

Seattle Children's Theatre

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A thrilling and adventurous tale about perseverance: SCT Presents *A Single Shard*

(Seattle, WA) – Seattle Children's Theatre (SCT) will present *A Single Shard*, a world-premiere creation adapted by **Pulitzer Prize-winning** playwright **Robert Schenkkan** from the **Newbery Award-winning** book by **Linda Sue Park**. With direction by SCT Artistic Director **Linda Hartzell**, *A Single Shard* opens February 24th (with a public preview February 23rd) in SCT's Charlotte Martin Theatre and runs through March 18, 2012.

A Single Shard tells a tremendously inspirational and electrifying tale of an impoverished orphan boy in 12th-century Korea who demonstrates incredible perseverance. Twelve-year-old Tree Ear is living under a bridge with his only friend, the crippled Crane Man, but volunteers to embark on a dangerous journey in hope of seeking a better life for the both of them. The story will take audiences back in time to a unique culture, never introduced before by SCT, by way of Korean dance, costumes, life-size puppetry, and set design that is historic but also fantastically imaginative. *A Single Shard* is exciting and fast paced, while presenting an incredibly resilient, hard-working exemplar.

"Tree Ear is a role model for all of us. I hope everyone in our audience will come away from the performance with a greater respect for life and the power of possibility," notes SCT Artistic Director Linda Hartzell.

Tree Ear is played by **Jason Ko**, with Crane Man played by **Ho-Kwan Tse**. Joining the ensemble cast is **Geoffrey Barnes, Stephanie Kim, Scott Koh, Alexis Scott, Naho Shioya, Richard Sloniker** and **Joseph Steven Yang**. Stephanie Kim, Eric Riedmann, Richard Sloniker, Timothy Wang and Joseph Yang act as understudies. The production features Korean dance choreography by **Sinae Cheh**, Set Design by **Carey Wong**, Costume Design by **Nanette Acosta**, Lighting Design by **Michelle Habeck**, Sound Design by **Chris R. Walker**, and Puppet Design by **Annett Mateo**.

A Single Shard will be presented in SCT's Charlotte Martin Theatre from February 23 through March 18, 2012. Seattle Children's Theatre is located at 201 Thomas Street, under the Space Needle at Seattle Center. Tickets for *A Single Shard* are \$20 to \$36 and may be purchased by calling

the SCT Ticket Office at (206) 441-3322 or by visiting www.sct.org. *A Single Shard* is recommended for ages 8 and older.

Seattle Children's Theatre would like to thank season sponsor **Microsoft**, and show sponsors **Dorsey & Whitney**, **National Endowment for the Arts**, and **The Oki Foundation** for their generous support. SCT is also pleased to partner with Seattle's **Wing Luke Museum**, working with their membership and Board to spread the word about the important messages this show conveys.

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Seattle Children's Theatre, which celebrates its 37th season in 2011-2012, performs September through June in the Charlotte Martin and Eve Alvord Theatres at Seattle Center. Since its inception, SCT has gained acclaim as a leading producer of professional theatre, educational programs and new scripts for young people. By the end of its 2010-2011 season, SCT had presented over 220 plays, 108 of which were world premieres, and entertained over 4 million children.

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A Single Shard

By Linda Sue Park

Adapted by Robert Schenkkan

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Directed by Linda Hartzell

- WHAT:** *A Single Shard* tells a tremendously inspirational and electrifying tale of an impoverished orphan boy in 12th-century Korea who demonstrates incredible perseverance. Twelve-year-old Tree Ear is living under a bridge with his only friend, the crippled Crane Man, but volunteers to embark on a dangerous journey in hope of seeking a better life for the both of them. The story is exciting and fast paced, while presenting an incredibly resilient, hard-working exemplar.
- WHERE:** Seattle Children's Theatre's Charlotte Martin Theatre
201 Thomas Street, Seattle (Seattle Center)
- WHEN:** Public Preview – February 23, 2012 at 7pm
Opening Night Performance – February 24, 2012 at 7pm
Public Performances – February 24 through March 18, 2012
(Thursday-Friday at 7pm, Saturdays at 5:30pm with matinees at 2pm, Sunday matinees at 11am and 2:30pm - please check the website or call the SCT Ticket Office for schedule)
ASL-interpreted Performance – March 10, 2012 at 2 pm
- TICKETS:** Tickets are \$20-\$36 and may be purchased by calling SCT's Ticket Office at 206.441.3322 or by visiting www.sct.org. Discounts for groups of 10 or more are available by calling the Group Sales Office at 206.859.4054.
A Single Shard is recommended for ages 8 and older.
- INFO:** The Newbery-award winning book makes a powerful performance about perseverance and potential. Homelessness, ethical questions, hardships and an emotionally charged story are most suitable for older elementary-aged children.