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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**GEVA THEATRE CENTER'S 2018-2019 FIELDING
STUDIO SERIES CONTINUES WITH
*THE MAGICIAN'S DAUGHTER***

Geva's second world premiere of the season follows on the heels of the world premiere of *Hard Cell* by Brent Askari, also premiering in January.

Rochester, N.Y., January 7, 2019 – Geva Theatre Center's 2018-2019 Fielding Studio Series continues with the world premiere of *The Magician's Daughter*, written by **Lila Rose Kaplan** and directed by **Shelley Butler**. This production marks the second world premiere of the season, following hot on the heels of the world premiere of Brent Askari's *Hard Cell* – also premiering in January. *The Magician's Daughter* begins performances on **January 24** and runs in the Fielding Stage through **February 10**.

The Magician Prospero and his daughter Miranda dazzle their audiences until the day Miranda quits. This funny bittersweet play dives deep into the ups and downs of a father-daughter relationship. Viewer discretion advised if you have a father or a daughter (or know anyone who does).

Lila Rose Kaplan's plays shine light on the stories we don't tell about women. Her heroines live in heartfelt zany comedies, bittersweet comic dramas, and imaginative musicals for young audiences. Her plays include *The Villains' Supper Club*, *Jesus Girls*, *Home of the Brave*, *1 2 3 - a play about abandonment and ballroom dancing*, *We All Fall Down*, *Wildflower*, *Bureau of Missing Persons*, and *Biography of a Constellation*. Her musicals for young audiences include *The Light Princess*, *The Pirate Princess*, and *The Magic Fish*. Productions include A.R.T., South Coast Rep, Merrimack Repertory Theatre, New Victory Theatre, Second Stage, San Francisco Playhouse, Neighborhood Productions, Know Theatre, and Perishable Theatre. She has developed plays at Huntington Theatre, Trinity Rep, Arena Stage, Kennedy Center, Ensemble Studio Theatre, Center Theatre Group, Theatrworks, PlayPenn, and The Lark. Awards include National Science Award in Playwriting and The International Women's Playwriting Award. Fellowships include Huntington Playwriting Fellowship, Playwrights' Realm Writing Fellow, New Rep Next Voices, Old Vic/New Voices Exchange, and the Shank Fellowship. Residencies include The Orchard Project, Space on Ryder Farm, Labworks at the New Victory Theatre, Writers Retreat at Theatrworks, Harvard Business School Playwright-in-Residence, and the Kavli Institute for Theoretical Physics Playwriting-in-Residence. She received her B.A. with Honors in Playwriting from Brown University and her M.F.A. in Playwriting from UC San Diego.

The cast of *The Magician's Daughter* make their Geva Theatre Center debuts in this world premiere. **Brittany Bellizeare's** (Miranda) New York credits include *In the Blue Hour*, an interactive play at La Maison d'Art Gallery in Harlem; and Beneatha in *A Raisin in the Sun* for the Gallery Players. Regional credits include Tonya in *King*

Hedley II for Two River Theater; Edith in *three girls never learnt the way home* for the JAW Festival at Portland Center Stage; Shanita in *Skeleton Crew* at Baltimore CenterStage; Pecola in *The Bluest Eye* at the Guthrie Theatre; Nina in *Sunset Baby* at TheaterWorks Hartford; Rose in *The Last Tiger in Haiti* (NAACP Theatre nomination for Best Ensemble) at La Jolla Playhouse/Berkeley Repertory Theatre; Camae in *The Mountaintop* at Northern Stage; Ruby in *Seven Guitars* at Two River Theater; *Archy & Mehitabel* at the Yard and *Sunjata Kamalenya* at the McCarter Theatre. Film/TV credits include “The Blacklist,” “Eye Candy,” and “The Knick.” **Tyrone Mitchell Henderson** (Prospero) is the Founder of Quick Silver Theater Company. New York credits include *Yellowman* at the Billie Holiday Theatre; *Rancho Viejo* at Playwrights Horizons; *The Piano Lesson* at Signature Theatre, the National Tour of *Bring in ‘da Noise Bring in ‘da Funk*; *The America Play*, *The Tempest* (with Patrick Stewart), *Two Noble Kinsmen* and *The Public Sings* at the Public Theatre; and *King Lear* with Tony Winner Billy Porter. Regional Theatre credits include world premieres of *War*, *Aubergine* and the West Coast premiere of *Intelligent Homosexual’s Guide to Capitalism and Socialism with a Key to the Scriptures*. Television credits include “FBI,” “Search Party,” “God Friend Me,” “The Good Fight,” “Sneaky Pete,” “Orange is the New Black,” “House of Cards,” and “Law & Order” (franchise trifecta – six episodes).

