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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 12, 2019

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TRINITY REP PRESENTS DELIGHTFULLY- DEMENTED *LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS*

Award-winning musical runs April 11 – May 12

PROVIDENCE, RI: Trinity Rep will continue its 2018-19 Season with the perennially-popular *Little Shop of Horrors* – an award-winning musical that blends doo-wop, rock, and Motown in a totally twisted production about what lengths we are willing to go to when we are down on our luck. Directed by **Tyler Dobrowsky**, who was most recently at the helm of last spring's *Into the Breeches!*, and the highly lauded *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, this production sets the Skid Row flower shop in the middle of downtown Providence in the 1960s. Featuring resident acting company members **Jude Sandy** as Seymour and **Rebecca Gibel** as Audrey, *Little Shop of Horrors* runs **April 11 – May 12** with press opening on **Monday, April 15 at 7:30 pm**. Tickets start at \$25. More information can be found at www.trinityrep.com/littleshop

ABOUT THE SHOW

A strange and unusual plant seems like just the thing to save a beleaguered Skid Row flower shop and its hapless employees, Seymour and Audrey. But when that plant turns out to feed only on blood and is inclined toward world-domination, well... things get a little messy.

Director **Tyler Dobrowsky** says of the show, and setting it in Providence, "*Little Shop of Horrors* is one of my favorite American musicals ever written -- the story is funny, charming and fantastic, and the music is completely irresistible. While the show is generally set in an urban "Skid Row" that resembles New York, I'm going to place this production here in Providence, RI. One, because I think Rhode Islanders like to see themselves on stage, and two, Rhode Island has a hard-scrabble, blue collar,



optimistic underdog identity that matches the setting of *Little Shop* and its two main protagonists, Seymour and Audrey. (Rhode Island's state motto is "Hope" after all.) I fully intend to honor the tone and style of this fun, funky classic, while hopefully adding a few small "Trinity Rep" surprises that will make our production unique."

CAST AND CREATIVE TEAM

Director Dobrowsky has been a member of the education, literary, and artistic teams since 2003. He founded YASI (Young Actors Summer Institute), Trinity Rep's summer program for children, as well as Teatro en El Verano Trinity Rep's touring bilingual summer theater project, produced in partnership with Rhode Island Latino Arts. Directing credits at Trinity Rep include: *Into the Breeches!* a world premiere by George Brant; *A Midsummer Night's Dream*; *Julius Caesar*; *A Flea in Her Ear*; *It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*; *Love Alone* (a world premiere with the playwright Deborah Salem Smith), and *A Christmas Carol*. Directing credits at the Gamm: *The Big Meal*, *Morality Play*, *The Rant*, *American Buffalo* and *Incognito*.

Dobrowsky will be working alongside **Sara Brown** (set design), **Andrew Jean** (costume design), **Dan Scully** (lighting design), and **Peter Sasha Hurowitz** (sound design) with **Esther Zabisnski** (Musical Direction) and **yon Tande** (choreographer).

The cast of this production features resident company members **Jude Sandy** as the down-and-out Seymour, **Rebecca Gibel** as Audrey, **Stephen Berenson** as Mushnik, **Timothy Crowe** as ensemble, **Janice Duclos** as ensemble, **Stephen Thorne** as the dentist, and **Rachael Warren** as the voice of the plant. Brown/Trinity Rep MFA student Olivia Miller'19 will play in the ensemble and guest artists **Carla Martinez**, **Elexis Morton**, **Kedren Spencer** will join the cast as the "urchins", Chiffon, Crystal, and Ronette with guest artist **Taavon Gamble** as Skip Snip. **Ted Chylack** will be the plant puppeteer.

THE MUSICAL AND ITS CREATORS

Based on a 1960 film titled, *The Little Shop of Horrors*, the musical *Little Shop of Horrors* debuted off-off-Broadway in 1982, and quickly moved to an off-Broadway production that ran for five years. It was the highest-grossing production in off-Broadway history when it closed its initial run in 1987. The stage version inspired the 1986 movie musical starring Rick Moranis, Ellen Greene, and Steve Martin.

The musical is written by Howard Ashman (book and lyrics) and Alan Menken (music), whose other works includes *Aladdin*, *The Little Mermaid* and *Beauty and the Beast*.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS AND SPECIAL EVENTS FOR *LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS*

Continuing Trinity Rep's tradition of offering affordable tickets for all, the theater will have discounted previews of *Little Shop of Horrors*. Thursday, April 11 is a **Pay What You Can** performance. Pay What You Can tickets go on sale at 6:30 pm that evening, and are limited to one per person.

