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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**YALE REPERTORY THEATRE  
PRESENTS  
THE WORLD PREMIERE OF  
*BOSSA NOVA*  
BY KIRSTEN GREENIDGE  
DIRECTED BY EVAN YIONOULIS  
  
NOVEMBER 26-DECEMBER 18  
OPENING NIGHT: DECEMBER 2**

**YALE REPERTORY THEATRE** (James Bundy, Artistic Director; Victoria Nolan, Managing Director) presents the world premiere of ***BOSSA NOVA***, a powerful and poignant new play by **Kirsten Greenidge**, directed by OBIE Award winner **Evan Yionoulis**. ***BOSSA NOVA*** plays November 26-December 18; Opening Night is Thursday, December 2, at Yale Repertory Theatre (1120 Chapel Street, at York Street).

The cast of ***BOSSA NOVA*** features **Francesca Choy-Kee, Emily Dorsch, Ella Joyce, Tommy Schrider, Malenky Welsh, and Libby Woodbridge.**

***BOSSA NOVA*** features sets by **Ana Milosevic**, costumes by **Summer Lee Jack**, lighting by **Laura J. Eckelman**, sound by **Michael Vincent Skinner**, dramaturgy by **Catherine Sheehy** and **Anne Seiwerrath**, dialect coaching by **Jane Guyer**, and stage management by **Lee Micklin.**

**ABOUT *BOSSA NOVA***

Dee Paradis (Francesca Choy-Kee) has never fit in. Raised on the gentle swing of bossa nova and educated at elite, predominately white schools, she has led a life meticulously designed by her elegant and strong-willed mother, Lady (Ella Joyce). In the split second when she locks eyes with Lady in the mirror before a dinner party, Dee—nearly 30 years old and still torn between her mother's expectations and a former lover's ideals of authenticity—comes face to face with a choice that will determine her future.

*Bossa Nova* is the recipient of a 2010 Edgerton Foundation New American Plays Award.

## TICKET INFORMATION AND PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

Tickets for **BOSSA NOVA** range from \$10-85, are available online at [www.yalerep.org](http://www.yalerep.org), by phone at (203) 432-1234, and in person at the Yale Rep Box Office (1120 Chapel Street, at York Street). Student, senior, and group rates are also available.

Friday, November 26	8PM	
Saturday, November 27	8PM	
Monday, November 29	8PM	<b>ALL TICKETS \$10</b>
Tuesday, November 30	8PM	<b>ALL TICKETS \$20</b>
Wednesday, December 1	8PM	<b>ALL TICKETS \$20</b>
Thursday, December 2	8PM	<b>Opening Night</b>
Friday, December 3	8PM	
Saturday, December 4	2PM	<b>Talk Back</b>
Saturday, December 4	8PM	<b>Grad Night reception begins at 7PM</b>
Tuesday, December 7	8PM	
Wednesday, December 8	2PM	<b>Senior Reception begins at 1PM</b>
Wednesday, December 8	8PM	
Thursday, December 9	8PM	<b>Talk Back</b>
Friday, December 10	8PM	
Saturday, December 11	2PM	<b>Open Captioning, Talk Back</b>
Saturday, December 11	8PM	
Tuesday, December 14	8PM	
Wednesday, December 15	8PM	
Thursday, December 16	8PM	
Friday, December 17	8PM	
Saturday, December 18	2PM	<b>Audio Description</b>
Saturday, December 18	8PM	

## ABOUT THE CAST

**FRANCESCA CHOY-KEE** (DEE PARADIS) is delighted to be making her Yale Rep debut. Her New York stage credits include *Letters to the End of the World* (At Hand Theatre Company); Young Jean Lee's *The Shipment*, *Evergreen* (Prospect Theater Company); Athol Fugard's *Sorrows and Rejoicings*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Constant Wife*, *Picnic*, and *As You Like It* (NYU's Graduate Acting Program). Her regional and international credits include work at The Kennedy Center; The Thalia Theatre in Hamburg, Germany; Nicholas Martin's *She Stoops to Conquer* (McCarter Theatre); Matt Smart's *Chopin's Preludes*, and Sam Forman's *Please Stop Talking* (Williamstown Theatre Festival). Film credits include Sharon Greytak's *Archaeology of a Woman* starring Sally Kirkland. She received her undergraduate degree from The Tisch School of the Arts and RADA, and her MFA in 2009 from NYU's Graduate Acting Program.

**EMILY DORSCH** (JOAN CABOT) is thrilled to be making her Yale Rep debut, having graduated from the Yale School of Drama in 2007. Her Broadway credits include the Lincoln Center Theater production of Sarah Ruhl's *In the Next Room* (understudy) and *A Man for All Seasons* at the Roundabout Theatre Company. She has also appeared in *The Miracle Worker* at Paper Mill Playhouse, and on television in *Law & Order*, *Law & Order: SVU*, *Gossip Girl*, and *New Amsterdam*.

