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New Stage Unframed Series presents When We Were Young and Unafraid By Sarah Treem

Jackson, Mississippi – The Unframed Series at New Stage Theatre presents *When We Were Young and Unafraid* by Sarah Treem on November 22nd and 23rd at 7:30pm and November 24th at 2pm. Tickets may be purchased online at newstagetheatre.com for \$10 until November 22nd at 4:00pm. If there is seating available, tickets may also be purchased for \$15 one hour before each show. The performances are staged at New Stage's Warehouse Theatre, which is located at 1000 Monroe Street in the Belhaven Heights neighborhood. *When We Were Young and Unafraid* contains adult content and language, and is recommended for mature audiences only.

When We Were Young and Unafraid, directed by Ashlyn Pinkerton, is a commanding story of sisterhood, survival, and defiance. Set in the early 1970's, the play lets us inside the walls of a once bed and breakfast now underground women's shelter where Agnes, our fierce matriarch, provides a place of respite for women fleeing violence. The newest addition to the pack, Mary Anne, is a young runaway who is just enlivened and rebellious enough to invoke change in the hearts of those around her. When We Were Young and Unafraid explores the passion of youth, the wisdom of age, and the people who awaken us to new possibilities.

Sarah Treem's other works include *Empty Sky, Against the Wall, Mirror, Mirror, A Feminine Ending, Human Voices*, and *Vienna's Amazing*. *A Feminine Ending* received its world premiere at Playwrights Horizons in Fall 2007, was subsequently produced at South Coast Repertory and Portland Center Stage in 2008 and is published by Samuel French. Her work often circulates around themes of feminine wisdom, familial bonds, and overcoming adversity.

Francine Reynolds, New Stage Artistic Director, says, "When We Were Young and Unafraid by Sarah Treem is the type of thought-provoking and timely play for which our Unframed Series was created."

"The Unframed Series at New Stage Theatre series was created to provide an alternative theatre experience for the community", said Reynolds. "The goal of the Series is to attract theatre audiences that are interested in contemporary theatre and its exploration of modern society. When We Were Young and Unafraid tackles critical and complicated subject matter that merits attention. With its remarkable script that shines light on the faces of women who fought to create a powerful change in America, When We Were Young and Unafraid is a perfect

choice to open our 16th season of Unframed at New Stage Theatre, a series of plays that tell the truth without pulling any punches as they examine the complexities of being human in today's world."

The cast of *When We Were Young and Unafraid* includes Alisa Price (Agnes), Rhen Tanaka (Penny), Mahri McLean (Mary Anne), Jacob Heuer (Paul), and Gwyn Weber (Hannah).

Ashlyn Pinkerton, the Director, expressed, "I have loved *When We Were Young and Unafraid* upon my first reading the play. It is such a poignant and intimate story and is a realistically heartrending portrayal of the experiences of women. I hope people will connect with these characters when they watch this story."

Created in 2006, The Unframed at New Stage Theatre series provides a distinctive theatre experience to the community. The focus is on producing new works and contemporary drama as an alternative to the traditional New Stage subscription series. Unframed at New Stage provides artistic opportunities to emerging artists allowing them to get more experience working with a professional theatre company and on fresh, exciting material that's not typically produced on the main stage. In the past the series has produced works such as *Is God Is, Race, The Pillowman, Stop Kiss, Steal Away!, and The Laramie Project.* New Stage is excited to start Season 16 with a program full of intriguing new drama that is equal parts entertaining, thought provoking, and hilarious.

When We Were Young and Unafraid opens Friday, November 22nd at 7:30pm. Following performances are Saturday, November 23rd at 7:30pm and Sunday at 2:00pm. Tickets may be purchased online in advance at newstagetheatre.com for \$10 until November 22nd at 4:00pm. If there is seating available, tickets may also be purchased for \$15 up until one hour before each show. When We Were Young and Unafraid contains adult content and language and is recommended for mature audiences only. The performances are staged at New Stage's Warehouse Theatre. The theatre is located at 1000 Monroe Street in the Belhaven Heights neighborhood. Unframed at New Stage Theatre is sponsored by Jackson Free Press. For more information on The Unframed Series at New Stage Theatre, find us on Facebook or Instagram at Unframed at New Stage Theatre or call 601.948.3533 (ex. 223.)