Other special performances for *Little Shop of Horrors* include an **Open Captioned** performance for the show on Sunday, April 14 at 2:00 pm and Wednesday, May 1 at 2:00 and 7:30 pm. The **Next Generation Night** will be held on Thursday, April 18 and includes a pre-show reception for the next generation of theater-goers. The **Teens Talk** performance will be held on Friday, April 19, which features Trinity Rep's Teen Ambassadors discussing their perspective on the show following the 7:30 performance.

A **Context & Conversation** panel discussion will be held on Tuesday, April 23 at 6:30 pm at The Herbarium at 34 Olive Street in Providence. At this free event, panelists from the community will discuss a topic surrounding the show. Christina Bevilacqua, Trinity Rep's conversationalist-in-residence will moderate the discussion.



The production is supported by **Washington Trust**. The media sponsor is **Rhode Island Monthly**. The 2018-19 Season Sponsors are **Ocean State Job Lot and Rhode Island Council on the Arts**. **Southwest Airlines** is the official airline of Trinity Rep.

TRINITY REPERTORY COMPANY

Rhode Island's Tony Award-winning theater, Trinity Rep has created unparalleled professional theater for and with its community since its founding in 1963. Trinity Rep strives to facilitate human connection and has been a driving force behind the creativity that fuels and defines the region for more than 50 years.

Trinity Rep is committed to reinventing the public square and inspiring dialogue by creating emotionally-stimulating live productions that range from classical to contemporary and innovative education programs for all ages and abilities. Its annual production of *A Christmas Carol* has brought families together for more than four decades and made memories for over a million audience members. It will return again in 2019 for its 42nd year.

The 2018-19 Season included *Pride & Prejudice* by Kate Hamill, *black odyssey* by Marcus Gardley, a special limited-engagement of *An Iliad* by Lisa Peterson and Denis O'Hare, *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare, *The Song of Summer* by Lauren Yee, *Little Shop of Horrors* with book and lyrics by Howard Ashman and music by Alan Menken, and will conclude with José Rivera's *Marisol* in May and June.

The recently-announced 2019-20 Season features the world-premiere of *The Prince of Providence* by George Brant, based on the book *The Prince of Providence* by Mike Stanton, *Fade* by Tanya Saracho, August Wilson's *Radio Golf*, *A Tale of Two Cities* by Brian McEleney, based on the novel by Charles Dickens, *Sweat* by Lynn Nottage, and *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* with music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim and book by Hugh Wheeler.

For more information, call the box office at (401) 351-4242 or visit www.TrinityRep.com.

AT A GLANCE

Little Shop of Horrors

Book and Lyrics by Howard Ashman; Music by Alan Menken

April 11 – May 12, 2019

Director	Tyler Dobrowsky
Set Designer	Sara Brown
Costume Designer	Andrew Jean
Lighting Designer	Dan Scully
Sound Designer	Peter Sasha Hurowitz
Production Stage Manager	Kristen Gibbs
Musical Direction	Esther Zabinski
Choreographer	yon Tande

Cast Featuring resident company members **Jude Sandy** as Seymour, **Rebecca Gibel** as Audrey, **Timothy Crowe** as ensemble, **Janice Duclos** as ensemble, **Stephen Thorne** as the dentist, and **Rachael Warren** as the voice of the plant. Brown/Trinity Rep MFA student **Olivia Miller '19** will play in the ensemble and guest artists **Carla Martinez**, **Elexis Morton**, **Kedren Spencer** will join the cast as the “urchins,” Chiffon, Crystal, and Ronette with guest artist **Taavon Gamble** as Skip Snip. **Ted Chylack** will be the plant puppeteer.

***Little Shop of Horrors* Opening Press Night | Monday, April 15, 2019**

RSVP to rsvp@trinityrep.com

Pay What You Can	Thurs., April 11 at 7:30 pm
Open Caption Performances	Sun., April 14 at 2:00 pm
	Weds., May 1 at 2:00 and 7:30 pm
Next Generation Night	Thurs., April 18 at 6:00 pm
Teens Talk	Fri., April 19 after the show
Context & Conversation	Tues., April 23 at 6:30 pm
Website	www.trinityrep.com/littleshop
Box Office	(401) 351-4242 ; 201 Washington Street Providence, RI 02903 (401) 453-9238; for groups of 10 or more.
Group Sales	Starting at \$25
Ticket Prices	Ocean State Job Lot and RISCA
Season Supporting Sponsors	Washington Trust
Production Sponsor	<i>Rhode Island Monthly</i>
Media Sponsor	

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