

29 September 2009

PRESS RELEASE

  
Canolfan y Celfyddydau  
Aberystwyth Arts Centre

**Clwyd Theatr Company presents**

***The Glass Menagerie***

**By Tennessee Williams**

**Directed by Kate Wasserberg**

**7.30pm 27- 28 October 2009**

**Look over your left shoulder, Laura,  
and make a wish!  
What shall I wish for, Mother?  
Happiness! Good fortune!**

Clwyd Theatr Cymru present *The Glass Menagerie* at Aberystwyth Arts Centre from Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> October, 7.30pm

*The Glass Menagerie* is Tennessee Williams' first great play, launching his career as one of the most illustrious writers of the American stage.

Amanda Wingfield is a genteel Southern housewife, deserted by her husband, struggling to raise her two children and haunted by memories of the past when she was a desirable young woman who entertained seventeen gentleman callers in a single afternoon. Now, fearing for the future, Amanda is infuriated by the attitude of her son Tom – a dreamer who feels trapped by his job in a factory - and frustrated by daughter Laura's crippling shyness.

In the squalor and poverty of their St Louis tenement the Wingfields dream of a different life... Tom scribbles poems in secret and ruthlessly plans his escape. And Laura finds consolation in her glass menagerie – a collection of fragile model animals. All hopes are fixed on finding a gentleman caller for Laura but when Tom invites Jim, a friend from the factory, home for dinner dreams and reality collide with disastrous consequences.

*The Glass Menagerie* is the most conspicuously biographical of all Williams' dramas. The claustrophobia of the apartment, so realistically represented on the stage, mirrors the St Louis home where Williams and his sister Rose had their own collection of glass animals. Years later he described their significance: "Those little glass animals... came to represent in my memory all the softest emotions that belong to recollections of things past."

*The Glass Menagerie* is directed by Kate Wasserberg following her debut Clwyd Theatr Cymru production *A History of Falling Things* by James Graham last season.

Wryly comic and deeply moving, *The Glass Menagerie* is both a heartbreaking family drama and a poetic examination of the pain of rejection.



Tickets for this performance are £12 (£11) CC £11 (£10) and can be booked by contacting the Arts Centre ticket office on 01970 62 32 32 or online at [www.aber.ac.uk/artscentre](http://www.aber.ac.uk/artscentre)

-ENDS-

Production Photography: Catherine Ashmore

Press pictures:

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Clwyd Theatr Cymru presents  
THE GLASS MENAGERIE  
by Tennessee Williams

Director Kate Wasserberg  
Designer Mark Bailey

(standing) Teresa Banham....Amanda  
Lisa Diveney....Laura

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(R-L)

Hywel John....Tom  
Teresa Banham....Amanda

Production Photography: Catherine Ashmore

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Hywel John....Tom  
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Jim....Sam Massey  
Lisa Diveney....Laura

Notes to editors:

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