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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NEWS RELEASE FROM DARK & STORMY PRODUCTIONS

DARK & STORMY PRODUCTIONS ANNOUNCES

ADDITIONAL PERFORMANCES OF EXTREMITIES:

SEPTEMBER 24, 25, & 26, 2015, at 7:30pm

EXTREMITIES By William Mastrosimone Directed by Mel Day

EXTENDED PERFORMANCES SEPTEMBER 24 – 26, 2015

AT THE ARTSPACE GRAIN BELT WAREHOUSE 77 13th AVENUE NE, Studio 202 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55413

Starring: Emily Bridges*, Tracey Maloney*, Sara Marsh*, and James Rodriguez

*Member, Actors' Equity Association

Sara Marsh, *Artistic Director* Dark & Stormy Productions



Minneapolis, Minnesota – Dark & Stormy Productions today announces three additional performances at the end of its run of William Mastrosimone's *Extremities*: September 24, 25, & 26, 2015. All performances are at 7:30pm. The original closing night reception on September 19 will now be a post-show discussion with Melodie Bahan, VP of Communications for Artspace, and cast members. There will be a closing night reception following the September 26 performance.

ABOUT EXTREMITIES

Chilling, thrilling, and thought-provoking, *Extremities* is a dynamic, contemporary, relevant play about dominance and power; who has it, who doesn't, how you get it, how you keep it, how easy it is to lose it. And, when the cards are stacked against you, how far will you go to get it back?

Of extending Extremities, Artistic Director Sara Marsh says,

Written in 1978, *Extremities* is a 80-minute play about domination through sexual violence and social cunning: part thriller, part courtroom drama (that all takes place in a living room), and, overall, a play about power. Each character represents a different viewpoint, and tries to convince us using violence, cunning, charm, suggestion, guilt, shame... How has this changed in the last 35 years? As much as we think? Hope? Believe? It's a compelling case within a beautifully written, thrill-ride of play, and *Extremities* highlights that 35 years later, the prevalence of sexual violence (against women, men, and transgender individuals of all ethnicities – we've had victims of all demographics in our audiences) deserves a spotlight more than ever.

This has been supported by our audiences – particularly our under age-30 patrons and first-time theatergoers, who have made up a larger percentage of our audience for this show than for any other production in our history. The majority of our audiences have actively sought discussion after our performances (we have post-show discussions on 9/16 - SOLD OUT - and 9/19) and described their appreciation of not only the excellence of the production, but of its realism and the importance of bringing these issues to the fore. Their response has been so overwhelmingly positive (in ticket sales, selling out most of our performances, and in praise for the production) that we are extending for another weekend. We want as many audience members to experience this play as possible.

We have had the honor of working with playwright William Mastrosimone throughout this process, who has made adjustments to the original script specifically for our production.



I'm thrilled to be partnering again with Artspace, and I'm honored that Frances Wilkinson and Jennifer Melin Miller, two of the most well-respected and prolific producers in the Twin Cities and New York City, agree that there couldn't be a better time for this conversation, or a better play to spark the discussion of it.

Here's what audiences are saying about Dark & Stormy's production of Extremities:

"This show has been haunting me. Beautifully done. Highly recommend it."

"An excellent production with a ridiculously talented cast."

"A brilliant production. So brave. So tough."

"Kudos to director Mel Day for guiding these crazy talents so effectively...The show is a rough, violent provocation and this company continues to be one of the best examples of theater in the Twin Cities."

"Congratulations to Sara Marsh and the entire cast and creative team for this riveting and thought-provoking show."

"Sara Marsh's **Dark & Stormy Productions** is a flat out force. A really difficult play becomes a delight to watch because the acting is so good – a credit to a really good director. Amazing fight choreography. Courageous producers. So glad I saw this play."

"The show was terrific. Everyone should see it. Don't miss this one!"

Extremities by William Mastrosimone, running August 27, 2015 – September 26, 2015, is Dark & Stormy's sixth production. Tickets for *Extremities* are available at <u>www.darkstormy.org</u>, by calling 612-401-4506, or by emailing <u>tickets@darkstormy.org</u>. Tickets are \$25, with discounts for patrons under the age of 30. All shows 7:30pm. All tickets general admission. Our 9/16 & 9/17 performances are SOLD OUT, and 9/18 will sell out shortly. There is no late seating.

ABOUT DARK & STORMY PRODUCTIONS

Founded in February 2012 by **Artistic Director Sara Marsh, Dark & Stormy Productions** seeks to enrich the community by providing artistically excellent, relevant,



and thought-provoking professional productions that engage and inspire both the audience and the artist. Dark & Stormy's mission and goals are three-fold: foster new theatergoers; sustain current audiences by offering them the opportunity to see excellent, unconventional, immediate, relevant, exciting productions using the top talent in the Twin Cities; and support the rich community of professional artists in the Twin Cities by providing collaborative, engaging, unique, artistically challenging opportunities in between productions and projects at larger theaters.

For more information about Dark & Stormy Productions, please visit <u>www.darkstormy.org</u> or email <u>sara@darkstormy.org</u>.

