



Morrimouth County's Leading Professional Theatre Company

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## NEWS RELEASE

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### TRTC OPENS EIGHTH SEASON WITH PULITZER PRIZE-WINNING DRAMA

(Red Bank, NJ) Playwright Edward Albee's hallmark has always been his ability to maintain a delicate balance of comedy, poetry and terror in his works, creating compelling theatrical events. Questions are raised and symbols revealed, thrilling audiences in their discovery of layered meanings. Albee's plays encourage theatergoers to consider life's myriad of possibilities, especially in his first Pulitzer Prize-winning play, *A Delicate Balance*. Two River Theatre Company will present this intriguing and compelling drama September 13 -30 at the Algonquin Arts Theatre in Manasquan.

Edward Albee's acclaimed career began in 1958 with *A Zoo Story*, a one-act drama about a chance encounter in Central Park, an encounter which turns deadly. Albee followed soon after with his most famous play, *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*. Although nominated for the Pulitzer Prize, the play was too controversial to ultimately garner the award. Albee finally received his first Pulitzer Prize in 1966, awarded to the intriguing drama *A Delicate Balance*, considered by many to be his finest work.

Tobias and Agnes live a quiet, complacent suburban life until, one autumn evening, they are paid an unexpected visit by Harry and Edna, their best friends in the grip of an unknown terror. Over the course of a weekend, the friends are compelled to undergo a haunting and profound change in their lives. The journey toward this stunning realization is marked by mystery and by Albee's trademark caustic, delicious wit.

Two River Theatre Company now brings *A Delicate Balance* to the stage under the direction of TRTC Artistic Director Jonathan Fox, whose previous work with TRTC includes critically

acclaimed productions of *La Bête*, *Machinal*, *Light Up the Sky* and *The Illusion*, among others. “This beautiful, funny, and haunting play has been one of my favorites for almost 20 years,” said Mr. Fox. “The challenge in presenting this play is striking a delicate balance between the play’s parlor comedy and the terror and violence that lurks underneath.”

Glynis Bell and Gil Rogers star as Tobias and Agnes. Ms. Bell has appeared on Broadway in *Amadeus*, *My Fair Lady*, *Heartbreak House*, *You Never Can Tell* and *The Robber Bridegroom*. She has also been featured in *Picture This*, *Law and Order* and *As the World Turns*. Mr. Rogers has been seen on Broadway as Sheriff Ed Earl Dodd in *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas* and as Frank Brady in *The Great White Hope*. Lisa McMillan returns to TRTC after last season’s *La Bête* to star as Agnes’s sharp-tongued sister, Claire. Ms. McMillan has been seen regionally at the Alabama and Utah Shakespeare Festivals, as well as George Street Playhouse and on Broadway in *Moose Murders* with Eve Arden. Broadway veterans Darcy Pulliam and Gedde Smith will play Harry and Edna, the best friends who descend on Tobias and Agnes’ home. Shelley Delaney makes her fourth Two River appearance as Agnes and Tobias’s martially-challenged daughter, Julia. Ms. Delaney has previously appeared in TRTC’s *The Dining Room*, *Noises Off!*, and last season’s smash hit *The Heiress*.

Tickets are on sale now for Edward Albee’s *A Delicate Balance* at the Algonquin Arts Theatre, 171 Main Street, Manasquan, NJ, running September 13-30, 2001. Tickets range from \$19-\$35, depending on the night of performance. Senior citizens receive a \$2 discount and tickets for anyone under the age of 26 are \$11. Discounts do not apply on Saturday evening performances. A special matinee has been added for Wednesday, Sept. 26 at 2 p.m where groups of 10 or more and senior citizens attend for only \$17 per person. For more information, call 732-345-1400 or visit TRTC online at [www.tworivertheatre.org](http://www.tworivertheatre.org).

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