

New Adaptation of *Babette's Feast* Makes Pacific Northwest Debut at Taproot Theatre

OPENING MARCH 20, 2020 8:00PM – Run Dates March 18 – April 25, 2020 •
Wed/Thur, 7:30 PM; Fri/Sat, 8:00 PM; Sat matinee, 2:00 PM

"The feast is about destiny and art, and the joy of living in the now."
The New York Times

"Fellowship invites a bubbling up of all the gifts of each man and woman around the table — and that is the true wonder of the feast."
The National Review

SEATTLE, WA – February 7, 2020 – 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.

This deliciously theatrical new adaptation of *Babette's Feast*, based on the short story by Isak Dinesen, uses pantomime and minimalist stage properties to tell its story. Well-known for its academy-award-winning screen adaptation in 1987, the stage version of the story draws audiences in with its use of imagination and entices them to think beyond what they can see on the physical stage.

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.

Babette's Feast is directed by Taproot's Producing Artistic Director and co-founder **Scott Nolte** and featuring Taproot co-founder **Pam Nolte** as Babette. Scott and Pam both announced that they will be stepping away from their current administrative roles and retiring from Taproot Theatre Company at the end of 2020.

The cast also includes **Jenny Vaughn Hall** as Martine, **Chelsea LeValley** as Philippa, **Nolan Palmer** as Player #1, **Jenny Cross** as Player #2, **Andrew Eric Davison** as Player #3, **Kevin Pitman** as Player #4, **James Faley** as Player #5, and **Teri Lee Thomas** as Player #6.

The production team includes **Jocelyne Fowler**, costume design; **Tim Wratten**, lighting design; **Mark Lund**, scenic and sound design; **Kiera Krieg**, stage manager; **Bailey Siplila**, dramaturg; and **Elizabeth Kaye**, dialect coach.

SPECIAL DATES FOR THE AUDIENCE

Post-Play Discussions: TTC staff and cast members will join the audience to discuss the play and its production process. Post-play discussions are held after every Wednesday performance (excluding Preview) and after the Midweek Matinees.

Pay What You Can (PWYC): March 25 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: March 24 and April 22 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.

Intergenerational Matinee: April 1 (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.

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: March 18 – April 25, 2020 • Wed/Thur, 7:30 PM; Fri/Sat, 8:00 PM; Sat matinee, 2:00 PM

Dates to note:

Previews: March 18-19, 7:30 PM

Opening Night: March 20, 8:00 PM

Pay What You Can: March 25, 7:30 PM

Midweek Matinees: March 24 at 2:00 PM (*limited availability, post-play discussion*), April 22 at 2:00 PM (*post-play discussion*) and April 1 at 10:30 AM (*limited availability, post-play discussion*)

Post-Play Discussions: Wednesday nights (excluding Preview) following performances and after the Midweek Matinees.

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

TICKETS: 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>
Chelsea LeValley*	<i>Philippa</i>
Nolan Palmer	<i>Player #1</i>
Jenny Cross	<i>Player #2</i>
Andrew Eric Davison*	<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>
Jocelyne Fowler	<i>Costume Design</i>
Tim Wratten	<i>Lighting Design</i>
Mark Lund	<i>Scenic & Sound Design</i>
Kiera Krieg	<i>Stage Manager</i>
Bailey Siplila	<i>Dramaturg</i>
Elizabeth Kaye	<i>Dialect Coach</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: Jacob Viramontes, Communications Manager, 206.529.3666, jacobv@taproottheatre.org

Support for Taproot Theatre Company's 2020 Jewell Mainstage Season is generously provided by 4Culture, ArtsFund, the Seattle Office of Arts & Culture and Verity Credit Union.

Babette's Feast is also sponsored in part by Ellis, Li & McKinstry PLLC.

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 creates theatre experiences to brighten the spirit, engage the mind and deepen the understanding of the world around us while inspiring imagination, conversation and hope. Taproot Theatre Company is a member of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), Theatre Puget Sound (TPS) and Phinney Ridge Neighborhood Association (PNA).

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