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**CRITICALLY-ACCLAIMED TELEVISION AND BROADWAY ACTOR
CHAD L. COLEMAN
AND
LEADING ACTRESS AND MODEL
BEAU GARRETT
TO STAR IN
A NEW PLAY BY SUSAN EVE HAAR
AND DIRECTED BY ABIGAIL ZEALEY BESS
AT THE HUDSON GUILD THEATRE
OPENS AUGUST 18 AND PLAYS THROUGH SEPTEMBER 8, 2019**

TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE

LOS ANGELES (July 29, 2019) – Weird Sisters announced today that they will present **SAUGERTIES**, a new play by **Susan Eve Haar** and directed by **Abigail Zealey Bess**. The production will star **Chad L. Coleman** who is best known for playing “Tyreese” in the Golden Globe® nominated series *The Walking Dead* and as the reformed criminal “Dennis ‘Cutty’ Wise” the Emmy® award nominated HBO drama series *The Wire* and **Beau Garrett** who recently starred as “Jessica Preston” in Season 1 of the ABC series *The Good Doctor* and currently can be seen as “Phoebe” on Bravo’s critically acclaimed series *Girlfriends Guide to Divorce*. Produced by Sharon Levy/Dovetail Productions, **SAUGERTIES** plays a limited engagement from August 18 through September 8, with the official press opening on Sunday, August 18 at 7:00 pm, at the Hudson Guild Theatre (6539 Santa Monica Blvd.) in Hollywood. Tickets are now on sale at OnStage411.com.

Set in a remote B&B in the not too distant future, **SAUGERTIES** tells the story of Jen (Garrett) and Rog (Coleman), who are celebrating their tenth wedding anniversary. She’s broken hearted over infertility, desperate to escape her life and Rog will do whatever it takes to make her happy. Twenty years later a couple not so different from the first return to the same B&B. There to scatter her mother’s ashes, they struggle with their relationship. Games become dangerous and they are forced to reveal secrets that may destroy them both.

SAUGERTIES inhabits the space between what is now possible and our understanding of its significance. As science outstrips what we recognize and the landmarks disappear, one begins to question who we are to one another. This play, which tackles the ethics of new reproductive technologies, explores what it means to be human and grapples with what it means to love.

“I’m drawn to mystery and fascinated by the gap between what we are able to do and what it means. Science tumbles ahead of our understanding now at a rate that is both terrifying and exhilarating. I love that. I am particularly drawn to the rapidly proliferating reproductive technologies. IVF is behind us, seen in the rear window, we are in a brave new world where there are already babies with three parents, and just around the bend are babies who can be grown from skin cells, babies who are cloned. Who will decide how the future is shaped,” said playwright Susan Eve Haar. She added, “The arts are a place to give pause, to explore, to question what it means, to dwell in possibility. To me that’s the domain of theater and where I want to be.”

Director Abigail Zealy Bess said, “It was essential to find actors who could embody the highly complex and passionate relationship of Rog and Jen. Chad was a gift. He connected to the play on a deeply personal level. Finding Beau gave us that necessary combination of vulnerability and sensuality so necessary for the chemistry between these two actors. In working on this play it has been inspiring to delve into what drives these two people. There is a fluidity to this material that inspires the very core of human emotion, what we will do for the people we love.”

In addition to Coleman’s lead roles on *The Walking Dead* and *The Wire*, he currently stars in Seth MacFarlane’s hour-long, HULU’s comedy-drama series *The Orville* playing the role of “Klyden,” a Moclan civilian living aboard the USS Orville with his mate Second Officer Bortus (Peter Macon) and their son Topa. Coleman also currently has a recurring role in CW’s hit series *All American* playing “Corey James.”

Nothing has slowed down for *The Walking Dead* star since his inevitable and shocking departure from the hit series. He had a recurring role for several seasons as “Colonel Frederick Lucius Johnson” in Syfy’s space drama *The Expanse* alongside Thomas Jane and Steven Trait and appeared as the villainous “Tobias Church” in season 5 of CW’s *Arrow*. Coleman is also widely recognized for his comedic turn as “Gary Miller,” the ex-husband of “Nikki Miller” and father of manipulative daughter “Mackenzie” (Aisha Dee) in the FOX television comedy *I Hate My Teenage Daughter* and for his recurring role as “Z” in the comedy *It’s Always Sunny in Philadelphia*. Additional TV and film projects include the recent remake of the 1977 miniseries *Roots*, *The Good Wife*, *Terminator: The Sarah Connor Chronicles*, *The Green Hornet* and *Horrible Bosses*, to name a few.

Born and raised in Richmond, Virginia, Coleman was placed in the foster care system with his two older brothers and two older sisters when he was only 11 months old but eventually returned living with his grandmother at the age of 14. Coleman’s passion for acting was inspired after joining an after-school program where he acted in their production of “Wonderful Town.” Coleman spent 4 years serving in the Army as a video cameraman stationed at the Pentagon in DC. After gaining much experience working on and off camera, Coleman made his way to New York where he starred in a number of Broadway projects including the critically-acclaimed August Wilson production “Joe Turner’s Come and Gone” on Broadway.

