

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**REMY BUMPPO'S 09/10 SEASON COMES TO A CLIMAX
WITH *LES LIAISONS DANGEREUSES***

Previews Begin March 17 with Press Opening March 21 at 7:00 p.m.

CHICAGO - Remy Bumppo Theatre Company presents **Christopher Hampton's** sizzling play *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*, March 17 through May 2 in the Upstairs Mainstage of the Greenhouse Theater Center at 2257 N. Lincoln Avenue. Preview performances begin Wednesday, March 17 at 7:30 p.m. with opening night Sunday, March 21 at 7:00 p.m. The *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* cast features Artistic Associates Greg Matthew Anderson, Annabel Armour, Linda Gillum and Nick Sandys. *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* is directed by Remy Bumppo Artistic Associate David Darlow, with set design by Alan Donahue, costume design by Emily Waecker, lighting design by Michael Rourke, sound design by Jason Knox, properties design by Nick Heggstad and fight choreography by Nick Sandys.

"Love is something you use, not something you fall into." Mme la Marquise de Merteuil

Christopher Hampton's play, based on Choderlos de Laclos' infamous 1782 novel of sexual intrigue and ruthless manipulation, is set in the salons and boudoirs of pre-Revolutionary France. Two high-powered and well-heeled friends, the Vicomte de Valmont (Nick Sandys) and the Marquise de Merteuil (Rebecca Spence), devise a game to test their skills as rapacious lovers. The Marquise challenges the Vicomte to woo the virginal Cecile (Margaret Katch), to which he gladly agrees, seeing it as a way to ultimately seduce the prudish Madame Tourvel (Linda Gillum). In their tenacious battle for the upper hand, the players, like the pawns, become part of the wreckage. *This production contains some nudity.*

Les Liaisons Dangereuses is made possible in part by a grant from the Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation and the Jane Ellen Murray Foundation.

The 2009/2010 Season is made possible by The Boeing Company, Chicago Community Trust, Prince Charitable Trusts, The Gaylord & Dorothy Donnelley Foundation, The Illinois Arts Council and by a CityArts Program 3 grant from the City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs.

Listing Information

Les Liaisons Dangereuses

By Choderlos de Laclos and adapted by Christopher Hampton

Directed by [David Darlow](#)

Cast features: [Greg Matthew Anderson](#), [Annabel Armour](#), [Linda Gillum](#) and [Nick Sandys](#)

March 17 - May 2, 2010

Wednesdays through Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday matinee performances at 2:00 p.m. on March 31 and April 14.

Opening Night is Sunday, March 21 at 7:00 p.m.

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The Greenhouse Theater Center
Upstairs Mainstage
2257 N Lincoln Ave., Chicago
Box Office: 773-404-7336 (773-40-GREEN)
www.remybumppo.org



Photo of **Sienna Harris** (as Emilie) and **Nick Sandys** (as Valmont) by Johnny Knight.

Single tickets are on sale now.

20/20 Offer - Save 20% on the First 20 Performances!

Use Code TWENTY when ordering tickets online or by phone. (Valid for performances between March 17 and April 11). Offer Expires March 20.

\$10 Student Tickets. All tickets March 17 - April 11 are just \$10 with valid student I.D. (Both Offers exclude Opening Night 3/21 at 7:00 p.m. and April 8 Theater Thursday event.)

Regular prices are as follows:

Previews: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday \$25 - \$40; Saturday and Sunday \$30 - \$40

Regular run: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday \$35 - \$50; Saturday and Sunday \$40 - \$50

Opening Night: \$50

Student Rush: \$10

Group discounts are available for groups of 6 or more, call 773-244-8119.

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Special Events:

Sunday, March 21 at 7:00 p.m

***Les Liaisons Dangereuses* Opening Night**

The Greenhouse Theater Upstairs Mainstage

Tickets are \$50 and include post-show artist reception in the lobby.

Saturday, March 27 at 1:30 p.m.

Between the Lines Conversation with Author and Literature Scholar **Anne Blott**

The Greenhouse Theater Center Upstairs Mainstage

Dr. Anne Blott teaches English literature in Montreal, Quebec at the college and university levels. She has published articles and Fiddlehead reviews on Canadian literature, 20th Century satire, and the British writer and painter Wyndham Lewis as well as editing a science-fiction trilogy, *Couch Wars*. Her major research interest is in social history and satire, and currently she is at work on a book about Lewis's satiric novels. She has a strong interest in music both as a singer and lyricist in composing music for voice.

Tickets are \$50 and include the 2:30 p.m. performance of *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*.

Tuesday, March 30, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Liaison at G-Boutique

2131 N. Damen Ave.

This ladies-only in-store party at G-Boutique, purveyors of sensual and playful gifts for the bedroom, will feature erotic readings by the cast, product demonstrations, tantalizing treats and libations. Admission is free.

Thursday, April 8 at 6:30 p.m.

Theater Thursday Event

the Greenhouse Theater Center Upstairs Lobby

Tickets are \$30 and include a pre-show soiree with members of the cast and the 7:30 p.m. performance of *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*.

Weekly post-show discussions with cast members are held after Sunday matinee performances.