**ELLA JOYCE** (LADY PARADIS) made her Yale Rep debut in the world premiere of August Wilson's *Two Trains Running*, opposite Laurence Fishburne, in 1990. Her other theatre credits include the world premieres of *Crumbs from the Table of Joy* by Lynn Nottage, for which she received both the Jeff Award and the Black Theatre Alliance Award (Goodman Theatre), and August Wilson's *King Hedley II* (Pittsburgh Public Theatre); *Fences* (National Black Theatre Festival); *Don't Get God Started*; *Brothers, Sisters, Husbands & Wives*; *Barefoot in the Park*; and her own one-woman play, *A Rose Among Thorns: A Tribute to Rosa Parks*, which she has performed for more than three years at venues across the country. She was nominated for an NAACP Image Award for her role as Eleanor on the hit sitcom *Roc*. Her other film and television credits include *Set It Off*; *Bubba Ho-Tep*; *Selma*, *Lord Selma*; *Dead of Winter*; *Uncle P*; *Who Made the Potato Salad?*, *A Simple Promise*; *Stranger Inside*; *Salvation*; *Preacher's Kid*; *Our Family Wedding*; *My Wife & Kids*; *Eve*; *The Jamie Foxx Show*; *In the House*; *Seinfeld*; and the music video for TLC's *Waterfalls*.  
[www.ellajoyce.com](http://www.ellajoyce.com)

**TOMMY SCHRIDER** (MICHEAL CABOT) made his Yale Rep debut last season in Robert Woodruff's production of *Battle of Black and Dogs*. His New York credits include *Close Ties* (Ensemble Studio Theatre); *Septimus & Clarissa* (Red Bull/Ripe Time); *Acts of Mercy, St. Crispin's Day* (Rattlestick Playwrights Theater); *She Stoops to Conquer, Pigtown* (Irish Rep); *RACE* (Classic Stage Company); *Greek Holiday* (Abingdon Theatre Company); *Indoor/Outdoor* (Summer Play Festival); *Bread & Roses* (New York Theatre Workshop); *Uncivil Wars* (37 Arts/Pick Up Performance Company); and *I Lay Dying* (Ohio Theatre/The Essentials). Regional theatre credits include *The Importance of Being Earnest* (South Coast Rep); *The Caretaker, The Einstein Project* (Berkshire Theatre Festival); *Victoria Musica* (Cincinnati Playhouse); Hamlet in *Hamlet* (Syracuse Stage); as well as productions at Huntington Theatre Company, Westport Country Playhouse, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Philadelphia Theatre Company, Actors Theatre of Louisville, Hartford TheaterWorks, Virginia Stage, Portland Stage, Pioneer Theatre, and Hangar Theatre. Film and television credits include *The Positively True Adventures of the Alleged Texas Cheerleader-Murdering Mom*, *Medium*, *Numb3rs*, *Law & Order*, *Whoopi*, and *As the World Turns*. He received his MFA from NYU Tisch School of the Arts Graduate Acting Program.

**MALENKY WELSH** (JANE) is making her Yale Rep debut. Malenky's first stage experience was in the world premiere of Paula Vogel's *A Civil War Christmas* at Long Wharf Theatre, and she also appeared in the same show at New Haven Theater Company the following year. She is delighted to be working with her sister Remsen, who is understudying the role of Jane in this production. Malenky has worked for Wilhemina Models in New York and has performed in a children's music video. She is a member of the Elm City Girls Choir, and in her free time, she enjoys reading, drawing, playing with her sisters, and skateboarding. Her dream is to be a veterinarian one day.

**LIBBY WOODBRIDGE** (GRACE) is making her Yale Rep debut. Her theatre credits include *Gabriel* (Atlantic Theater Company), *Moonlight* (The Studio Theatre, DC), *Rock 'n' Roll* (Wilma Theater), and *Third* (understudy, Huntington Theatre Company). She also participated in the 2010 National Playwrights Conference at the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center. Libby holds a BFA from Boston University.

## **ABOUT THE CREATIVE TEAM**

**KIRSTEN GREENIDGE** (PLAYWRITER) is the author of the plays *Milk Like Sugar*, *The Luck of the Irish*, *Rust*, *The Curious Walk of the Salamander*, *Sans-Culottes in the Promised Land*, *103 Within the Veil*, and *The Gibson Girl*. She has developed her work at Sundance (Utah and Ucross), Magic Theatre, National New Play Network, Cardinal Stage, South Coast Repertory, Madison Rep, Page 73, Hourglass, Bay Area Playwrights, Playwrights Horizons, New Dramatists, The Mark Taper Forum, A.S.K., The Eugene O'Neill Theater Center, Guthrie Theater, Mixed Blood, McCarter Theatre Center, Humana Festival of New American Plays, Moxie, and New Georges. She is the recipient of a Huntington Theatre Playwriting Fellowship, an NEA/TCG residency at Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, and was recently playwright-in-residence at CompanyOne. She has also received Sundance's Time Warner Award for *Bossa Nova*. Kirsten attended Wesleyan and The Playwright's Workshop/University of Iowa and is a member of New Dramatists and Rhombus. She is currently working on a commission from Yale Repertory Theatre.

