



For Immediate Release

Playwrights Foundation Announces the 33rd Annual

Bay Area Playwrights Festival (BAPF)

Eight New Works Selected for Development in the Festival, July 23 through August 1, 2010

June 7, 2010, San Francisco, CA—The Playwrights Foundation, based in San Francisco and recognized as one of the top six new play development centers in the country, and the only one of its scope on the West Coast, today announced the 33rd Annual Bay Area Playwrights Festival (BAPF) will take place July 23 through August 1, 2010. The Festival will be taking place at the Thick House (www.thickhouse.org) in San Francisco.

As the Playwrights Foundation's cornerstone program, and the heart of the organization, the annual BAPF brings together a select group of playwrights and professional directors, dramaturgs and playwrights to engage in an in-depth development process of eight new plays over three weeks every summer. The work leads to two public staged readings of each play, with a week for rehearsal and rewriting in between the readings. In addition, the festival includes classes, panels, symposia and other festivities. The Festival has proven itself year after year to offer some of the best new plays developing nationwide. This year's six full-length works, chosen from over 500 submissions, feature some of the most exciting up-and-coming voices in American theater, including a newly commissioned work by Sheila Callaghan.

"This year's crop of playwrights are a delicious mix of previous Festival participants like Sheila Callaghan, (Sheila Callaghan's play *Lascivious Something*, which received its initial early development on the 2007 BAPF is currently enjoying a hugely successful run off-Broadway) and early career emergers like Erin Marie Bregman, who will be enjoying her very first full-length production next year," according to Playwrights Foundation's Artistic Director, Amy Mueller. "This year's selections are a true testament to our commitment to bringing new voices to the community. They are important new voices, responding to current global and local issues in beautifully poetic ways."

The six selections will be accompanied by two new one-act plays commissioned especially for the Festival in the Bay Area Shorts (BASH!) program. Half of this year's winning plays are by Bay Area writers.

The Festival lineup includes:

- ***The Killing of Michael X, A New Film by Celia Wallace* by Cory Hinkle**
- ***Three Wolves and a Lamb* by Yussef El Guindi**
- ***Atlas of Longing* by Jeanne Drennan**
- ***Hunter's Point* by Elizabeth Gjelten**
- ***Tvá Kamila* by Erin Marie Bregman**
- ***Port Out, Starboard Home* by Sheila Callaghan. A co-commission with foolsFURY Theater Company.**

The festival also includes Bay Area SHorts, more affectionately known as BASH!

- ***Pookie Goes Grenading*** by JC Lee
- ***The Expiration Date*** by Steven M. Salzman

The Playwrights Foundation New Play Institute will be offering two playwriting classes in conjunction with the BAPF. For details on these classes visit the Playwrights Foundation website at <http://playwrightsfoundation.org/index.php?p=134>

- **Lee Blessing: Good Note, Odd Note, Better Play? The Art of Revisions**, July 28- 31, 2010
- **Marcus Gardley: Playwriting Bake-Off**, August 3-12, 2010

To learn more about the playwrights and plays, or to view a calendar of events and purchase tickets, visit the Playwrights Foundation website at <http://playwrightsfoundation.org/>.

About the Thick House

Art Space Development Corporation (ArtsDeco) presents contemporary new theater that reflects and engages the San Francisco Bay Area's racially and culturally diverse audience community. We believe that when art is relevant and accessible it can transform the world, so our work rises naturally out of connecting to our local community, to popular culture, and to events of the day. To that end, we operate our venue, the Thick House, as a performing arts/community center -- presenting world-class professional theater, hosting neighborhood events, collaborating on community projects, and partnering with local businesses.

About Playwrights Foundation

Playwrights Foundation is dedicated to discovering and supporting local and national American playwrights across a broad spectrum of artistic and career positions, in the inception and development of new plays that speak to and from an increasingly diverse society. Founded on a deeply held belief that the relevance and vitality of American theater depends upon a continual infusion of new work, Playwrights Foundation sustains a commitment to the playwright, who we regard as the creative wellspring of theater.

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