

The Saturday Series 2010 winter

>>> Staged Readings and Discussions of Plays in Progress

Jan 2 NO EVENT TODAY

Happy New Year!

9 SAINT SCOTTY

by **Network Playwright Jack O'Donnell**

"Saint Scotty" explores the question of ultimate responsibility in war. At the close of World War II, a Navy nurse's love for a war correspondent is threatened by her unyielding pursuit of retribution for the atrocities she has endured.

JACK O'DONNELL has had productions in New York, Los Angeles and Washington, DC; staged readings in Washington, Santa Monica, Chicago, and Hollywood, FL.

16 THE MAYHEM PROJECT

or **Itzhak Perlman Is Not a Fascist**

by **Senior Network Playwright Bill Rumbler**

Police-state apparatchiks rough up some college students, who seek revenge for the humiliation by hatching a dangerous plot—which also would conveniently settle a simmering sibling rivalry. Called the Mayhem Project, the plot is inspired by cult movies and misunderstood left-wing philosophies. Can it be stopped with lives on the line?

BILL RUMBLER's one act play "Smilin' Jack" was performed at The Artistic Home this fall. A full length play, "Mystery of the White Slave," was a finalist last year for the Riva Shiner Award of the Bloomington Playwrights Project. "This Woman is Alone" won the first Dionysus Cup Competition sponsored by Polarity Ensemble Theatre, Chicago, in 2006.

23 NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

The 3rd Annual Readings of Graduate Student Plays

Chicago Dramatists' professional actors and directors stage readings of short plays and scenes, developed in Northwestern University's Department of Radio/Television/Film's M.F.A. in Writing for the Screen and Stage program, taught by Resident Playwright Alumnae Rebecca Gilman.

13 LOOK, WE ARE BREATHING

by **Resident Playwright Laura Jacqmin**

Those who die young are mourned for their lost potential. But what if Mike, a high school hockey player who gets drunk and crashes his car before the play begins, never showed any potential?

LAURA JACQMIN's "Ski Dubai" was produced in Steppenwolf Theatre Company's 5th Annual First Look Repertory of New Work last summer. "Ten Virgins" was produced by Chicago Dramatists in 2008. She is the winner of the 2008 Wasserstein Prize for emerging female playwrights.

20 A FIRESIDE CHAT with major American Playwright ARTHUR KOPIT

Moderated by **Artistic Director Russ Tutterow**

ARTHUR KOPIT is the author of: "Oh Dad, Poor Dad, Mamma's Hung You in the Closet and I'm Feelin' So Sad;" "Indians" (Tony Nominee, Finalist for Pulitzer Prize); "Wings" (Tony Nominee, Finalist for Pulitzer Prize); a new translation of Ibsen's "Ghosts;" the book for the musical "Nine" (score by Maury Yeston; Tony Award for Best Musical, 1982; Tony Award for Best Musical revival, 2003)*; "End of the World, with Symposium to Follow;" the book for the musical "Phantom" (score by Maury Yeston); the book for the musical "High Society" (score by Cole Porter, additional lyrics by Susan Birkenhead); "Road to Nirvana;" and many others. Mr. Kopit heads The Lark Play Development Center's Playwrights' Workshop and is a Dramatists Guild Council member.

* "Nine" is to be released as a major motion picture, directed by Rob Marshall, starring Daniel Day-Lewis, Penelope Cruz, Judy Dench, Nicole Kidman, Kate Hudson, Marion Cotillard, and Fergie, in December, 2009.

27 10-MINUTE WORKSHOP

with **Guest Judge/Director JOHN GAWKLIK, Artistic Director, Noble Fool Theatricals**

Staged readings of 10-minute plays and scenes by various writers, followed by an audience discussion moderated by Noble Fool's Artistic Director, John Gawlik. Go to www.noblefool.org to check out The Noble Fool's programming and productions.

Any playwright able to attend may submit a 10-minute play or a 10-minute scene from a larger work. Participating playwrights will be expected to attend one two-hour rehearsal, in addition to the workshop at Chicago Dramatists on February 27 at 2:00 PM.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES: Submissions will not be returned and must meet the following criteria: 1) maximum scene length: ten pages (in standard 12 pt font size with pages numbered); 2) cast size: no more than six actors needed; 3) one piece per playwright; 4) include title page with playwright's name, address, day and evening phone number, and e-mail address; 5) include character breakdown page; 7) no binding or staples.

E-MAIL SUBMISSIONS (preferred) TO: 10minute@chicagodramatists.org Please send as a ".pdf" file of no more than 400K.

OR – MAIL OR DELIVER TO (no faxed submissions accepted): Ilesa Duncan, Director of Youth & Community Programming, Chicago Dramatists, 1105 W. Chicago Ave., Chicago, IL 60642.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Submissions must be received by 2:00 PM, Saturday, January 23. Notification by February 6.

Mar 6 HARLEQUIN

by **Resident Playwright Ruth Margraff**

Set in 1994 Providence, Rhode Island, a poetry graduate student meets an Iraqi refugee in a bookstore cafe. Their conversation sweeps them across many landscapes, imprints of history, urgent immediacy, and the masquerades of foreboding. "Harlequin" follows the pre-9/11 leader of an Iraqi opposition group which became the force behind lobbying Congress on Saddam Hussein's weapons of mass destruction. "Harlequin" was commissioned by a 2006-07 McKnight National Commission & Residency at the Playwrights Center (Minneapolis) and developed by a Hedgebrook/Alpert Award residency (Seattle).

