

JANE JONES

Founder, Founding Co-Artistic Director

MYRA PLATT

Founding Co-Artistic Director

KAYTI BARNETT-O'BRIEN

Managing Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 2020**Contact: Annika Bennett, PR Coordinator**
206.428.6319 | annikab@book-it.org

The Turn of the Screw: A Haunting Tale of Delicious Dreadfulness

[Seattle, Wash., January 17, 2020]—Book-It Repertory Theatre's landmark 30th season continues with *The Turn of the Screw*, adapted from the 1898 horror novella by **Henry James**. Adapted by **Rachel Atkins** and directed by **Carol Roscoe**, this production will dive into the darkest corners of James's most famous and haunting story, asking audiences to question who they trust and whose version of events they believe. This will be Book-It's first production under the leadership team of current Artistic Director **Jane Jones** and Incoming Artistic Director **Gus Menary**. *The Turn of the Screw* plays February 12 – March 8, 2020 (**Opening/Press Night on Saturday, February 15**) at **The Center Theatre**.

In this classic ghost story, a young governess is charged with the care of the angelic Flora and Miles. Soon, however, two sinister and supernatural specters cast a shadow over the trio. These ghastly visions are trying to possess the children, yet only the governess perceives the threat. In this house full of secrets and terror, it falls to her to drive out these phantoms. When all you fear goes unwitnessed, how do you know what is real and what are mere manifestations from your own mind?

Says director Roscoe, "At almost any given moment, what's happening onstage could be normal, explicable behavior. But as we learn the circumstances surrounding these characters – their isolation, their trauma, the ways in which they interpret the world – our perspective shifts."

As *The Turn of the Screw* is often read as an exposé of Victorian female hysteria, Book-It's all-female cast brings a new perspective to this issue of gendered socialization. The cast includes **Nabilah S. Ahmed** as Miles/Ensemble, **Rheanna Atendido** as Flora/Ensemble, **Shannon Lee Clair** as Miss, **Bridget Connors** as Mrs. Grose/Ensemble, and **Amy Driesler** as Douglas/Quint/Ensemble.

With assistance from set designer **Pete Rush**, lighting designer **Peter Maradudin**, sound designer **Robertson Witmer**, costume design by **Melanie Burgess**, and properties design by **Robin Macartney**, Book-It's take on the infamous Bly Manor will prove a warped and claustrophobic world where very little is as it seems. **Alyssa Kay** is the intimacy and fight choreographer, **Annika Bennett** is the dramaturg and **Marianna de Fazio** is the dialect coach. Performance tickets range from \$20 to \$50 with group rates available. \$20 tickets will be available to students during the entire run with valid school ID. Purchase at book-it.org or by calling the box office at 206.216.0833. The box

- more -

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office is open Tues. through Fri., 12p.m. – 5p.m., located in the outer lobby of The Center Theatre at the Armory, 305 Harrison St., Seattle.

ABOUT BOOK-IT REPERTORY THEATRE

Book-It Repertory Theatre, a leader in the narrative theatre movement, was founded in 1990. Book-It is a non-profit organization with a dedication to great literature and quality theatre experiences employing simple, sensitive and imaginative production techniques, and to inspiring its audiences to read.

FOR CALENDAR EDITORS

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WHEN: Previews: Thursday, Feb 13 and Friday, Feb 14

Opening: Saturday, Feb 15

Closing: Sunday, March 8

TIMES: Wednesday-Saturday—7:30p.m. (Matinees on Feb 19, 26, 29, and March 7 at 2p.m., no evening on Feb 26) and Sundays—2p.m.

WHERE: The Center Theatre (305 Harrison St., Seattle, WA 98109)

TICKETS: Performance tickets range from \$20 to \$50 with group rates and rush tickets available. \$20 tickets will be available to students during the entire run with valid school ID. Purchase at book-it.org or by calling the box office at 206.216.0833. The box office is open Tues. through Fri., 12p.m. – 5p.m., located in the outer lobby of The Center Theatre at the Armory, 305 Harrison St., Seattle.

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