



Old Globe Theatre | Cassius Carter Centre Stage | Lowell Davies Festival Theatre

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Louis G. Spisto, *Executive Director*
Jack O'Brien, *Artistic Director*
Jerry Patch, *Resident Artistic Director*

Craig Noel, *Founding Director*

For Immediate Release: February 26, 2007
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OLD GLOBE PRESENTS ANNIE WEISMAN'S HILARIOUS

HOLD PLEASE MARCH 31 – MAY 6

GLOBE FAVORITE KIRSTEN BRANDT TO HELM SAN DIEGO-BORN PLAYWRIGHT'S DELIGHTFUL NEW PLAY

San Diego – The Tony Award®-winning Old Globe is pleased to present *Hold Please*, by San Diego native **Annie Weisman**, directed by Globe favorite **Kirsten Brandt**, playing in the Cassius Carter Centre Stage **March 31 – May 6, 2007** (press opening: Thursday, April 5).

A hysterically funny portrait of American work life, *Hold Please* chronicles the lives of two generations of corporate secretaries battling their bosses, technology and each other. Award-winning playwright Annie Weisman's hilarious comedy delves into the psyches of women in the work place and finds deep feelings under the side-splitting humor.

The cast of *Hold Please* includes Globe Associate Artist **Kandis Chappell** as "Agatha," **Stephanie Beatriz** as "Erika," **Starla Benford** as "Grace" and **Kate Arrington** as "Jessica."

The production team for *Hold Please* includes Kirsten Brandt, director; Michael Vaughn Sims, scenic design; Mary Larson, costume design; David Lee Cuthbert, lighting design; Paul Peterson, sound design; and Monica Cuoco, stage manager.

A native San Diegan, award-winning playwright Annie Weisman's *Hold Please* premiered at South Coast Rep, and was produced at New York's Working Theatre. Her other works include *Be Aggressive*, which had its premiere at La Jolla Playhouse (LJP); also produced in Dallas, Chicago, Houston, Atlanta, Portland and elsewhere, and the upcoming plays *The Surf Report*, commissioned by South Coast Rep, and *The Essential Alice*, a musical scheduled for 2008 at LJP with composer Michael Friedman and director Des McAnuff. She has received an NEA/TCG Playwrights Grant, a Patte Award for Best New Play, and was a Susan Smith Blackburn Finalist. Ms. Weisman's works have been published by Dramatists Play Service, Vintage's *Under Thirty: Plays for a New Generation*, and Smith and Kraus' *Best New Plays*. Her television credits include "Dead Like Me" (Showtime), "Inconceivable" (NBC), and the upcoming "Heartland" (TNT). A graduate of Williams College, she is a member of the Dramatists' Guild and the Writer's Guild.

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Kirsten Brandt recently directed the Globe's acclaimed productions of *Christmas on Mars*, *Lobby Hero* and *The Intelligent Design of Jenny Chow*. She has won countless awards for her work in San Diego, including the 2004 San Diego Critics Circle Award for outstanding direction (*Jenny Chow*) and the 2003 Award for Creative Achievement. Her Sledgehammer Theatre production of *Dream Play* also won a 2004 KPBS Patte Award for Outstanding Production. She served as Artistic Director of Sledgehammer from 1999 to 2004 and recently directed its world-premiere production of *Nu*, which she conceived and directed with Jessa Watson, and La Jolla Playhouse's production of *The Burning Deck*, starring Diane Venora. Brandt studied playwriting at the University of Birmingham, England (with David Edgar and Clair McIntyre) and graduated with a B.A. in directing from UCSD. She is one of the founders of DURGA, the women's performance festival of San Diego and serves on the advisory board for the Coronado School of the Arts. She has also been a guest artist at the Lincoln Center Director's Lab West. Brandt has produced over 15 theatrical events for Sledgehammer and created its first ever education program, STEP, promoting literacy through drama in San Diego schools. She has also trained with the SITI Company in Los Angeles and completed the National Arts Marketing Project Advanced Audience Development Training & Granting Program.

Tickets for *Hold Please* are available by calling (619) 23-GLOBE, on the Globe website at www.TheOldGlobe.org, or by visiting the Globe Box Office at 1363 Old Globe Way in Balboa Park. Ticket prices range from \$39 to \$58.

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The internationally-acclaimed, Tony Award® -winning Old Globe is one of the most renowned regional theatres in the country and has stood as San Diego's flagship arts institution for 71 years. The Old Globe produces a year-round season of 15 plays and musicals on its three stages, including its highly-regarded Shakespeare festival. The Globe has become a gathering place for leading theatre artists from around the world, such as Tom Stoppard, Daniel Sullivan and Chita Rivera, among many others. Numerous Broadway-bound premieres and revivals, such as Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, The Full Monty and Damn Yankees, have been developed at The Old Globe and have gone on to enjoy highly successful runs in New York and at regional theatres across the country.

Highlights of the Globe's 2006/7 Season include the acclaimed production of Hershey Felder as George Gershwin Alone, the west coast premiere of Ace, as well as Amy Freed's Restoration Comedy, the co-world premiere of Pig Farm, August Wilson's Two Trains Running and Edward Albee's Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf. Under the leadership of Executive Director Louis G. Spisto, Artistic Director Jack O'Brien and Resident Artistic Director Jerry Patch, the Globe is at the forefront of the nation's leading performing arts organizations, setting a standard for excellence in American theatre

THE OLD GLOBE
HOLD PLEASE
FACT SHEET

WHAT: *Hold Please*
By Annie Weisman
Directed by Kirsten Brandt

WHEN: **March 31 – May 6; *Press Opening: Thursday, April 5 at 8pm***
Performances: Sun/Tue/Wed at 7pm; Thu/Fri/Sat at 8pm; Matinees: Sat/Sun at 2pm

WHERE: Cassius Carter Centre Stage, Balboa Park

WHO: Playwright *Annie Weisman*
Director *Kirsten Brandt*
Scenic Designer *Michael Vaughn Sims*
Costume Designer *Mary Larson*
Lighting Designer *David Lee Cuthbert*
Sound Designer *Paul Peterson*
Stage Manager *Tracy Skoczelas*

Cast: Kate Arrington *Jessica*
Stephanie Beatriz *Erika*
Starla Benford *Grace*
Kandis Chappell *Agatha*

BACKGROUND:

A hysterically funny portrait of American work life, *Hold Please* chronicles the lives of two generations of corporate secretaries battling their bosses, technology and each other. Award-winning playwright Annie Weisman's hilarious comedy delves into the psyches of women in the work place and finds deep feelings under the side-splitting humor.

TICKETS: \$39-\$58

BOX OFFICE: (619) 23-GLOBE

Hours: Mondays: noon to 6pm; Tuesday thru Saturdays: noon to 8:30pm;
Sundays: noon to 7:30pm.

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