

Taproot Theatre Resumes Live, In-Person Performances with *Babette's Feast*, Opening on November 12

The set for *Babette's Feast* was built nearly two years ago; the Pacific Northwest debut of this new adaptation was worth the wait.

OPENING NOVEMBER 12, 2021 8:00PM – Run Dates November 10 – December 30, 2021 • Tues/Wed/Thur, 7:30 PM; Fri/Sat, 8:00 PM; Sat matinee, 2:00 PM

SEATTLE, WA – November 11, 2021 – Taproot Theatre Company is thrilled to resume live, in-person performances this fall with the Pacific Northwest debut of a new adaptation of *Babette's Feast*. Originally slated for spring of 2020, this story of the power of gathering and generosity is especially timely after the pandemic curtailed public events and many private gatherings as well. Hopeful even in the uncertainty of the beginning of the pandemic, Taproot staff kept the set on the stage and the costumes hanging in the dressing room throughout the pandemic. All but two of the original actors are returning to stage the production.

Crossing thousands of miles in search of asylum, Babette finds safety in a tiny mountain village. But petty squabbles and personal slights render the pious villagers as frigid and unforgiving as their surroundings. On one snowy December night, in an act of radical generosity, Babette prepares a feast so lavish that it awakens and transforms the brittle hearts in the village.

This theatrical adaptation of *Babette's Feast*, based on Isak Dinesen's short story, is directed by Scott Nolte, Taproot's co-founder and former Producing Artistic Director. Co-founder Pam Nolte plays Babette and is joined by a cast of Jenny Cross, James Faley, Jenny Vaughn Hall, Nolan Palmer, Kevin Pitman, April Poland, Matt Posner, and Teri Lee Thomas. The Noltes retired at the end of 2020, after 44 years with Taproot Theatre Company.

For patrons whose holiday plans are still uncertain, Taproot will put tickets for *Babette's Feast* on sale in three waves. This will allow patrons to still get great seats while purchasing tickets closer to the performance date. Tickets go on sale on October 26 for performances through November 30, on November 16 for performances through December 11, and November 26 for performances through December 30. Sign up to receive information via email as tickets become available: <https://taproottheatre.org/shows/2021/babettes-feast-2/>

SPECIAL DATES FOR THE AUDIENCE

Intergenerational Matinee: November 17 (limited availability) at 10:30 AM; With \$10 student/chaperone tickets, printed educational play guides, and a guided post-play discussion,

our Intergenerational Matinee enhances student education, providing theatre as a tool and springboard for learning, growth and communication. Senior ticket price: \$20.

Pay What You Can (PWYC): November 24 at 7:30 PM; a limited number of \$10 tickets are available at noon, tickets may be purchased in person or by phone (card fees may apply). Beginning at 5:00 PM, tickets are name-your-own-price; these tickets may be purchased in person only. Limit 4 tickets per person. Seating for PWYC performances is General Admission, there is no reserved seating. If you have accessible seating needs please call the Box Office directly.

Senior Matinees: November 30 and December 8 at 2:00 PM; Our Senior Matinee program provides anyone aged 62 and older with an affordable way to participate in live theatre in convenient daytime performance. Both performances will feature a post-play discussion, immediately following the show.

BABETTE'S FEAST FACT SHEET

WHAT: Taproot Theatre Company presents *Babette's Feast* Conceived and Developed by Abigail Killeen, Written by Rose Courtney, and Adapted from the short story by Isak Dinesen. *Crossing thousands of miles in search of asylum, Babette finds safety across the fjords in a tiny mountain village. But petty squabbles and personal slights render the pious villagers as frigid and unforgiving as their surroundings. In one radical act of generosity, Babette prepares a feast so lavish it awakens grace and transforms brittle hearts.*

WHEN: November 10 – December 30, 2021 • Tues/Wed/Thur, 7:30 PM; Fri/Sat, 8:00 PM; Sat matinee, 2:00 PM

Dates to note:

Previews: November 10-11, 7:30 PM

Opening Night: November 12, 8:00 PM

Intergenerational Matinee: November 17, 10:30 AM

Pay What You Can: November 24, 7:30 PM

Midweek Matinees: November 30 and December 8 at 2:00 PM (*limited availability*)

WHERE: Taproot Theatre Company's Jewell Mainstage Theatre, 204 N 85th St, Seattle, WA 98103

TICKETS: For patrons whose holiday plans are still uncertain, tickets for *Babette's Feast* will go on sale in three waves to allow patrons to still get great seats while purchasing tickets closer to the performance date. Tickets are currently on sale for performances through November 30. Tickets will go on sale on November 16 for performances through December 11, and November 26 for performances through December 30. Tickets are available online at taproottheatre.org, by phone 206.781.9707 (Tue-Sat, noon-5:00 PM) or in person at 204 N 85th St. Ticket prices range from \$25-52 with discounts available for students, seniors, active military, 25 & Under and TeenTix. Discounts are also available for groups of 8 or more by calling 206.781.9708 or by visiting taproottheatre.org/group-sales.

AGE RECOMMENDATION: 14+

CAST (*in order of appearance*)

Pam Nolte	<i>Babette</i>
Jenny Vaughn Hall	<i>Martine</i>
April Poland*	<i>Philippa</i>
Nolan Palmer	<i>Player #1</i>
Jenny Cross	<i>Player #2</i>
Matthew Posner*	<i>Player #3</i>
Kevin Pitman	<i>Player #4</i>
James Faley	<i>Player #5</i>
Teri Lee Thomas	<i>Player #6</i>

PRODUCTION

Scott Nolte**	<i>Director</i>
Andrew Eric Davison	<i>Music Director</i>
Mark Lund	<i>Scenic & Sound Design</i>
Jocelyne Fowler	<i>Costume Design</i>
Tim Wratten	<i>Lighting Design</i>
Rachel Victoria Miller*	<i>Stage Manager</i>
Bailey Siplila	<i>Dramaturg</i>
Elizabeth Kaye	<i>Dialect Coach</i>
Mariah Eames	<i>Directing Intern</i>

**Member of Actor's Equity Association.*

***Member of the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers.*

PHOTOS: Press photos are available online at <http://taproottheatre.org/for-the-press/> > Jewell Mainstage Theatre > Babette's Feast. (*This link is not to be published.*)

PR: Daytona Danielsen, Communications Manager, 206.529.3667, daytonad@taproottheatre.org

Support for Taproot Theatre Company's 2021 Jewell Mainstage Season is generously provided by ArtsFund, 4Culture, the Seattle Office of Arts & Culture, Verity Credit Union, the Washington State Arts Commission, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Babette's Feast is also sponsored in part by Ellis, Li & McKinstry PLLC, Ballard Industrial Inc., and Piper Village.

Taproot Theatre Company is a professional, non-profit theatre company with a multi-faceted production program. Founded in 1976, Taproot Theatre serves the Pacific Northwest with Jewell Mainstage Productions, Isaac Studio Theatre Productions, Touring Productions and the Acting Studio. Taproot Theatre Company tells stories of hope, serving the Pacific Northwest through live theatre and educational programs. Taproot Theatre Company is a member of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), Theatre Puget Sound (TPS) and Phinney Ridge Neighborhood Association (PNA).

Karen Lund, *Producing Artistic Director*
204 N 85th St | Seattle, WA 98103
206.781.9705 | taproottheatre.org

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