleepless in Seattle*; *The First Wives Club*; *Patch Adams*; *South Park: Bigger, Longer & Uncut*; *Hairspray*; *The Bucket List*; and *Parental Guidance*. Recording credits include Bette Midler, Harry Connick Jr. and Mariah Carey. He wrote music & lyrics for Prop 8: The Musical for Funny or Die. His concert and cabaret credits include Christine Ebersole, Patti LuPone, Darlene Love, Jenifer Lewis, Andrea Martin, Barbra Streisand and Luther Vandross.

SCOTT WITTMAN along with Marc Shaiman, was recently honored by the NY Pops at Carnegie Hall. Together, they co-wrote the lyrics for the Olivier Award-winning musical *Hairspray*, for which the pair received Tony and Grammy Awards. He also served as an executive producer on the hit film starring John Travolta. They teamed up again on Broadway for *Martin Short: Fame Becomes Me*, which he also directed; and *Catch Me If You Can*, which received a Tony nomination for Best Musical. For their original songs on NBC's musical drama "Smash," Wittman and Shaiman were nominated for two Emmy Awards, a Grammy and a Golden Globe. On "Smash" they have composed songs for Jennifer Hudson, Uma Thurman, Bernadette Peters, and Liza Minnelli. Their original score for the Marilyn Monroe musical *Bombshell* was released on Sony Records. Wittman co-wrote the lyrics to *Charlie and The Chocolate Factory* directed by Sam Mendes, which recently playing to sold out houses at The Theatre Royal Drury Lane in London's West End. For Patti LuPone, Scott has created and directed two Broadway shows, three recordings and three sold-out Carnegie Hall concerts. At LaMaMa, Wittman conceived and directed *Jukebox Jackie* starring Justin Vivian Bond, Cole Escola, Steel Burkhardt and Bridget Everett.

ADAM "AD-ROCK" HOROVITZ is best known as one third of the Rock-n-Roll Hall of Fame-inducted Beastie Boys. He is also the bass player for Bridget Everett and The Tender Moments.

MATT RAY a pianist and songwriter, performs in New York's best venues nightly either fronting his own band, or accompanying some of the city's most dynamic performers. Recent work includes leading a nine-piece band at Lincoln Center with Taylor Mac, performing at Carnegie Hall with Kat Edmonson, music directing *The Billie Holiday Project* at the Apollo Theater, string and piano arrangements for the fifth season finale of Showtime's "Nurse Jackie," Joey Arias's shows at Joe's Pub, performing in Paris with Mx. Justin Vivian Bond, and monthly gigs with Bridget Everett and the Tender Moments. He has also performed at the Edinburgh Fringe with Lady Rizo and toured with Taylor Mac's *A 20th Century History of Popular Music*. Ray music directed and played piano in Mac's Obie Award-winning play *The Lily's Revenge* at HERE Arts Center. Ray has released two jazz albums: *We Got It!* (2001) and *Lost In New York* (2006); and an album of original pop/folk material called *Songs For the Anonymous* (2013).

ABOUT JOE'S PUB AT THE PUBLIC

Named for Public Theater founder Joe Papp, Joe's Pub at The Public debuted in 1998 and plays a vital role in The Public's mission of supporting young artists while providing established artists with an intimate space to perform and develop new work. In 2013, Joe's Pub celebrated 15 years of the best in live music and performance nightly, continuing its commitment to diversity, production values, community and artistic freedom. It received a top-to-bottom renovation in 2011, leading to improved sightlines, expanded seating capacity and a new menu from acclaimed Chef Andrew Carmellini. With its intimate atmosphere and superior acoustics, Joe's Pub presents talent from all over the world as part of The

Public's programming downtown at its Astor Place home, hosting approximately 800 shows and serving 100,000 audience members annually.

ABOUT THE PUBLIC THEATER AT ASTOR PLACE

Under the leadership of Artistic Director Oskar Eustis and Executive Director Patrick Willingham, The Public Theater is the only theater in New York that produces Shakespeare, the classics, musicals, contemporary and experimental pieces in equal measure. The Public continues the work of its visionary founder, Joe Papp, by acting as an advocate for the theater as an essential cultural force, and leading and framing dialogue on some of the most important issues of our day. Creating theater for one of the largest and most diverse audience bases in New York City for nearly 60 years, today the Company engages audiences in a variety of venues—including its landmark downtown home at Astor Place, which houses five theaters and Joe's Pub; the Delacorte Theater in Central Park, home to its beloved, free Shakespeare in the Park; and the Mobile Unit, which tours Shakespearean productions for underserved audiences throughout New York City's five boroughs. The Public's wide range of programming includes free Shakespeare in the Park, the bedrock of the Company's dedication to making theater accessible to all; Public Works, a new initiative that is designed to cultivate new connections and new models of engagement with artists, audiences and the community each year; new and experimental stagings at The Public at Astor Place, including Public Lab; and a range of artist and audience development initiatives including its Public Forum series, which brings together theater artists and professionals from a variety of disciplines for discussions that shed light on social issues explored in Public productions. The Public Theater is located on property owned by the City of New York and receives annual support from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; and in October 2012 the landmark building downtown at Astor Place was revitalized to physically manifest the Company's core mission of sparking new dialogues and increasing accessibility for artists and audiences, by dramatically opening up the building to the street and community, and transforming the lobby into a public piazza for artists, students, and audiences. Key elements of the revitalization an expanded and refurbished lobby; the addition of a mezzanine level with a new restaurant lounge, The Library, designed by the Rockwell Group. The LuEsther T. Mertz Charitable Trust provides leadership support for The Public Theater's year-round activities. www.publictheater.org

TICKET INFORMATION

Bridget Everett's ROCK BOTTOM begins performances on Tuesday, September 9 at Joe's Pub at The Public and run through Saturday, October 11, with an official press opening on Wednesday, September 17. The performance schedule is Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 9:30 p.m. and Saturdays at 11:30 p.m.

Single tickets, priced at \$33, go on sale Tuesday, July 29 and can be purchased by calling **(212) 967-7555**, by visiting www.publictheater.org, or in person at The Taub Box Office at 425 Lafayette Street. (There is no food or drink minimum for any performance of ***ROCK BOTTOM***.) The Library at The Public is open nightly for food and drinks, beginning at 5:30 p.m.

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