

ASOLO REPERTORY THEATRE

PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR MICHAEL DONALD EDWARDS • MANAGING DIRECTOR LINDA DIGABRIELE



*****For Immediate Release***
March 24, 2016**

ASOLO REP PRESENTS INSIDE ASOLO REP: *DISGRACED* ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30

WHAT:

This special panel discussion, held in the Cook Theatre, will feature Asolo Rep Producing Artistic Director and Director of *DISGRACED* Michael Donald Edwards and other special guests. Facilitated by Asolo Rep Dramaturg and Casting Associate Lauryn E. Sasso, Inside Asolo Rep provides behind-the-scenes insight into the creative processes of Asolo Rep's artists, and what it takes to bring a production to the stage. Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Ayad Akhtar's provocative drama *DISGRACED* opens March 30 and runs through April 24 in the Historic Asolo Theater, located in the Ringling Museum Visitors Pavilion.

WHEN:

Wednesday, March 30 at 11am
Panel Discussion begins at 11am
Coffee and Pastries served in the lobby at 10am

WHERE:

Cook Theatre
FSU Center for the Performing Arts
5555 N. Tamiami Trail
Sarasota, FL 34243

HOW:

Panel discussion tickets are \$5, and free for all donors and Asolo Rep Guild members. For tickets, call the Asolo Rep Box Office at 941.351.8000, visit www.asolorep.org or visit the Box Office, located in the lobby of the theatre.

-more-

Inside Asolo Rep is sponsored by Hotel Indigo and the Observer

ABOUT DISGRACED

New York. Today. Muslim-American lawyer Amir Kapoor has worked hard to achieve the American Dream – complete with a successful career, a beautiful wife and \$600 custom-tailored shirts. But beneath the veneer, success comes at a price. At the moment of achieving his life-long ambitions, he falls victim to professional and personal betrayals that manifest in one of the most gripping and provocative scenes ever written for the theater. Hailed as "terrific and turbulent, with fresh currents of dramatic electricity" (New York Times), this Pulitzer Prize-winning examination of big city aspiration and cultural assimilation dares to face the truth hiding just below the deception.

ABOUT MICHAEL DONALD EDWARDS

MICHAEL DONALD EDWARDS TENTH SEASON (Producing Artistic Director; Director, *Disgraced*) is in his tenth season as producing artistic director of Asolo Repertory Theatre. He was previously the associate artistic director of Syracuse Stage and served as artistic director of Shakespeare Santa Cruz. A Garland Award and Drama-Logue Award-winning director, Mr. Edwards has directed at Cleveland Play House, Indiana Repertory Theatre, Geva Theatre, Syracuse Stage, The Shakespeare Theatre, San Jose Rep, Opera San Jose, the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, the Old Globe in San Diego, Virginia Stage Company, the Virginia Opera, the State Theatre of South Australia, Opera Australia, Victoria State Opera, and the Metropolitan Opera. In previous seasons for Asolo Rep, Mr. Edwards has directed his English adaptation as well as Pulitzer Prize-winner Nilo Cruz's Spanish translation of Shakespeare's text in *Hamlet, Prince of Cuba*; as well as *Las Meninas*; *La Bête*; *The Last Five Years*; *The Life of Galileo*; *Perfect Mendacity*; *The Winter's Tale*; *Equus*; *A Tale of Two Cities*; *Darwin in Malibu*; *Nobody Don't Like Yogi*; *Amadeus*; *The Smell of the Kill*; *The Grapes of Wrath* and several pieces in the annual Unplugged festival of new plays.

###

MEDIA CONTACT

Sasha Fields
Public Relations Manager
941.351.9010 x4800
sasha_fields@asolo.org