



For Immediate Release

Fight Directors from Across the Nation Converge on the Wells Theatre as *Treasure Island* Takes the Stage at VSC

Virginia Stage Company presents Robert Louis Stevenson's timeless classic *Treasure Island* adapted for the stage by Timothy Mason and directed by world-renowned fight director David Doersch. One of the great adventure novels of all times, Robert Louis Stevenson's classic is brought to life on stage. Jim Hawkins is left with a treasure map, and hires a ship to sail to the island to find the gold. Little does he know that his ship is staffed by pirates, lead by the one-legged Long John Silver who plans on killing Jim and stealing the loot. With swash-buckling action on the high seas, this show promises to be a load of fun for the entire family.

MEDIA RELEASE

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The production runs from April 3 to April 24, 2005. Tickets to *Treasure Island* range in price from \$8 to \$42.50, with April 3 serving as a Pay-What-You-Can night. *Treasure Island* will also mark the third VSC production to use the recently announced Best Ticket in Town promotion. All tickets to the preview performances (April 5-7) will be sold for \$8. Tickets may be purchased at the VSC Box Office, by calling (757) 627-1234 or online at www.vastage.com.

In a cast of sixteen (by far the largest production this season), four cast members are well-known fight directors, and several are movement specialists with training from places such as the Dell'Arte School of Physical Theatre. "We have brought in a dream team of a cast for this production," states Keith Stava, VSC's Managing Director. "Take the talent we have amassed and add in swords, gun battles, live music, a parrot and huge flying scenery and you get a terrifically entertaining production."

Christopher Hanna, VSC's Artistic Director commented, "*Treasure Island* is the adventure story of all time, and it's fitting for this production to be such an adventure for our company. Watching the stage action take shape is so intriguing, even for me, that I wish we could even sell tickets to the rehearsals."

Director David Doersch is a founding member of the International Order of the Sword and the Pen, an international stage combat association bringing together fight professionals from all corners of the globe. His work has been seen on the Guthrie stage in such shows as *Macbeth*, *Othello*, in JoAnne Akalaitis' acclaimed production of *The Rover* and in Garland Wright's much lauded version of *As You Like It*. His other regional theatrical credits include work at the Dallas Theatre Center, the Crossroads Theatre, American Players Theater and many others from coast to coast. Mr. Doersch is a highly regarded instructor of staged violence as well, traveling and teaching at universities and training programs throughout the United States, Canada, Britain, Sweden, Estonia, Egypt, South Africa and most recently Japan.

Virginia Stage Company
at the Wells Theatre
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For a complete press kit, please contact Chad Bauman, Director of Communications, at (757) 627-6988 ext. 343.

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