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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**MARIN IRELAND AND CHRIS MESSINA TO STAR IN “IRONBOUND” AT THE  
Geffen PLAYHOUSE**

**IRELAND WILL REPRISER HER MUCH-LAUDED OFF-BROADWAY ROLE IN THE  
Geffen’S PRODUCTION**

**PREVIEWS BEGIN JANUARY 30; OPENING NIGHT IS FEBRUARY 7**

LOS ANGELES (November 13, 2017) – The Geffen Playhouse today announced that Tony Award nominee Marin Ireland (Broadway’s *reasons to be pretty*, Amazon’s *Sneaky Pete*) and Chris Messina (*The Mindy Project*, *Argo*) will star in the West Coast Premiere of Martyna Majok’s *Ironbound*, directed by Tyne Rafaeli (*Actually*). Ireland is reprising the lead role of Darja, which she played Off-Broadway at Rattlestick Playwrights Theater in 2016. Messina will star as Tommy.

Of the New York production, Charles Isherwood of *The New York Times* said, “Marin Ireland gives a performance of beautiful complexity.”

Previews for *Ironbound* begin Tuesday, January 30, 2018 in the Gil Cates Theater at the Geffen Playhouse, with opening night on Wednesday, February 7. The production closes Sunday, March 4, 2018. Additional casting will be announced.

At once humorous and heartrending, *Ironbound* spans 22 years to tell the story of Darja, a Polish immigrant getting by on a cleaning job, aggressive pragmatism and sheer will. In this wry drama, award-winning playwright Martyna Majok points out that sometimes survival is the only measure of success.

*Ironbound* had its world premiere at the Round House Theatre as part of the Women’s Voices Theater Festival in September 2015. Nelson Pressley of *The Washington Post* said, “Majok writes with such energy and charisma that the play’s four characters feel vivid and real.” Majok’s script was awarded the National New Play Network Smith Prize and the David Calicchio Emerging American Playwright Prize.

Rafaeli recently directed the Geffen’s world premiere of Anna Ziegler’s play *Actually*, which is making its Off-Broadway debut at New York’s Manhattan Theatre Club on November 14.

## **IRONBOUND**

Written by **Martyna Majok**

Directed by **Tyne Rafaeli**

**Previews:** Tuesday, January 30 – Tuesday, February 6, 2018

**Opening Night:** Wednesday, February 7, 2018

**Closing Night:** Sunday, March 4, 2018

### **CAST**

**Marin Ireland** as Darja

**Chris Messina** as Tommy

### **PRODUCTION TEAM**

Scenic Designer **Tim Mackabee**

Costume Designer **Elizabeth Caitlin Ward**

Lighting Designer **Lap Chi Chu**

Sound Designer **Leon Rothenberg**

Production Stage Manager **Elizabeth A. Brohm**

Assistant Stage Manager **Ross Jackson**

Casting Director **Phyllis Schuringa, CSA**

### **PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE**

Monday	No performance
Tuesday – Friday	8:00 p.m.
Saturday	3:00 and 8:00 p.m.
Sunday	2:00 and 7:00 p.m.

The run of *Ironbound* will feature the Geffen's popular Talk Back Tuesdays, which give theater lovers a chance for a deeper conversation to discuss plot, character themes and other questions directly with the artists in a post-show Q&A from the stage. Dates: February 13, February 20 and February 27, 2018

### **LOCATION**

Gil Cates Theater at the Geffen Playhouse  
10886 Le Conte Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90024

### **TICKET INFORMATION**

Tickets currently priced at \$32.00 - \$90.00. Available in person at the Geffen Playhouse box office, by phone at 310.208.5454 or online at [www.geffenplayhouse.org](http://www.geffenplayhouse.org). Fees may apply.

Rush tickets for each day's performance are made available to the general public 30 minutes before showtime at the box office. \$35.00 General / \$10.00 Student

## **COLLEGE AUDIENCES**

Through a variety of events and other opportunities, the Geffen Playhouse welcomes college students to experience the live storytelling presented on our stages. We are proud of our association with UCLA's School of Theater, Film, and Television, and open our doors to all college students throughout Los Angeles. More information is available at [www.geffenplayhouse.org/college](http://www.geffenplayhouse.org/college).

