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**AMERICAN CONSERVATORY THEATER ANNOUNCES PARTNERSHIP WITH  
DRESS FOR SUCCESS SAN FRANCISCO DURING THE RUN OF THE INTERNATIONALLY  
ACCLAIMED MUSIC-INFUSED PRODUCTION, *THE SUIT***

**Dress for Success is an international not-for-profit organization that promotes the economic independence of disadvantaged women by providing professional attire, a network of support and the career development tools to help women thrive in work and in life.**

**Patrons can bring a new or gently used item of professional women's attire to A.C.T.'s Geary Theater Box Office or Geary Theater and receive a 50% discount on tickets to the production of *The Suit* or an upcoming A.C.T. production.**

SAN FRANCISCO (April 15, 2014) – In conjunction with the internationally acclaimed music-infused production, *The Suit*, American Conservatory Theater (A.C.T.) announced today a partnership with **Dress for Success San Francisco** during the engagement of the production – **April 23–May 18, 2014** to help garner donations for the celebrated non-profit *and* save on tickets to A.C.T. performances. Dress for Success promotes the economic independence of disadvantaged women by providing professional attire, a network of support and the career development tools to help women thrive in work and in life. Patrons have two ways in which they can donate and save during the engagement of *The Suit*: ▪ To save 50% on two tickets to *The Suit*, bring a new or gently used item of professional women's attire to the Geary Theater Box Office during regular box office hours and save 50% off two tickets at the time of donation. ▪ Patrons can also choose to save on a future A.C.T. performance by bringing their donation of women's apparel with them to their performance of *The Suit*. With donation receptacles placed inside The Geary Theater, patrons can drop off their donation and receive a voucher for 50% off of an upcoming A.C.T. production (limitations apply). All of the collected professional items will be given to the Dress for Success San Francisco, which will then distribute the articles to women throughout San Francisco looking to gain a job or trying to re-enter the workforce. For more information on the Dress for Success San Francisco partnership, visit [www.act-sf.org/dress.com](http://www.act-sf.org/dress.com). For donation guidelines and clothing requirements, visit [www.dressforsuccess.org/sanfrancisco](http://www.dressforsuccess.org/sanfrancisco).

Says **Carey Perloff**, Artistic Director at American Conservatory Theater: "I am delighted to be partnering with Dress for Success, an organization I have deep admiration for. My daughter has worked for the organization in Paris, where she lives, and has reported incredibly positive outcomes from the women who have participated— it's an

absolutely win-win idea, and I hope our beautiful production of *The Suit* will encourage more people to get involved with Dress for Success."

"We are very excited to partner with A.C.T. in order to help provide interview suits, career services, and employment retention services to more women within our local community," said **Renée Surcouf**, Executive Director of Dress for Success San Francisco. "We are so grateful for A.C.T.'s generous contribution to our organization and our supporters as it is only through the generosity of the community that we are able to sustain our programs."

From legendary theatrical innovators Peter Brook, Marie-Hélène Estienne, and Franck Krawczyk comes the internationally acclaimed music-infused production, *The Suit*. Fresh from sold-out runs in New York, Paris, and London, *The Suit* is a tragic tale of betrayal and resentment adapted from the short story of the same name by South African writer, Can Themba. When a husband catches his beautiful wife in the arms of her lover, the lover flees—but leaves his suit behind. As her penance, the husband makes his wife "treat the suit as an honored guest," to accompany her wherever she goes. From the dinner table to walks around the neighborhood, the suit becomes a whimsical yet cruel reminder of her infidelity. Traditional African melodies interweave with jazz standards to underscore this simple yet surprising tale, set in Apartheid-era Johannesburg. Reminiscent of *The Scarlet Letter* and overflowing with the same inventiveness as *The Overcoat* and *Brief Encounter*, *The Suit* features innovative staging that integrates virtuosic musicians directly into the action, making Brook's haunting production of this heartbreaking fable sing. *The Suit* will perform at A.C.T.'s Geary Theater (415 Geary Street, San Francisco) April 23–May 18, 2014. Tickets (\$20 - \$120) are on sale now and may be purchased online at [act-sf.org](http://act-sf.org) or by calling 415.749.2228.

