



## TEACHERS WORKSHOP

# *Arthur Miller's DEATH OF A SALESMAN*

The Weston Playhouse, Weston, Vermont

Friday, April 9, 2010

### Bios of Workshop Leaders

#### **Dr. Susan C.W. Abbotson**

*Assistant Professor of Modern & Contemporary Drama, Rhode Island College, Providence, RI*

Professor Abbotson has taught at Rhode Island College since 1999. A leading scholar on the work of Arthur Miller, she has published three books - including *Critical Companion to Arthur Miller* (2007) and *Understanding Death of a Salesman* (1999) – and many articles on this seminal American writer. Her teaching guide for *The Crucible* will be published shortly by Methuen Press. Past President of the Arthur Miller Society, she currently serves on their board and manages their website. She is also the Performance Editor for the *Arthur Miller Journal*, and was one of a panel of experts to discuss Arthur Miller on Tom Ashbrook's *On Point* on NPR.

Professor Abbotson holds a B.A. from Loughborough University, a Postgraduate Certificate of Education from Bristol University, an M.A. from the State University of New York (Brockport), and a Ph.D. from the University of Connecticut.

#### **Steve Stettler**

*Producing Director, Weston Playhouse Theatre Company, Weston, VT*

Steve Stettler is the WPTC's Resident Producing Director, guiding the theatre's artistic and strategic growth from its year-round office in Weston. He created the theatre's school matinee and touring programs, and his WPTC directing credits include *The Light in the Piazza*, *A Number* and the fall tour of *Metamorphoses*. A former Artistic Director of the Obie-winning TNT/The New Theatre of Brooklyn, Steve has directed in New York, regionally on both coasts and internationally.

Steve has taught at the secondary and undergraduate level, including many years as an acting instructor at the O'Neill Theater Center's National Theater Institute, and he has frequently adjudicated for the American College Theatre Festival and Vermont State Drama Festival. A longtime site reporter for the National Endowment for the Arts, he has served as a panelist for the NEA and the Vermont Arts Council. Steve is currently a member of the Board of Directors of the National Alliance for Musical Theatre and is co-chair of the Committee for its annual Festival of New Musicals in NYC.

**Greg McCaslin**

*Education Director, Roundabout Theatre Company, New York, NY*

Greg McCaslin joined the Roundabout Theatre Company in 2008 after a decade as Director of Programs and Senior Program Consultant for the Center for Arts Education which administers The New York City Annenberg Challenge for Arts Education, a \$36 million public-private partnership. Mr. McCaslin was previously the Director of Education and Information at the New York Foundation for the Arts where he oversaw a statewide Artists in Residence program, a national hotline for visual artists, and a grant program for community-based arts organizations in New York City. He has served on numerous state arts council advisory panels, was a member of the steering committee for the National Assessment of Educational Progress in the Arts, and a consultant to the New Jersey Performing Arts Center.

Trained as a theatre performer and director, his theatrical work has been seen in the US and Asia. His educational experience includes work as a teaching artist for the Lincoln Center Institute, and as a classroom teacher in high schools and colleges in California, Missouri, and New York City. He studied at the Theatre Conservatory of Webster College in St. Louis, Missouri, St. Mary's College in California, the University of California at Berkeley, and Columbia University.

**Julie Aylward**

*Master Teacher, Theater Arts Instructor, Windsor School District*

Julie Aylward has been performing since age four, not always to the delight of the adults in charge. Trained at the Baltimore Children's Theatre, the Peabody Conservatory of Music, and at AADA in NYC, Julie has appeared in professional, cabaret, trade and community stage and television productions in the U.S., the U.K. and Canada. In 1997, she began a long-running gig as Theatre Arts instructor for the Windsor School District. Any and all association with the Weston Playhouse have been a gift for her students and for herself.

**Dana Yeaton**

*Director, WPTC Playwriting Program, Professor of Playwriting, Middlebury College*

Dana Yeaton is the recipient of the Heideman Award from the Actor's Theatre of Louisville and the "New Voice in American Theatre" award from the William Inge Theatre Festival. His play *Redshirts* was co-produced by Penumbra Theatre in Minneapolis, and Round House Theatre in Washington, DC, where it was nominated for a Charles MacArthur Outstanding New Play Award. His full-length drama *Mad River Rising* received the Moss Hart Award from New England Theatre Conference and *The Big Random* was produced by Bald Mountain Stage in Rochester. *Midwives*, his adaptation of Chris Bohjalian's best-selling novel, has been produced professionally and at colleges around the country. He was founding director of the Vermont Young Playwrights Project and teaches playwriting at Middlebury College. Dana's latest work, *My Ohio*, is a two-character musical scheduled to premiere at FlynnSpace next April in a production by Vermont Stage Company.