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30  
SEP 5—JAN 19  
BAM Next Wave Festival

**BAM presents the US premiere of *Faust: A Love Story* from Iceland's Vesturport Theatre and Reykjavík City Theatre**

**A visceral, darkly humorous reimagining of the Faustian myth**

BAM's 150th anniversary celebration continues through Dec 2012

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***Faust: A Love Story***

Inspired by Goethe, Christopher Marlowe, and earlier sources  
Vesturport Theatre and Reykjavík City Theatre  
Directed by Gísli Örn Gardarsson

Written by Nina Dögg Filippusdóttir, Gísli Örn Gardarsson, Carl Grose,  
Björn Hlynur Haraldsson, and Víkingur Kristjánsson

Music by Nick Cave, Warren Ellis

Set design by Axel Johannesson

Costume design by Filippia Elisdóttir

Lighting design by Thordur Orri Petursson

Sound design by Thorbjorn Knudsen, Frank Hall

Make up design by Sigríður Rosa Bjarnadóttir

**BAM Harvey Theater (651 Fulton St)**

Dec 12—14 at 7:30pm; Dec 15 at 2 and 7:30pm; and Dec 16 at 3pm

Tickets start at \$25

**Artist Talk with Vesturport Theatre company**

Moderated by Jonathan Kalb

Dec 13, post-show (free for same-day ticket holders)

**"...amongst the world's most dazzling troupes." —*The Guardian* (UK)**

**Brooklyn, NY/November 5, 2012**—Iceland's Vesturport Theatre "has a reputation for slanted, kinetic, uproarious reworkings of familiar stories" (*Evening Standard*, UK) and their latest production, as part of the BAM 30th Next Wave Festival, does not disappoint. *Faust: A Love Story* is a darkly humorous, circus-inspired reimagining of the classic Faustian tale of an all-consuming desire and a second chance at life in search of love. *Time Out London* praised the production for its "rare and great...marriage of script and spectacle."

Set in a nursing home at holiday time, director Gísli Örn Gardarsson's production centers on Johann, a senior resident and once-famous actor who has played all the star roles except Goethe's Faust. Greta, his nurse and the object of his affection, enables him in a kind of Faust fantasia wherein Johann, on the verge of taking his own life, is rescued by the demon Mephisto, who bets God he can keep Johann/Faust from His clutches by fulfilling the old man's wish for the glories of youth and love. The characters from the nursing home submerge themselves into a performance of Goethe's *Faust* with Johann as Faust, but the border between the play and reality soon blurs in Johann's mind. Music by longtime Vesturport collaborators Nick Cave and Warren Ellis is harnessed to the company's trademark physicality, including a synchronized wheelchair dance and a high-flying act performed above a vast net stretched over the audience.

Ranking among Iceland's oldest and most prestigious cultural institutions, **Reykjavík City Theatre's** (RCT) history stretches back more than a century to the foundation of the Reykjavík Theatre Company in 1897. Currently, RCT stages nine to 13 new productions annually, in addition to hosting a variety of collaborations with other theater companies. The company draws on a richly varied repertoire of international and domestic works, and breaks new ground even when producing classic works. Under the artistic direction of Magnus Geir Thordarson, the company prides itself on a strong ensemble dedicated to fostering young writers and discovering talented new directors.

**Nick Cave** and **Warren Ellis** have been playing together for more than fifteen years with The Bad Seeds, Grinderman, and The Dirty Three. Recently they have collaborated on soundtracks for films such as *The Proposition* (2005), *The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford* (2007), *The Road* (2009), *Dias de Gracias* (2011), *West of Memphis* (2012), and *Lawless* (2012), as well as Gísli Örn Gardarsson's theatrical productions of *Woyzeck* (2005), *Metamorphosis* (2006), and *Faust* (2010).

Cave and Ellis have also lent resonant dimension to a number of startling documentaries. In 2007, they scored Geoffrey Smith's harrowing film *The English Surgeon* and Matthew Watson's *The Girls of Phnom Penh* (2009).

For press information contact Joe Guttridge, 718.636.4129x4 or [jguttridge@BAM.org](mailto:jguttridge@BAM.org).

#### Credits

American Express is the BAM 30th Next Wave Festival sponsor

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Programming in the BAM Harvey Theater is endowed by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation

Major support for theater at BAM provided by Stephanie & Timothy Ingrassia; Donald R. Mullen Jr.; The SHS Foundation; The Shubert Foundation, Inc.

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American Airlines is the Official airline of the BAM 30th Next Wave Festival. Sovereign Bank is the BAM Marquee sponsor. Yamaha is the official piano for BAM. R/GA is the BAM.org sponsor. New York Marriott at the Brooklyn Bridge is the official hotel for BAM.

Co-produced by Theatre im Pfalzbau

#### General Information

BAM Howard Gilman Opera House, BAM Rose Cinemas, and BAMcafé are located in the Peter Jay Sharp building at 30 Lafayette Avenue (between St Felix Street and Ashland Place) in the Fort Greene neighborhood of Brooklyn. BAM Harvey Theater is located two blocks from the main building at 651 Fulton Street (between Ashland and Rockwell Places). Both locations house Greenlight Bookstore at BAM kiosks. BAM Fisher, located at 321 Ashland Place, is the newest addition to the BAM campus and houses the Judith and Alan Fishman Space and Rita K. Hillman Studio. BAM Rose Cinemas is Brooklyn's only movie house dedicated to first-run independent and foreign film and repertory programming. BAMcafé, operated by Great Performances, is open for dining prior to BAM Howard Gilman Opera House evening performances. BAMcafé also features an eclectic mix of spoken word and live music for BAMcafé Live on Friday and Saturday nights with a special BAMcafé Live menu available starting at 6pm.

Subway: 2, 3, 4, 5, Q, B to Atlantic Avenue – Barclays Center (2, 3, 4, 5 to Nevins St for Harvey Theater)  
D, N, R to Pacific Street; G to Fulton Street; C to Lafayette Avenue  
Train: Long Island Railroad to Atlantic Terminal – Barclays Center  
Bus: B25, B26, B41, B45, B52, B63, B67 all stop within three blocks of BAM  
Car: Commercial parking lots are located adjacent to BAM

For ticket and BAMbus information, call BAM Ticket Services at 718.636.4100, or visit [BAM.org](http://BAM.org).

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