The cast for *The Suit* includes **Jordan Barbour**, **Ivanno Jeremiah**, and **Nonhlanhla Kheswa**. Musicians for *The Suit* are **Arthur Astier** (guitar), **Mark Christine** (piano), and **Mark Kavuma** (trumpet). The creative team for *The Suit* includes assistant director **Rikki Henry**, lighting designer **Philippe Vialatte**, and costume designer **Oria Puppo**.

A.C.T. will offer numerous **InterACT events**—many of which are presented free of charge—in association with *The Suit* that will give patrons opportunities to get closer to the action while making a whole night out of their evening at the theater. Visit [act-sf.org/interact](http://act-sf.org/interact) to learn more about subscribing to these events throughout the season:

- **Bike to the Theater Night**  
**Wed., April 23**  
Providing a greener alternative to theater transportation, A.C.T. and the San Francisco Bike Coalition offer free valet bike parking, as well as a special discount on tickets, for these select performances.
- **Prologue:**  
**Tue., April 29, 5:30 p.m.**  
Get inside the artistic process at this lively preshow discussion with A.C.T. artistic staff.

- **Theater on the Couch:**  
*Fri., May 2, following the 8 p.m. performance*  
Led by Dr. Mason Turner, chief of psychiatry at San Francisco's Kaiser Permanente Medical Center, this exciting postshow discussion series explores the minds, motives, and behaviors of the characters and addresses audience questions.
- **Audience Exchanges:**  
*Tue., May 6, 7 p.m. | Sun., May 11, 2 p.m. | Wed., May 14, 2 p.m.*  
After the show, stick around for a lively Q&A session with the actors and artists who create the work onstage.
- **OUT with A.C.T.:**  
*Wed., May 7, following the 8 p.m. performance*  
The best LGBT night in town! Mingle with the cast and enjoy free drinks and treats at this popular afterparty.
- **Symposium:**  
*Sat., May 10, at 2 p.m.*  
You're invited to join us after the show for a lively discussion! A.C.T. invites you to join us in the theater immediately following your performance for a discussion and Q&A with a local expert. The discussion will be moderated by A.C.T. dramaturg **Michael Paller**. **Can't make it to the event? We'll be streaming it live online!**
- **Wine Series:**  
*Tue., May 13, 7 p.m.*  
Before the show, raise a glass at this wine tasting event featuring leading sommeliers from the Bay Area's hottest local wineries.
- **PlayTime:**  
*Sat., May 17, 12:30 p.m.*  
Before this matinee performance, get hands-on with theater with the artists who make it happen at this interactive workshop.

A.C.T.'s production of *The Suit* is made possible by executive producers **Fred M. Levin and Nancy Livingston, The Shenson Foundation**; producers **Celeste and Kevin Ford; Anne and Michelle Shonk; Ayn Thorne**; and associate producers **Joel Krauska and Patricia Fox; Christine and Stan Mattison; Tim Mott; John and Paula Murphy; Richard Rava and Elisa Neipp**; with additional support by **Acorn Winery, Hafner Vineyard, and Piazza Market Catering**.

A.C.T. would like to acknowledge its 2013–14 company sponsors **Frannie Fleishhacker; Priscilla and Keith Geeslin; Mr. and Mrs. John Goldman; Ambassador James C. Hormel and Michael P. Nguyen; Fred M. Levin and Nancy Livingston, The Shenson Foundation; Burt and Deedee McMurtry; Arthur and Toni Rembe Rock; Patti and Rusty Rueff; Ms. Kathleen Scutchfield; Mary and Steven Swig; Jeff and Laurie Ubben**.

A.C.T. subscribers enjoy incredible savings, unparalleled access, exclusive benefits, and personalized customer service. Subscribers save as much as **33 percent off single-ticket prices**. Full-time students, educators, and

administrators with valid ID save up to 50 percent off select packages. Senior discounts are available for certain series. A.C.T.'s competitive subscriber benefits include **free ticket exchanges** up to the day of scheduled tickets, **priority seating**, **ticket insurance**, access to **convenient prepaid parking** one block away from the theater, and **discounts for neighborhood restaurants**. To order a subscription, visit [www.act-sf.org/subscribe](http://www.act-sf.org/subscribe) or call **415.749.2250**.

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