Bios:

Christopher Hampton (Playwright) is a screenwriter, producer, director, and playwright. He was born to British parents in Portugal in 1946. His first play, *When Did You Last See My Mother* (1966), was produced at the Royal Court Theatre in London and later transferred to the Comedy Theatre. At 18 years old, Hampton became the youngest writer to have his work staged in the West End in modern times. After university, Hampton worked as the Resident Dramatist and literary manager at the Royal Court in London from 1968 to 1970. He quickly became noted for his ability to adapt classic literature and write historical dramas. He went on to write *Total Eclipse* (1968), *The Philanthropist* (1970), *Savages* (1974) and *Treats* (1976). In 1985, he wrote his most famous play- the stage adaptation of the scandalous French novel *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* by Pierre Choderlos de Laclos. His later stage adaptations include the libretto for

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Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Sunset Boulevard*, Art by Yasmina Reza, and *Dracula: The Musical* (2001)

Hampton began his screenwriting career with an adaptation of Ibsen's *A Doll's House* in 1970. He went on to also translate and adapt for the screen Johann Strauss' *Tales from the Vienna Wood* (1977) and Moliere's *Tartuffe* (1984). In 1988, he adapted his play *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* into a screenplay for the film *Dangerous Liaisons*, starring John Malkovich and Glenn Close, which won three Academy Awards, including Best Adapted Screenplay. His later screen adaptations include his own play *Total Eclipse* (1995), starring Leonardo DiCaprio, *Mary Reilly* (1996) starring John Malkovich and Julia Roberts, and *The Quiet American* (2002) starring Michael Caine. He was nominated for another Academy Award for his script for the film *Atonement* (2007).

Pierre Choderlos de Laclos (Author)

Pierre-Ambroise-François Choderlos de Laclos was born at Amiens, France, in 1741. His family had recently been ennobled and, in the caste-ridden society of the time, occupied a low place in the aristocratic hierarchy. He was sent to military school and trained in artillery regiment, which offered the hope of societal advancement. Over the next 25 years, Laclos climbed slowly through the military ranks, but never rose above the rank of captain. Like many military men in peacetime, he was garrisoned in several provincial towns and spent his time writing mostly unremarkable verse and the libretto for a single disastrous opera. In 1778, he began writing *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*. When his book was published in 1782, its commentary on the excess, promiscuity, and hypocrisy of the aristocracy caused a major scandal. Despite the scandal, or perhaps because of it, *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* was reprinted at regular intervals. To diffuse the controversy, the military ordered him out of the limelight and to an obscure post on the Atlantic coast. There, he met Marie-Soulange Duperre, who would become his wife. From this point on, Laclos wrote mostly essays, and was a champion of women's education and rights. In 1788, he received leave from the military to serve as secretary to the Duke of Orléans, the king's cousin. Laclos became instrumental in the movement to place the liberal Orléans on the throne instead of Louis XVI. He became a major player in the Napoleon's coup d'état in 1799. For his support, Napoleon reinstated him in the military and he climbed to the rank of General. He died in Italy of dysentery, malaria, and exhaustion in 1803 at the age of 62.

Nick Sandys (Vicomte de Valmont) is an Artistic Associate at Remy Bumppo Theatre, where he has been seen in *Old Times*; *The Marriage of Figaro*; *The Real Thing*; *Tartuffe*; *Aren't We All*; *Arcadia*; *Hidden Laughter*; *Money*; *The Secret Rapture*; *No Man's Land*; *Hapgood*; *Fiction* (director); *365DAYS/365PLAYS* (director); *American Ethnic* (director). Nick first joined Remy Bumppo in 2001 in the hit production of Stoppard's *Hapgood*, having previously appeared in New York, Dallas/Fort Worth, and various regional theatres and Shakespeare festivals. He is also an experienced fight director, having choreographed violence for The Metropolitan Opera (NYC), The Goodman, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Steppenwolf, Northlight, TimeLine, Shattered Globe, Victory Gardens, and The Theatre School at DePaul where he has been adjunct faculty since 1995. Nick holds two MAs in English Literature, one from Loyola Chicago and one from Cambridge University.

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Rebecca Spence (Mme. de Merteuil) returns to Remy Bumppo after playing Alice in *The Voyage Inheritance*. Chicago credits include Catherine Donohue in Rivendell Theatre Ensemble's *These Shining Lives*, which earned her a Jeff Nomination for her performance. Chicago credits include: Steppenwolf Theatre's *The Crucible*, *Household Spirits*, *Our Lady of 121st Street* and *Pacific*. She has also worked with Northlight Theatre, Noble Fool Theatricals and Defiant Theatre. Regional credits include: Roxanne in Milwaukee Repertory Theater's *Cyrano* and its subsequent tour. Film: *Public Enemies*, *A Nightmare on Elm Street*, *Grace is Gone* and *The Break-Up*. She has appeared in numerous commercials and on television's "The Beast" and "Prison Break."

David Darlow (Director) is an Artistic Associate at Remy Bumppo Theatre, where he has been seen in *Heroes*, *The Voyage Inheritance*, *The Best Man*, *Power*, *Humble Boy*, *Hidden Laughter*, *No Man's Land*, *Hapgood*, *Road to Mecca*, *Man and Superman*, *Money*, and *Major Barbara* (After Dark Award). He directed *Mrs. Warren's Profession* for Remy Bumppo and *As You Like it* at the Utah Shakespearean Festival. Other Chicago stage credits include *A Life in the Theatre*, *As You Like it*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Passion* and *The Misanthrope* at Goodman Theatre; *Othello*, *Timon of Athens* and *As You Like it* at Chicago Shakespeare Theater; *The Real Thing* and *Betrayal* at Northlight Theatre; *Nathan the Wise* at Chicago Festival of the Arts; and Stephen Sondheim's *Passion* with Patty Lupone and Audra McDonald at Ravinia Festival. He won a Joseph Jefferson Award for his performance in *Endgame* at American Theater Company (with Mike Nussbaum). Film credits include *Were the World Mine*, *The Weatherman*, *Road to Perdition*, *The Fugitive*, *Miller's Crossing* and *Ride with the Devil*.

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REMY BUMPPPO THEATRE COMPANY delights and engages audiences with the emotional and ethical complexities of society through the provocative power of great theatrical language.