FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - September 18, 2009 CONTACT: Kati Mitchell 617-495-2668

## A.R.T./MXAT Institute for Advanced Theater Training presents Shakespeare's THE WINTER'S TALE directed by David Gammons October 1-3 Loeb Drama Center

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. - The American Repertory Theater/Moscow Art Theater Institute for Advanced Theater Training presents its first production of the 2009-10 season — **The Winter's Tale** by William Shakespeare, directed by Elliot Norton Award-winning David Gammons, and performed by the Institute Class of 2010. The production is presented at the Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle Street, Harvard Square.

## Performance Dates & Times:

October 1 at 7:30 p.m. October 2 at 8:00 p.m. October 3 at 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Staged as part of the A.R.T.'s *Shakespeare Exploded!* festival, the Institute's production of *The Winter's Tale* gives audiences a chance to brush up on the Shakespeare before seeing *Best of Both Worlds*, Diane Paulus and Randy Weiner's R&B and Gospel adaptation of *The Winter's Tale*, which begins performances on November 21<sup>st</sup>. at the Loeb Drama Center.

The Winter's Tale begins in the icy, elegant land of Sicilia. King Leontes fears his wife has been sleeping with his best friend. And when her alleged lover runs away before the King can kill him, Leontes lets loose his rage upon his Queen—setting a course that could destroy his kingdom. But, just as things look bleakest, hope for Sicilia's future floats ashore in Bohemia, landing in a country of shepherds and scoundrels, blender drinks and beach parties. As winter melts away into spring, can time thaw anger and sorrow? Can the gravest of sinners earn forgiveness and redemption?

David Gammons, who recently won an Elliot Norton Award for his production of *The Duchess of Malfi* for Actors Shakespeare Project, helms the production, distilling the play's action down to its bare essentials. He crafts two distinct worlds, leading the audience from Sicilia, a Victorian-tinged land of string quartets, midnight wanderings and week-long chess matches, to Bohemia, a 1960-ish world of petty thieves and perpetual parties.

Ticket prices are \$10 for the general public; \$5 for students, and seniors, free to A.R.T. subscribers. They can be purchased at the Loeb Drama Center or by calling the A.R.T. Box Office at (617) 547-8300 or online at www.americanrepertorytheater.org.

#30