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the *vienna theatre project* presents  
the **WORLD PREMIERE** of

# **American Christmas**

**adapted from Truman Capote's short stories**  
***A Christmas Memory & One Christmas***  
**by Gregory Fuller**

Told from the perspective of a grown-up man who remembers his childhood experience of the Christmas holiday, AMERICAN CHRISTMAS captures the Christmas spirit of the American South through the eyes of the little boy Truman Capote once used to be. In the first story, *A Christmas Memory*, the grown-up man joyfully remembers the Christmas traditions his grandmother introduced him to; in the second, *One Christmas*, the unhappy little boy has to spend one Christmas with his estranged father in New Orleans.

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## **About Truman Capote**

Born in New Orleans as the son of a salesman and a 16-year-old beauty queen, Truman Capote (1924-1984) was an American novelist, short story writer and playwright. He gained international fame with his 'non-fiction novel' IN COLD BLOOD (1966), an account of a real-life crime in which an entire family was murdered by two sociopaths. The Louisiana-Mississippi-Alabama area provided the setting for much of Capote's fiction.

After his parents' unhappy marriage had ended in divorce when he was four, little Truman was brought up by relatives in Alabama. One of these relatives became the model for the loving, elderly spinster in several of Capote's novels, stories, and plays. "Her face is remarkable - not unlike Lincoln's, craggy like that, and tinted by sun and wind," Capote describes his distant relative Sook, Nanny Rumbley Faulk, in A CHRISTMAS MEMORY (1966). Sook was sixty-something, "small and sprightly, like a bantam hen ..."

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## **About vtp**

The *vienna theatre project* was founded in 2002 with the purpose of facilitating high-quality English-language theatre productions at different venues in and around Vienna. Drawing from a pool of mostly Vienna-based professional actors whose native language is usually English, vtp attempts to offer a wide range of contemporary plays in the original and to make the tremendous scope of English-language plays from all over the world more accessible to Vienna audiences. After more than two successful seasons with a total of 11 two- or three-week runs at Theater Drachengasse (3), the Ensemble Theater (3), dietheater Konzerthaus (1) and Die Neue Tribüne (Café Landtmann, 4), *American Christmas* is the *vienna theatre project's* 12<sup>th</sup> production overall and its **second world premiere** in a row.

To find out more about the *vienna theatre project*, please contact its artistic & executive director Martin Buxbaum at [office@viennatheatreproject.at](mailto:office@viennatheatreproject.at) or +43 1 920 25 83, or visit its website at [www.viennatheatreproject.at](http://www.viennatheatreproject.at).

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**Production information** *American Christmas*

**Location:** Die Neue Tribüne (downstairs at Café Landtmann)  
Dr. Karl Lueger-Ring 4, 1010 Vienna

**Dates & Times:** December 3-26, 2004  
Wednesdays-Fridays – 7:30 p.m.  
Saturdays/Sundays – 2 p.m.  
(no performances on Mondays/Tuesdays)  
Premiere: Friday, December 3  
Teachers' Preview: Thursday, December 2

**With:** Gregory Fuller

**Tickets:** 16€ regular - 11€ students/seniors  
group discounts (€13/€9) available for groups of 10 or more

**Reservations:** +43 1 920 2583  
office@viennatheatreproject.at  
www.viennatheatreproject.at

Created by **Gregory Fuller**

Lights & Sound: **Anita Aichinger**

**Performances in English**