The Magician’s Daughter is directed by **Shelley Butler** whose recent productions include the world premiere of Lucas Hnath’s *A Doll’s House, Part 2* at South Coast Repertory; *Human Error* by Eric Pfeffinger for the Denver Center Theatre Company; and the Japanese premiere of *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical* at the Imperial Theatre in Tokyo. The creative team includes **Sara C. Walsh** (Scenic Design), **Lex Liang** (Costume Design), **Seth Reiser** (Lighting Designer), **Kate Marvin** (Sound Design), **Michael Weber** (Magic and Illusion Designer) and **Jenni Werner** (Dramaturg).

***The Magician’s Daughter* begins performances on January 24 and runs in the Fielding Stage through February 10.**

The 2018-2019 Season is sponsored by **ESL Federal Credit Union** and **Rochester Regional Health**. The Honorary Season Producer is **Dr. Dawn Lipson**. The Fielding Studio Series is supported in part by the Gouvernet Arts Fund at The Community Foundation. The Associate Producer for *The Magician’s Daughter* is St John’s Rochester.

**For further information, additional photographs or to arrange interviews, please contact:
Dawn Kellogg, Communications Manager, (585) 420-2059.**

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

Previews: Thursday, January 24 @ 7pm
Friday, January 25 @ 7pm
Saturday, January 26 @ 2:30pm (Open captioned performance)

Opening: **Saturday, January 26 @ 7:30pm**

Performances: Sunday, January 27 @ 3pm
Tuesday, January 29 @ 7pm
Wednesday, January 30 @ 7pm
Thursday, January 31 @ 7pm
Friday, February 1 @ 7pm

Saturday, February 2 @ 2:30pm and 7:30pm
Sunday, February 3 @ 3pm
Tuesday, February 5 @ 7pm
Wednesday, February 6 @ 7pm
Thursday, February 7 @ 7pm
Friday, February 8 @ 7pm
Saturday, February 9 @ 2:30pm and 7:30pm
Sunday, February 10 @ 3pm

TICKET PRICES: Tickets start at \$37.

RESERVATIONS: (585) 232-GEVA (4382), Website: www.gevatheatre.org

LOCATION: Fielding Stage, Geva Theatre Center, 75 Woodbury Blvd, Rochester, NY 14607

GEVA THEATRE CENTER

Founded in 1972, Geva Theatre Center is a not-for-profit, professional theatre company dedicated to creating and producing professional theatre productions, programs and services of a national standard. As Rochester's leading professional theatre, Geva Theatre Center is the most attended regional theatre in New York State, and one of the 25 most subscribed in the country, serving up to 160,000 patrons annually, including more than 16,000 students.

The 516-seat Elaine P. Wilson Stage is home to a wide variety of performances, from musicals to American and world classics. The 180-seat Ron & Donna Fielding Stage is home to Geva's own series of contemporary drama, comedy and musical theatre; Geva's New Play Reading Series and the Hornets' Nest - an innovative play-reading series facilitating community-wide discussion on controversial topics. In addition, the Fielding Stage hosts visiting companies of both local and international renown.

Geva Theatre Center offers a wide variety of educational, outreach and literary programs, nurturing audiences and artists alike. Since 1995, the organization has been under the artistic direction of Mark Cuddy.

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