



Synetic Theater

DC's Premier Physical Theater

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Paata and Irina Tsikurishvili to Reunite in *The Master and Margarita* as Synetic Theater Announces its 2010-2011 Main Stage Season!

Arlington, VA – Synetic Theater is pleased to announce its tenth anniversary Main Stage season! The 2010-2011 season lineup includes Paata Tsikurishvili's return to the stage opposite his wife Irina in a restaging of *The Master and Margarita*, two new wordless adaptations (*King Arthur* and *King Lear*) starring Synetic veterans Ben Cunis and Irakli Kavsadze, and Dan Istrate as the legendary *Don Quixote*. Also, in a special touring engagement sponsored by A. Fenner Milton and presented by Williams College, Synetic will bring the award-winning ensemble of its 2009 production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* to the Williams College '62 Center for Theater and Dance.

Synetic's inaugural season in Crystal City will kickoff at the end of September 2010 with a new, wordless epic – *King Arthur*. Drawing from a rich pool of centuries-old myths and legends and starring Ben Cunis (most recently seen as Antony in *Antony and Cleopatra*) in the title role, *King Arthur* will weave together mystery, magic, heroes, and romance in a new adaptation that will see the legend reborn in Synetic's signature mixture of movement, music, combat and drama.

Opening in November, *The Master and Margarita* will reunite Paata and Irina Tsikurishvili in an adaptation of Mikhail Bulgakov's novel about the devil's visit to the Soviet Union – a powerful tale about the juxtaposition of good and evil, sacrificing for love, and artistic struggles in a repressive society. *The Master and Margarita* will be performed at the Lansburgh Theatre in a continued special alliance with The Shakespeare Theatre Company, the first of two shows to be staged at the Lansburgh by Synetic this upcoming season.

In its second production at the Lansburgh Theatre, Synetic will present the seventh play in its "Silent Shakespeare" series, an adaptation of one of the greatest tragedies of all time – *King Lear*. Helen Hayes Award-winning actor, Irakli Kavsadze, plays the title role of the aging king whose test of his daughters' love proves to undo the fabric of his kingdom. The bloody conflict that ensues is interwoven with a tale of loyalty, love, hate, and redemption.

Closing the season at Crystal City in the summer of 2011 is *Don Quixote*, starring *Dracula's* Dan Istrate, who will bring the wonder of Quixote's dreaming mind to life. From his love of the heedless Dulcinea to his journey across the Spanish countryside, Quixote is a simultaneously inspiring and ridiculous character.

Tying the season together is the award-winning artistic team of Paata Tsikurishvili, Irina Tsikurishvili, Anastasia R. Simes, and Konstantine Lortkipanidze. Collectively, the team has earned 57 Helen Hayes Nominations and 17 Awards. Mrs. Simes' nominated work includes *Macbeth*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Dante*, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Most recently, her designs were on display in *Othello* and *Antony and Cleopatra*. Acclaimed lighting designers, Colin K. Bills and Andrew F. Griffin, will also return for the 2010-11 season.

"Anastasia, Konstantine, Colin, and Andrew are keys to our success artistically. Anastasia's elegant and timeless designs, Konstantine's epic scores, and Colin and Andrew's imaginative effects underpin the artistic vision and create the landscape for our shows. I am honored to be able to work with them on our tenth anniversary season." – Paata Tsikurishvili, Founding Artistic Director and CEO.



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2010-2011 Main Stage Season

King Arthur

September 30 – October 31, 2010
Location: Crystal City, Arlington, VA
Directed by Paata Tsikurishvili
Choreographed by Irina Tsikurishvili
Set and Costumes by Anastasia R. Simes
Original Music by Konstantine Lortkipanidze
Starring Ben Cunis

The Master and Margarita

November 11 – December 12, 2010
Location: Lansburgh Theatre, DC
Directed by Paata Tsikurishvili
Choreographed by Irina Tsikurishvili
Set and Costumes by Anastasia R. Simes
Original Music by Konstantine Lortkipanidze
Starring Paata and Irina Tsikurishvili
"Practically every scene with Margarita and the Master is a treasure, so sure are the Tsikurishvilis of their craft, so exquisitely chosen and calibrated are their movements. When they finally come together, you are greatly moved..." – The Washington Times

King Lear

March 24 – April 24, 2011
Location: Lansburgh Theatre, DC
Directed by Paata Tsikurishvili
Choreographed by Irina Tsikurishvili
Set and Costumes by Anastasia R. Simes
Original Music by Konstantine Lortkipanidze
Starring Irakli Kavsadze

Don Quixote

June 2 – July 3, 2011
Location: Crystal City, Arlington, VA
Directed by Paata Tsikurishvili
Choreographed by Irina Tsikurishvili
Set and Costumes by Anastasia R. Simes
Original Music by Konstantine Lortkipanidze
Starring Dan Istrate

Note: All show titles, dates, cast, and crew are subject to change.

2010-2011 Touring / Special Engagements

A Midsummer Night's Dream

January 20 – 21, 2011
Location: Williams College, MA
Directed by Paata Tsikurishvili
Choreographed by Irina Tsikurishvili
Set and Costumes by Anastasia R. Simes
Original Music by Konstantine Lortkipanidze
Lighting Design by Andrew F. Griffin

ABOUT SYNETIC

Synetic Theater is Washington DC's premier physical theater company. Founded in 2001 by the husband and wife team of Paata and Irina Tsikurishvili, Synetic seeks to advance and enrich the theater arts in the Nation's Capital through its unique performance style, which fuses the classical elements of drama, movement, dance, mime, and music into a distinct form of non-realistic theater. This form is simultaneously avant-garde and accessible, with a broad appeal to a wide, culturally diverse, and cross-generational audience.