Coleman commented on returning to the stage in **SAUGERTIES**, “Theater is a sacred space to me; to share intimate life experiences to help nurture us all. And hopefully learn and grow to become better people. This play is a rollercoaster ride in existential acrobatics wrapped in a relationship drama – very *True West* like and it’s very exciting to peel back the layers.”

In addition to *The Good Doctor* and the *Girlfriends Guide to Divorce*, Beau can be seen next in the Discovery Channel MOW *Capsized* as the female lead opposite Josh Duhamel. Last year, Beau played a recurring role in the Netflix series *Longmire*. Previously, she was also a co-lead opposite Forest Whitaker on the CBS drama *Criminal Minds: Suspect Behavior*.

In the feature film space, Beau is known for her roles in Walt Disney's *Tron Legacy*, Sony Pictures' *Made of Honor*, and 20th Century Fox's *Fantastic 4: Rise of The Silver Surfer*. She has also appeared in *Turistas*, *Knight of Cups* and *Freelancers* opposite Robert DeNiro.

Beau has been the face of multiple campaigns including *Revlon* and *Gap*.

Beau Garrett shared, "What I am most looking forward to about **SAUGERTIES** is tackling two different women, seemingly from one shared story. Bringing these words of pain, desperation, fear, uncertainty and truth alive will be one of the biggest professional challenges I have had to date."

The **SAUGERTIES** creative team also includes: Scenic Design by Joseph Jin; Lighting Design by Pei-Yu Lai; Production Stage Manager, Corey Womack; and Casting Director, Caroline Sinclair.

SAUGERTIES will play at the Hudson Guild Theatre, 6539 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90038 from August 18 – September 8, 2019, with the official press opening on Sunday, August 18 at 7:00 pm. The regular performance schedule is Saturdays at 3:00 pm and 8:00 pm and Sundays at 3:00 pm – 7:00 pm. *Performance schedule notes: There will be no matinee performances on Sunday, August 17 and Saturday, August 31.* All tickets are \$30. Tickets are available online at OnStage411.com. Valet and street parking are available. For more information visit OnStage411.com.

ABOUT THE CREATIVE TEAM

SUSAN EVE HAAR (Playwright) is a playwright living in New York City. A member of The Actor's Studio, Ensemble Studio Theater and The Writers Guild East, she explores, among other topics, the intersection of our neural and lived experiences. A board member of The McGovern Institute at MIT, she is a recent recipient of a Sloan Foundation grant for science. Her work has been published in Best Short Plays of 2018, Best Women's Monologues of 2018, Best Men's Monologues of 2018 and produced at variety of venues including Primary Stages, The Women's Project, 13th Street Rep, Edinburgh Festival, The Talos Festival, and The Looking Glass Theater.

ABIGAIL ZEALEY BESS (Director) is an award-winning filmmaker and theatre director. Her work has crossed boundaries and platforms for many years as an independent director and producer. She has specialized in new work since she arrived on these shores and established her company, *Weird Sisters*, as a theatrical entity in 1997. As a long-standing member of the Ensemble Studio Theatre based in New York, one of the leading developmental theatres of new plays in the USA, she has directed and produced numerous new works. In New York, she has

worked at The Foundry Theatre, Ohio Theatre, Soho Repertory Theatre, Abingdon Theatre, Cherry Lane Theatre, Playwrights Horizons, Here, and Cort Theatre Broadway. Internationally she has directed at the Edinburgh Festival, the Young Vic, the Strand Theatre and London. She directed the award-winning NY Fringe Winner *The Radicalization of Rolfe* at the Players Theatre and the Soho Playhouse 2016, and most recently *Paper Doll* by Susan Eve Haar at the Edinburgh Fringe 2017. Her debut film *Play Ball!* screened at over 40 festivals including Berlin Film Festival, Cannes Director Fortnight and won Best Film at seven USA festivals, and 1st Prize for Best Short Film at the LA WIF Competition. Zealey Bess recently directed the award-winning films *Mary and Louise* that pays tribute to silent screen icons and *Icarus Stops For Breakfast* by Holli Harms, a magical love story currently on the 2019 Festival circuit. She is on the Faculty for the Graduate Film Program at Tisch School of the Arts, New York University, New York Conservatory of Dramatic Art and is represented by Linda Weaver at Access Talent.

SHARON LEVY/DOVETAIL PRODUCTIONS (Producer) is President of Dovetail Productions, developing, producing and touring new work for the stage and other media; including Lee Breuer and Bob Telson's *The Gospel at Colonus* recently revived with the Public Theater at the Delacorte Theatre in Central Park; Noche Flamenca's *Antigona*; Lee Breuer's *La Divina Caricatura*; *Shalom Shanghai* for the Shanghai Arts Festival; Baba Brinkman's *The Rap Guide to Evolution*; *Mabou Mines DollHouse* world tour and for Arte French television; *Bagdad Café – The Musical* based on the Percy Adlon film; the jazz opera *Lulu Noire*, the *Tribute to King Oliver* for the '96 Olympics; the Jon Faddis Sextet's tribute to Dizzy Gillespie and Atlanta casting director for Robert Altman's HBO series *Tanner '88*. She is currently working on the development of a new play about Salvador Dali.

WEIRD SISTERS (Producer) develops feature film projects and theatrical ventures in New York, regionally and Europe. The production company is devoted to the promotion of women artists giving voice to new, thought-provoking work. For more information visit weirdsistersfilms.com.

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