**EVAN YIONOULIS** (DIRECTOR) is a resident director at Yale Rep, where her productions include *The Master Builder*, *Richard II*, *Black Snow*, *The People Next Door*, *The King Stag*, *Heaven*, and *Galileo*. New York credits include Howard Brenton's *Sore Throats*, Adrienne Kennedy's *Ohio State Murders* (Lucille Lortel Award, Best Revival) at Theatre for a New Audience; Daisy Foote's *Bhutan* (Cherry Lane Theatre); as well as Richard Greenberg's *The Violet Hour* (Broadway), *Everett Beekin* (Lincoln Center Theatre), and *Three Days of Rain* (Manhattan Theatre Club, OBIE Award for Direction). With frequent collaborator, composer/lyricist Mike Yionoulis, she has written and directed the short film *Lost and Found* (Cleveland International Film Festival) and a new musical, *Redhand Guitar*, workshopped last fall at Arena Stage. Other credits include productions at the Mark Taper Forum, South Coast Rep, Huntington Theatre Company, New York Shakespeare Festival, Vineyard Theatre, Second Stage, Dallas Theatre Center, and many others. She has directed *Seven*, a documentary theatre piece about extraordinary women across the globe who work for human rights, in New York, Boston, Washington, Aspen, London, Deauville, and New Delhi. She is the recipient of a Princess Grace Foundation Fellowship and the Foundation's prestigious statuette. Professor (Adjunct), Yale School of Drama's Department of Acting.

**ANA MILOSEVIC** (SCENIC DESIGNER) originally from Serbia, is a third-year MFA candidate at Yale School of Drama, where she designed costumes for *Every Other Hamlet In The Universe* and sets for *Phèdre*. She studied industrial and interior design at the High School for Design and received her BFA in theatre production design from Ohio University. Her theatre credits include set design for *American Schemes* (New York Summer Stage); costumes for *Complete Female Stage Beauty*, *Happyslap*, *Safe* (performer, director, and designer); assistant set designer for *Reckless* and *The Taming of the Shrew*. She was the production designer for the feature film *Distortion*. Awards and achievements include: SAFE, USITT Award for Excellence in Performing Arts 2007, and PQ2007 participant in two categories (Prague 2007).

**SUMMER LEE JACK** (COSTUME DESIGNER) is a third-year MFA candidate at Yale School of Drama, where her credits include *the things are against us* and *The Seagull*. Her New York credits include *A Piece of My Heart*, *Who Will Carry the Word?* (Red Fern Theatre Company); *The Wild Party* (Gallery Players); *The Compleat Works of Wllm Shkspr (Abridged)* and *Nevermore* (Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey). She received her BA from Arizona State University.

**LAURA J. ECKELMAN** (LIGHTING DESIGNER) is a third-year MFA candidate at Yale School of Drama, where her credits include *elijah*, *Orlando*, *Phèdre*, and *Hamlet*. Other credits include *Fly By Night*, *The Mystery of Irma Vep*, *Late: A Cowboy Song* (Yale Summer Cabaret); *Good Words*, *Far Away*, *Radio Station*, *Hold for Beauty* and *Three Sisters, or the Dormouse's Tale* (Yale Cabaret); *Crave*, *Somewhere in the Pacific*, *Scenes from an Execution* (Potomac Theater Project); *Ghosts* and *Bus Stop* (Columbia University). She received her BA from Middlebury College and has received regional and national awards from the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival.

**MICHAEL VINCENT SKINNER** (SOUND DESIGNER) Theatre credits include *White Embers* (Samuel French 2010 OOB Short Play Festival Winner), *Drowning the Sun*, *Cracked (Upon A Time)*, and *PVT. Wars!*, (Royal Pyngwyn Collective), all in New York; *the things are against us*, *Phèdre*, *The French Play* (Yale School of Drama); *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Far Away*, *Good Words*, *Evil Dead the Musical*, *Bitter Sauce* (Yale Cabaret); *Cloud Tectonics* (Amherst College); *Pulling Apart*, *Arsenic and Old Lace*, *Cannibal! The Musical*, *A Piece of My Heart*, *Anything Goes* (Southern Connecticut State University); *Gathering Shells*, *Medea* (Quinnipiac University); *Pink Floyd's The Wall* (Black Onion Players); *The Who's Tommy*, *The Mystery of Twicknam Vicarage*, *The Radical Radio Show*, *The Musicality Series* (Puzzle Piece Theatre); *Seussical The Musical*, *Honk*, and *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory* (City of New Haven). Associate Design: *Compulsion* (YRT). Film: *The Seven Brothers of Waterbury*. A third-year MFA candidate at Yale School of Drama, he received his BA at Southern Connecticut State University. His designs have been recognized by the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and the New England Theatre Conference. Mike is currently in the local Beatles tribute band *BECAUSE!* and performed in Yale Summer Cabaret's *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*.

