

wexner center
for the arts

For Immediate Release

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**ANNE BOGART AND SITI COMPANY PREMIERE ONE-MAN SHOW
ABOUT LEONARD BERNSTEIN CREATED AT WEXNER CENTER**

**THEATER PRODUCTION COMPLETES TRILOGY OF ANNE BOGART
WORKS COMMISSIONED BY THE WEXNER CENTER**

The SITI Company's solo theater piece **Score**, based on classical star Leonard Bernstein and his passion for music, will have its world premiere performances **March 14–17** in the Wexner Center Performance Space. Directed by Anne Bogart, *Score* will feature actor Tom Nelis as Bernstein.

Score completes SITI's trilogy of Wexner Center-sponsored solo works inspired by important artists. The previous two creative residencies resulted in *BOB* (about theater director Robert Wilson) and last season's *Room* (about writer Virginia Woolf), which both had their world premiere at the Wexner Center.

Here are SITI Director Anne Bogart's thoughts on *Score*:

"Score is about a passionate relationship between a man and music. The man in our play is based upon the conductor/composer Leonard Bernstein. The object of his passion is the music he encountered, played, conducted, wrote, and loved. The conductor is played by Tom Nelis. He is found, perhaps in the middle of the night, amidst the detritus of hundreds of music stands, still in tails, and suddenly ready to engage. Is the audience his musicians? His audience? His friends? All of these? Score is a study of ecstasy, articulation, and genius. It lives in the glorious atmosphere of great music. It honors one of the greatest of American figures."

Following the 3 pm matinee performance of *Score* on Saturday, March 16, **Anne Bogart will sign copies of her book *A Director Prepares*** in the Wexner Center Bookshop.

news release

This marks the second year in a row that The SITI Company and Anne Bogart have received a Wexner Center Residency Award in performing arts, and the sixth time the company has been to the Wexner Center. In addition to the trilogy (*BOB*, *Room*, *Score*), the Wexner Center also commissioned SITI's *Alice's Adventures*, a two-actor version of Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*. Past productions at the Wexner Center have also included *Cabin Pressure* and *The Medium*.

ANNE BOGART AND THE SITI COMPANY

The Wexner Center support of The SITI Company has been a catalyst in realizing the company's goals of establishing a independent touring ensemble. The SITI Company (originally the Saratoga International Theater Institute) was founded a decade ago to redefine and revitalize contemporary theater. This ensemble-based company led by Anne Bogart has several missions: to create new work for the theater; to perform and tour these productions nationally and internationally; to provide training for young theater professionals; and to foster opportunities for cultural exchange with theater professionals and audiences around the world. SITI's *bobrauschenbergamerica* was acclaimed as one of the highlights of last year's Humana Festival of New American Plays in Louisville. Following its Wexner Center premiere, *Score* will be featured in the 2002 Humana Festival.

Anne Bogart, artistic director of The SITI Company and associate professor at Columbia University, has received two Obie Awards, a Bessie Award, and a Guggenheim Fellowship.

Tom Nelis, who plays the legendary Leonard Bernstein in *Score*, has numerous credits with The SITI Company and is the recipient of an Obie Award for *The Medium*, which was performed at the Wexner Center in 1996.

For further information on SITI Company visit www.siti.org.

RELATED RESIDENCY ACTIVITIES

While SITI is on campus developing *Score*, The Ohio State University's Department of Theatre will sponsor a teaching residency with SITI Company members to provide in-depth perspective on SITI's training techniques and approach to forging creative solutions. Theater students will be invited to attend rehearsals for *Score* to learn more about the company's creative process, and Director Anne Bogart and SITI company members will also offer a discussion session in the Department of Theatre after the students have had an opportunity to see *Score*. This is the third time the Department of Theatre has worked with SITI Company members in conjunction with Wexner Center creative residencies.

WEXNER CENTER RESIDENCY AWARDS

The Wexner Center Residency Awards provide significant funding to develop new work in each of the center's program areas every season. Past Wexner Center Residency Award recipients in performing arts have included The Wooster Group, Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company, and Mark Morris Dance Group, among others. In 2001–02 the Wexner Center Residency Award program is also sponsoring creative residencies by media artists Miranda July and Cheryl Dunn through the film/video program, and fashion designer Hussein Chalayan through the exhibitions program.

EVENT SUPPORT

Development support for this project is provided by **The Rockefeller Foundation, Multi-Arts Production Fund**. Promotional support is provided by **Classical 89.7 WOSU-FM**. Lead support for the 2001–02 performing arts season is provided by **AT&T** and the **Doris Duke Charitable Foundation**. Major season support is provided by **Philip Morris Companies Inc.** Additional season support is provided by the **Ohio Arts Council** and the **Corporate Annual Fund of the Wexner Center Foundation**.

CALENDAR INFORMATION: Score

Description: The SITI Company and Anne Bogart present the world premiere of *Score*, a one-man theater show about Leonard Bernstein in a show commissioned by the Wexner Center.

Dates and times: Six performances: March 14–15 at 8 pm; March 16 at 3 & 8 pm; March 17 at 3 & 7 pm. Anne Bogart will sign copies of *A Director Prepares* after 3 pm matinee on Saturday, March 16.

Running time: 90 minutes, no intermission.

Location: Wexner Center Performance Space, 1871 N. High St. at 15th Avenue on the campus of The Ohio State University. Limited seating.

Tickets: \$20 general public; \$17 members/OSU students.

Ticket outlets: Wexner Center Ticket Office, 614/292-3535; Ticketmaster outlets, 614/431-3600.

Public information: www.wexarts.org or 614/292-3535.

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The Wexner Center for the Arts is The Ohio State University's multidisciplinary, international laboratory for the exploration and advancement of contemporary art. Through exhibitions, screenings, performances, artist residencies, and educational programs, the Wexner Center acts as a forum where established and emerging artists can test ideas and where diverse audiences can participate in cultural experiences that enhance understanding of the art of our time. In its programs, the Wexner Center balances a commitment to experimentation with a commitment to traditions of innovation and affirms the university's mission of education, research, and community service.

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