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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City Theatre presents the Pittsburgh premiere of

THE OLD MAN AND THE OLD MOON

A New Musical Folktale

By PigPen Theatre Co.

November 11 – December 3, 2017

City Theatre Main Stage

"It's like watching child geniuses at play." – The New Yorker

"Captivating." – The New York Times

"So infectious you almost want to leap onstage to join in the fun."

– Time Out New York

"A glorious fusion of music and theatrics!" – BroadwayWorld

Pittsburgh, PA (October 13, 2017) – **City Theatre** is thrilled to produce the Pittsburgh premiere of *The Old Man and The Old Moon* by Carnegie Mellon School of Drama alumni PigPen Theatre Co. Directed by City Theatre favorite Stuart Carden and PigPen Theatre Co., the production runs on the Main Stage November 11 – December 3, 2017. Tickets are on sale now.

"We are thrilled to share with Pittsburghers the theatrical event of the year," said **James McNeel, City Theatre Managing Director**. "It's a real coup to have the PigPen gents make their triumphant return to town – after inspiring audiences and critics around the country – and appear on our stage with this whimsical and transcendent musical. It's the perfect Thanksgiving holiday show for families and friends and, no matter your age, we are in for something special."

About *The Old Man and The Old Moon*: Who keeps the moon shining bright? A mysterious disappearance sends the Old Man charged with that task on an epic adventure in this swirling tale of memory and love, set to a wildly imaginative indie-folk soundtrack performed live. A one-of-a-kind theatrical experience, *The Old Man and The Old Moon* enchants audiences of all ages with spellbinding storytelling, ingenious puppetry, and the transformational cast of seven Carnegie Mellon alumni who are PigPen Theatre Co.

"The first ever 'PigPen rehearsal' took place in a practice room at Carnegie Mellon School of Drama in Pittsburgh in 2007," said **PigPen Theatre Co.** "We were seven acting students trying to figure out how we

would tell a ghost story. Little did we know we'd get to spend the next ten years sharing our stories, plays, and music with hundreds of thousands of people all over the world. We've had the privilege of returning to the 'Burgh to play concerts—Stage AE, Mr. Smalls, Rex Theatre, Altar Bar, Smiling Moose—but never the good fortune of sharing a complete theatrical folktale in the city that started it all... Until now!"

"I can't wait to show our friends and family how much it's grown," added **Curtis Gillen, co-founder and Chartiers Valley High School Alum.**

PigPen Theatre Co. will appear at Made Local on Thursday, November 2 at 6:00 p.m., in partnership with Pittsburgh Arts and Lectures and the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh. In an evening of storytelling and song, they will explore their creative process and give a sneak peek into the magical world of PigPen Theatre Co. Perfect for curious students and adults alike. **Free, but reservations are required;** visit PittsburghLectures.org to RSVP.

City Theatre's production of *The Old Man and The Old Moon* is directed by Stuart Carden and PigPen Theatre Co. The company includes **Alex Falberg, Ben Ferguson, Curtis Gillen, Ryan Melia, Matt Nuernberger, Arya Shahi,** and **Dan Weschler.** **Lydia Fine** is scenic and costume designer, **Bart Cortright** is lighting designer, **Mikhail Fiksel** is sound designer, and **Patti Kelly** is stage manager. Puppetry design by Lydia Fine and PigPen Theatre Co.

PigPen Theatre Co. began creating their unique brand of theatre, music, and film as freshmen at the Carnegie Mellon School of Drama in 2007. They have since produced their original plays in New York City and toured the country – earning them critic's picks from *The New York Times*, *Time Out New York*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Chicago Sun-Times*, *Boston Globe*, and many more, ranking them in the top ten theatrical events of 2011, 2012, 2013, and 2016. They were the first group to win the NYC Fringe Festival's top honor for a play two years in a row (2010/11) and have gone on to win IRNE (2012, 2015) and Jeff Awards (2014) for their theatrical productions. In 2016, Sir Trevor Nunn invited PigPen to be a part of his first American acting company for a production of Shakespeare's "Pericles."