**CATHERINE SHEEHY** (DRAMATURG) is Resident Dramaturg at Yale Repertory Theatre and the Chair of Dramaturgy and Dramatic Criticism at Yale School of Drama. Her most recent Yale Rep dramaturgy credits include *POP!*, *Trouble in Mind*, and *The King Stag* (which she also co-adapted with Evan and Mike Yionoulis). Her adaptation of *Pride and Prejudice* was recently produced at Asolo Repertory Theatre and Dallas Theater Center. She has worked at the O'Neill Playwrights Conference, in New York and Ireland with the late Joseph Chaikin, at Baltimore's CENTERSTAGE with Irene Lewis, and for four seasons as Festival Dramaturg at Shakespeare Santa Cruz. She is a former associate editor of *American Theatre* and a former editor of *Theater* magazine. She received her doctorate from Yale in 1999 for her dissertation: *If You Care to Blast for It: Excavating the Lost Comic Masterpieces of the American Canon*.

**ANNE SEIWERATH** (DRAMATURG) is a second-year MFA candidate at Yale School of Drama, where her credits include Michael Mitnick's *elijah* and Caroline V. McGraw's *Thriftcrawl*. Her other credits include Saviana Stanesco's *White Embers* (Samuel French Off-Off Broadway Festival); Andrew Ondrejcek's *WONDER/LUST* (Clemente Soto Velez Cultural Center, New York); and, at the Yale Cabaret, *Radio Station*, *Wuthering Heights*, *Debut Track One Chord One Verse One* (producer), and *Crumbs* (co-writer/director). She holds degrees in English literature from Barnard College and the University of Toronto.

**JANE GUYER** (DIALECT COACH) is a Lecturer in Speech at Yale School of Drama. Her coaching credits include productions at Yale Rep, American Repertory Theatre, Actors' Shakespeare Project, and Shakespeare in the Parking Lot. Jane received her MFA in voice and speech

pedagogy from the American Repertory Theatre Institute at Harvard University and is an associate teacher of Fitzmaurice Voicework.

**LEE MICKLIN** (STAGE MANAGER) is a third-year MFA candidate at Yale School of Drama, where his credits include *Phèdre*, *Love's Labour's Lost*, and *Man=Man*. Previous Yale Rep credits include *We Have Always Lived in the Castle* earlier this season and last season's *Compulsion*. Additional credits include *Pamela Precious* and *Flowers and Other Stories* at Yale Cabaret, where he also directed *Evil Dead: The Musical*. Recently Lee worked at Lincoln Center Theater's Directors Lab. He previously worked as a production assistant on *Camelot* at Goodspeed Musicals and in New York at Food for Thought Productions and the Pascal Rioult Dance Company. He has also stage managed shows at the New York International Fringe Festival and Midtown International Theatre Festival. Lee holds a BA in theatre from Lehigh University.

### **ABOUT YALE REPERTORY THEATRE**

**YALE REPERTORY THEATRE** is dedicated to the production of new plays and bold interpretations of classics and has produced well over 100 premieres—including two Pulitzer Prize winners and four other nominated finalists—by emerging and established playwrights. Eleven Yale Rep productions have advanced to Broadway, garnering more than 40 Tony Award nominations and eight Tony Awards. Yale Rep is also the recipient of the Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre. Established in 2008, the Yale Center for New Theatre is an integrated, artist-driven initiative that devotes major resources to the commissioning, development, and production of new plays and musicals at Yale Repertory Theatre and across the country. Professional assignments at Yale Repertory Theatre are integral components of the program at Yale School of Drama, the nation's leading graduate theatre training conservatory.

### **ALSO THIS SEASON**

August Wilson's  
**THE PIANO LESSON**  
Directed by Liesl Tommy  
January 28-February 19, 2011

William Shakespeare's  
**ROMEO AND JULIET**  
Directed by Shana Cooper  
March 11-April 2, 2011

U.S. Premiere  
**AUTUMN SONATA**  
By Ingmar Bergman  
Directed by Robert Woodruff  
April 15-May 7, 2011

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