## **ABOUT THE ARTISTS**

### **Martyna Majok (Playwright)**

Martyna Majok's plays have been presented at Williamstown Theatre Festival, Manhattan Theatre Club, Actors Theatre of Louisville, Steppenwolf Theatre Company, Rattlestick Playwrights Theater, Women's Project Theater and The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, among others. Awards include Dramatists Guild's Lanford Wilson Award, Lilly Award, Helen Merrill Emerging Playwright Award, Charles MacArthur Award for Outstanding Original New Play (Helen Hayes Awards), Ashland New Plays Festival Women's Invitational Prize, The Kennedy Center's Jean Kennedy Smith Award, David Calicchio Emerging American Playwright Prize, New York Theatre Workshop's 2050 Fellowship, Aurora Theatre's Global Age Project Prize and the NNPN/Smith Prize for Political Playwriting. Commissions from Lincoln Center Theater, Bush Theatre in London, Geffen Playhouse, La Jolla Playhouse, South Coast Repertory and Manhattan Theatre Club. BA: University of Chicago; MFA: Yale School of Drama, Juilliard. Majok was a 2012-2013 NNPN Playwright-in-Residence and the 2015-2016 PoNY Fellow at the Lark Play Development Center. Upcoming: *queens* at LCT3/Lincoln Center Theater.

### **Tyne Rafaeli (Director)**

Tyne Rafaeli directs classics, new plays and musicals, including the recent world premiere of the Geffen Playhouse's production of *Actually* by Anna Ziegler. Her work has been seen at Classic Stage Company, Playwrights Realm, Atlantic Theater Company, Roundabout Theatre Company, Two River Theater, California Shakespeare Theatre, Williamstown Theatre Festival, New York Stage & Film, PlayMakers Repertory Company, Goodspeed Musicals, Juilliard, Shakespeare Santa Cruz, Great Lakes Theater, American Players Theatre, Idaho Shakespeare Festival, the O'Neill Playwrights Conference and PlayPenn, among others. Rafaeli is a 2016-2018 Time Warner Directing Fellow at the Women's Project Theater and was awarded the 2013-2014 SDCF Sir John Gielgud Fellowship for Classical Direction. She has served as Associate Director on the Broadway productions of *The King & I*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *The Bridges of Madison County* and *Golden Boy* and the West End's *Women on the Verge*.

### **Marin Ireland (Darja)**

Marin Ireland's theater credits include *reasons to be pretty*, for which she won a Theatre World Award and was nominated for a Tony Award. Her other New York credits include *The Big Knife* on Broadway (opposite Bobby Cannavale); *Ironbound* at Rattlestick Playwrights Theater; *Kill Floor* at Lincoln Center Theater; *Blasted* and *Marie Antoinette*, both at Soho Rep; *Three Sisters* at Classic Stage Company; *Cyclone* at Studio Dante (Obie Award) and *In the Wake* at the Public Theater. Some of her television and film work includes *Girls*, *Homeland*, *Masters of Sex*, *The Divide*, *The Slap*, *Glass Chin* (Independent Spirit nomination 2016), *Sparrows Dance*, *The Family*

*Fang, 28 Hotel Rooms, In the Radiant City* and *Hell or High Water*. Most recently she was seen in the Lifetime movie *Flint*, about the Flint water crisis, playing activist Melissa Mays. She currently appears on the Amazon series *Sneaky Pete*.

**Chris Messina (Tommy)**

Chris Messina has appeared on stage in *Salome* (Broadway); *Far Away* (New York Theatre Workshop); *Faster* (Rattlestick Playwrights Theater); *The Cherry Orchard* (Williamstown Theatre Festival); *This Thing of Darkness* (Atlantic Theater Company); *Good Thing* (New Group); *Blur* (Manhattan Theatre Club); *The Light Outside* (Flea Theatre); *Hologram Theory* (Blue Light Theater Company); *Refuge* (Playwrights Horizons) and *American Clock* (Signature Theatre). Most recently, he shot Martin Krejci's film *The True Adventures of Wolfboy* opposite John Turturro and Chloe Sevigny. Prior to that he finished filming *Sharp Objects* with director Jean-Marc Valle opposite Amy Adams for HBO. Messina can be seen in Ben Affleck's *Live by Night* and four seasons of *The Mindy Project* opposite Mindy Kaling. Previous film and television work includes *Argo*, *Newsroom*, *Celeste & Jesse Forever*, *Ruby Sparks*, *Cake*, *Manglehorn* opposite Al Pacino, *Damages*, *Vicky Cristina Barcelona*, *Julia & Julia* alongside Meryl Streep and Amy Adams, *Away We Go* and *Greenberg*.

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**ABOUT GEFFEN PLAYHOUSE**

Geffen Playhouse has been a hub of the Los Angeles theater scene since opening its doors in 1995. Noted for its intimacy and celebrated for its world-renowned mix of classic and contemporary plays, provocative new works and second productions, the not-for-profit organization continues to present a body of work that has garnered national recognition. Named in honor of entertainment mogul and philanthropist David Geffen, who made the initial donation to the theater, the company was founded by Gilbert Cates and is currently helmed by Executive Director Gil Cates, Jr., Artistic Director Matt Shakman and Board Chair Howard Tenenbaum. Proudly associated with UCLA, the Geffen welcomes an audience of more than 130,000 each year, and maintains extensive education and community engagement programs, designed to involve underserved young people and the community at large in the arts.

[www.geffenplayhouse.org](http://www.geffenplayhouse.org)

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