PigPen's debut album, "Bremen," was named #10 album of the year in *The Huffington Post's* 2012 Grammy preview, sending PigPen on tour playing to sold-out crowds across the country. *American Songwriter* premiered their follow-up EP, "The Way I'm Running", in 2013 while the band was playing a series of concerts that became one of the most popular residencies of the past decade at the legendary Schuba's Tavern in Chicago. In 2015, PigPen released their sophomore album, "Whole Sun," performed at Mumford & Sons' return to the Gentlemen of the Road Festival, and made their feature film debut in Jonathan Demme's *Ricki and the Flash* starring Meryl Streep.

THE OLD MAN AND THE OLD MOON

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

November 11 – December 3, 2017

Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. and/or 7:00 p.m.

Thursdays and Fridays at 8:00 p.m.

Saturdays at 1:00 p.m., 5:30 p.m., and/or 9:00 p.m.

Sundays at 2:00 p.m. or 7:00 p.m.

*There will be no performance on Thanksgiving Day, November 23

For a complete listing of show times, please visit CityTheatreCompany.org or call 412-431-2489.

PRESS & OPENING NIGHT

Friday, November 17 at 8:00 p.m.

SPECIAL EVENTS

City Connects Happy Hour | Wednesday, November 15 from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Meet the City Connects partners for the 2017-18 season and learn more about how to get involved with your community by bridging art and activism. Enjoy drink specials and mingling in the Gordon Lounge beginning at 5:30 p.m. A brief introduction to Achieva – featured City Connects partner for the evening – will take place on the stage immediately before the performance.

Post-Show Talkbacks | Sundays November 19 and 26, following the 2:00 p.m. performances

Hosted by Director of New Play Development, Clare Drobot, post-show talkbacks encourage audiences to engage with the artists behind the performances.

Greenroom: Art & Afterparty | Friday, November 24 at 8:00 p.m.

Join the cast and artistic team for a party in the Gordon Lounge following the performance, with an interactive project lead by artists from Pittsburgh Center for Creative Reuse. Complimentary house wine, Penn Brewery beer, and light snacks will be provided. Tickets are just \$30 for the evening with promocode GREENROOM.

Pay-What-You-Want | Saturday, November 25 at 1:00 p.m.

A block of tickets is reserved for audience members to name their own price at this performance. Walk up sales only, beginning two hours before curtain. Call the box office to check on availability.

Shadow Puppet Workshop | Sunday, November 26 from 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Puppeteer and teaching artist Meredith Hoppe will lead participants through the process of creating their own shadow puppets out of new and found materials, teaching movement and storytelling techniques in a group setting. Limited to 20 guests. Ticket details to be announced.

ACCESSIBLE PERFORMANCES:

ASL Interpretation Tuesday, November 28 at 7:00 p.m.

Open Caption & Audio Description Sunday, December 3 at 2:00 p.m.

BOX OFFICE INFORMATION:

412.431.CITY (2489) or CityTheatreCompany.org

Tickets start at \$38.

This production is appropriate for children ages 8 and up. No babes-in-arms or toddlers will be admitted. All attendees must have a ticket.

DISCOUNTS:

Under 30: Reserve \$15 tickets in advance for performances except Opening Night and Saturdays at 5:30 p.m.; rush tickets may be available at those performances. Must present ID to receive Under 30 pricing.

Seniors age 62 and older: \$24 rush tickets may be purchased at the box office beginning two hours before curtain, based on availability.

Groups of ten or more: Contact Joel Ambrose at 412.431.4400 x286.

WHERE:

1300 Bingham Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15203 (South Side)
Port Authority bus routes: 48, 51, 54, 81, 83

PARKING:

Patron parking is available in the lot across from the City Theatre entrances for \$8, subject to availability. South Side Nite Rider: On Friday and Saturday evenings only, patrons may park for free at the Second Avenue Parking Plaza and use a shuttle with drop off at nearby Bedford Square. Details: ssniterider.com.

ABOUT CITY THEATRE:

City Theatre is Pittsburgh's home for bold new plays. Located in the historic South Side, the company produces a season of regional and world premieres, including the upcoming *Citizens Market* by Cori Thomas and *Nomad Motel* by Carla Ching. City Theatre's mission is to provide an artistic home for the development and production of contemporary plays of substance and ideas that engage and challenge a diverse audience.

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