

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Joyce Linehan 617-298-0200, joyce@ashmontmedia.com

**ArtsEmerson: The World On Stage Announces
Global Arts Corps Residency
Boston Theatre Community Offered Special Glimpse into Work-in-Progress set in the
North of Ireland, by Company that Creates Performances in Conflict Zones**

ArtsEmerson: The World On Stage welcomes **Global Arts Corps** for a four-week residency that will culminate in a work-in-progress presentation of their latest production, *Hold Your Tongue, Hold Your Dead*. The public is welcome to this free peek at Global Arts' newest work, with performances daily Sept. 25 – 28, 2013 at 7 p.m. in Emerson's Semel Theatre (Tufts Performance Center, 10 Boylston Place). Reservations are recommended, but not required, at 617-824-8400.

This is a powerful new play about surviving a troubled past only to face the unknown of a fragile peace. *Hold Your Tongue, Hold Your Dead* takes an ironic look at young and old struggling to find a voice in a country where not talking about the past has become something of an art. *Hold Your Tongue, Hold Your Dead* is a collaborative effort with actors from both sides of Northern Ireland's historic divide; fast-rising young Northern Irish playwright, Stacey Gregg; noted Irish Composer Jules Maxwell; and Global Arts founder/director Michael Lessac. Built from the actors' stories and memories, the production explores the cost of celebrating ancestors while banning the past, and probes the silence that affects a young vibrant generation ready to move on. The play features original songs, which will be explored live by the composer and company at each workshop production.

Global Arts Corps is a New York-based theatre organization that creates productions in former conflict zones around the world with actors who might have once looked down the barrels of guns at each other. Their previous work, *Truth in Translation* tells the story of South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) through the eyes of its young interpreters, who translated for both victim and perpetrator after apartheid's collapse. To date, the production has performed for 55,250 people, facilitated workshops for 10,545 participants and has played in 26 cities, in 11 countries on 3 continents. In each of these places -- From Rwanda to the North of Ireland, Zimbabwe to the West Balkans, South Africa to the United States and beyond -- audiences have expressed the desire to share their own stories, using their own humor and music. It is this reaction that inspired the creation of the Global Arts Corps and led to the start of the Northern Irish production. A documentary film chronicling *Truth in Translation*'s creation and tour has recently been completed and was screened earlier this month at ArtsEmerson.

ArtsEmerson Explores Social Justice

Related Activity at ArtsEmerson

ArtsEmerson seeks to be at the forefront of discussions of social issues and civic engagement through theatre. This season, in addition to hosting Global Arts Corp, ArtsEmerson presents *columbinus*, a play about the Columbine shooting, *Mies Julie*, an examination of race in a post-apartheid society and *House / Divided*, a work

that looks at the foreclosure crisis through the lens of *The Grapes of Wrath*. ArtsEmerson also continues work on *Common Ground*, a theatrical response to the seminal book of the same name by J. Anthony Lukas. With the blessing of Lukas' family, a class under the direction of Melia Bensussen and Kirsten Greenidge began an investigation of the book in 2011 and presented a workshop performance that December. It is expected that further work on the text will take place in the fall / winter followed by readings in community centers throughout the city.

About ArtsEmerson

ArtsEmerson was established by Emerson College to program the beautifully restored 590-seat Paramount Center Mainstage; the versatile, intimate Jackie Liebergott Black Box Theatre ("The Jackie"), which can seat up to 150 people; the state-of-the-art 170-seat Bright Family Screening Room (all located within the Emerson / Paramount Center, a cornerstone in the revitalization of downtown Boston); and the beloved, historic 1,186-seat Emerson / Cutler Majestic Theatre in the heart of the Theatre District, fully restored by Emerson in 2003. Under the leadership of Rob Orchard, ArtsEmerson gives Boston audiences a new level of cultural choice, bringing live professional American and international stage work to its four distinct venues as well as films and music. For more information, visit artsemerson.org.

About Emerson College

Located in Boston, Massachusetts, opposite the historic Boston Common and in the heart of the city's Theatre District, Emerson College educates individuals who will solve problems and change the world through engaged leadership in communication and the arts, a mission informed by liberal learning. The College has 3,660 undergraduates and 829 graduate students from across the United States and 50 countries. Supported by state-of-the-art facilities and a renowned faculty, students participate in more than 80 student organizations and performance groups. Emerson is known for its study and internship programs in Los Angeles, Washington, D.C., the Netherlands, London, China, and the Czech Republic. The College has an active network of 32,000 alumni who hold leadership positions in communication and the arts. For more information, visit www.emerson.edu.

-30-

On sale now at ArtsEmerson:

Sept. 17—29, 2013, **columbinus – American Theater Company, Chicago**, Jackie Liebergott Black Box Theatre, Paramount Center

Oct. 8 —20, 2013, **BARITONE UNBOUND: CELEBRATING THE UNCOMMON VOICE OF THE COMMON MAN– Marc Kudisch & Friends, New York City**, Emerson / Paramount Center Mainstage

Oct. 10 —12, 2013, **KISS & CRY– Charleroi Danses, Belgium**, Emerson / Cutler Majestic Theatre

Oct. 31—Nov. 10, 2013, **WAITING FOR GODOT– Gare St. Lazare Players Ireland, Ireland**, Emerson / Paramount Center Mainstage

Nov. 7—9, 2013, **STEP AFRIKA! – Step Afrika!, Washington D.C.**, Emerson / Cutler Majestic Theatre

Nov. 13—17, 2013, **SLEEPING BEAUTY– Colla Marionette, Italy**, Emerson / Paramount Center Mainstage

Nov. 30—Dec. 8, 2013, **MIES JULIE– Farber Foundry, South Africa**, Emerson / Paramount Center Mainstage

Jan 10-Feb 1, 2014, **WE ARE PROUD TO PRESENT A PRESENTATION... - Company One**, Jackie Liebergott Black Box Theatre, Emerson/Paramount Center

Jan. 30—Feb. 2, 2014, **HOUSE / DIVIDED –The Builders Association, New York City**, Emerson / Cutler Majestic Theatre

Feb 13-Feb 16, 2014, **RED EYE TO HAVRE DE GRACE- Lucidity Suitcase Intercontinental**, Emerson / Paramount Center Mainstage

Feb 20-Feb 22, 2014, **NO PLACE TO GO-Ethan Lipton**, Jackie Liebergott Black Box Theatre, Emerson/Paramount Center

Feb 25-Mar 2, 2014, **MAN IN A CASE**- **Baryshnikov Productions**, Emerson / Cutler Majestic Theatre
Mar 6-Mar 15, 2014, **A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM**-**Bristol Old Vic**, Emerson / Cutler Majestic Theatre
Apr 1-Apr 6, 2014, **NOT BY BREAD ALONE**-**Nalaga'at Theater Deaf-Blind Acting Ensemble**, Emerson / Paramount Center Mainstage
Apr 9-Apr 13, 2014, **LEBENSRAUM [HABITAT]**-**Jakop Ahlbom**, Emerson / Paramount Center Mainstage
Apr 17- Apr 27, **THE WHOLEHEARTED**-**Stein | Holum Projects**, Jackie Liebergott Black Box Theatre, Emerson/Paramount Center
May 6 -May 18, 2014, **SONTAG: REBORN**-**The Builders Association**, Emerson / Paramount Center Mainstage
Jun 06-Jun 07, 2014, **EUGENE ONEGIN**-**Vakhtangov State Academic Theatre of Russia**, Emerson / Cutler Majestic Theatre