RUTH MARGRAFF has new publications from The Drama Review, Dramatists Play Service, Connotations Press, and Applause Books. Her work with www.sevenplay.org has been touring all over Sweden. She is an alumnae of New Dramatists and an Associate Professor at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. www.RuthMargraff.com

13 CORAZON de MANZANA

by **Resident Playwright Dana Lynn Formby**

Three stories about six different women from three different North American countries who struggle to define what it means to be a woman in this new century. In their search for truth, they find their answer in the middle of a desert, making them wish they hadn't looked there in the first place.

DANA LYNN FORMBY is a blue-collar playwright whose attitude has been carved by the relentless Wyoming wind -- lips tight, eyes squinted, legs crossed because god knows what could blow in. "Corazon de Manzana" has been invited to the 2009 WordBRIDGE Play Lab. "The Small of Her Back" is a 2009 Keneda Finalist. "Inherit the Whole" was presented in readings at Premiere Stages and Victory Gardens Theater. She holds an MFA in Playwriting from Ohio University.

20 HOME TOWN

by **Network Playwright Katarzyna Muller**

In the basement of an apartment building in Chicago, three scared citizens clash and bond during a mysterious invasion. When two outsiders arrive seeking safety, their assumptions of "us" and "them" are challenged, with deadly consequences.

KATARZYNA MÜLLER, Ph.D., was born in Poland where the stories of war probably seeped into her unconscious. "Home Town" was developed in the Deadline Workshop at Chicago Dramatists. Kathy directed a public reading of the play in New York this summer.

27 TOXIC DONUT

by **Resident Playwright Steven Simoncic**

"Toxic Donut" takes place in the Altgeld Gardens neighborhood of Chicago and examines how health, wellness and quality of life in a poor community can be significantly compromised by the environmental and health conditions brought on by economic disparity and a lack of political representation.

STEVEN SIMONCIC's play "Heat Wave" was produced by Pegasus Players last season. He is currently in rewrites for a New York production of "Broken Fences" with Stageplays Theatre in 2010. His work has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize. His fiction has appeared in Conclave, Spork, New Millennium Writings, and the Chicago Reader.

30 8TH ANNUAL SHOWCASE OF THE NEW RESIDENT PLAYWRIGHTS

Please join Chicago Dramatists and its playwrights as we welcome our new Resident Playwrights for 2009-2010 and sample selections from their diverse work. A discussion with the playwrights about their writing and careers will follow the readings, plus a wine and cheese reception in the lobby.

THE BODY SNATCHER by **Resident Playwright Scott T. Barsotti**

Based on the short story by Robert Louis Stevenson

In 19th Century Scotland, Edinburgh Medical College is at the forefront of surgery, and demand for human specimens has far outstripped supply, necessitating the employ of grave robbers. But Arthur Fettes, the new Classroom Assistant, begins to suspect that some of the cadavers are fresher than others... **SCOTT T. BARSOTTI's** full-length plays include "The Revenants," "McMeekin Finds Out," "Jet Black Chevrolet," and "Brewed." His work has been produced in Chicago, New York, New Orleans, Los Angeles, and Pittsburgh.

TWO 10-MINUTE PLAYS by **Resident Playwright Dana Lynn Formby**

"Armed with Peanut Butter" – Clarice, a mother and wife, has been institutionalized. She is determined to waste away by starving herself, until her husband shows up armed with peanut butter. – "The Biggest Bad-est Wolf" – Seven-year old Cora wants life to be the same as it was before her mom married her new step dad. As she reads a story to her stepbrother, it becomes obvious that things will never be reversed. **DANA LYNN FORMBY's** recent plays include "Corazon de Manzana," invited to the 2009 WordBRIDGE Play Lab; "The Small of Her Back," a 2009 Keneda Finalist; and "Inherit the Whole," presented in readings at Premiere Stages and Victory Gardens Theater.

SUICIDE, INCORPORATED by **Resident Playwright Andrew Hinderaker**

It's been a tough week at work. Revenues are down, lawsuits are up, and protestors picket outside your door. Worst of all, your boss has begun to suspect that you're trying to keep your clients alive. **ANDREW HINDERAKER's** notable recognitions include Finalist/Semi-Finalist status at Sundance, PlayLabs, The Princess Grace Award, the Heideman Award, and the Austin Film Festival. Mr. Hinderaker is currently a nominee for the 2010 Otis Guernsey New Voice in American Playwriting Award.

HARLEQUIN by **Resident Playwright Ruth Margraff**

Set in 1994, a poetry graduate student meets an Iraqi refugee in a bookstore cafe. Their conversation sweeps them across many landscapes, imprints of history, urgent immediacy, and the masquerades of foreboding. **RUTH MARGRAFF** has new publications from The Drama Review, Dramatists Play Service, Connotations Press, and Applause Books. Her work with www.sevenplay.org has been touring all over Sweden. She is an alumnae of New Dramatists and an Associate Professor at the Art Institute of Chicago.

Feb 6 BREWED

by **Resident Playwright Scott T. Barsotti**

Directed by Associate Artist Anna C. Bahow

The task is stirring a pot...all day, every day. The sisters don't share it as they once did, but stopping could have catastrophic consequences. Could have. When Roxette calls everyone together, old venom bubbles up and grievance flares, setting into motion an impossible struggle with the dark art of oblation.

SCOTT T. BARSOTTI is a playwright and performer, originally from Pittsburgh, PA. His full-length plays include "The Revenants," "McMeekin Finds Out," "Jet Black Chevrolet," and "Brewed." His work has been produced in Chicago, New York, New Orleans, Los Angeles, and Pittsburgh. Mr. Barsotti is a company member of WildClaw Theatre and Curious Theatre Branch.

>>> Saturdays at 2^{PM}

1105 W. Chicago Ave

312.633.0630

Public Invited

\$5 Donation