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M E D I A R E L E A S E

THE PINK UNDERBELLY OF HOLLYWOOD GETS OVEREXPOSED *in Douglas Carter Beane's **The Little Dog Laughed**, playing in the Studio* *at Portland Center Stage through June 15th.*

April 13, 2008 – PORTLAND, OR. The pink underbelly of Hollywood gets exposed (and tickled, and poked with a perfectly manicured talon or two) in Portland Center Stage's *in-the-round* Studio production of Douglas Carter Beane's *The Little Dog Laughed*. *The Little Dog Laughed* will preview April 29 through May 1, with the sold-out **Opening Night Performance on Friday May 2, 2008**. The production will run **Tuesday through Sunday through June 15**, with 7:30 pm evening performances Tuesday through Saturday and matinee performances at 2 pm on Sundays. There are alternating Sunday evening and Saturday 2:00 pm matinee performances, plus weekday matinee performances at noon on Thursdays. Go to www.pcs.org or see the attached sheet for a complete list of show times. Tickets range from \$21.50 to \$43.50, with Student and Rush tickets available. **10% of all proceeds for tickets purchased in the month of May will go to Q Center, a supportive space people all along the spectrum of gender identity and sexuality.** Tickets can be purchased through the box office by calling 503.445.3700 or online at www.pcs.org.



photo: Owen Garey

The play revolves around Mitchell Green, a star on the rise whose charm and good looks would assure him a place in the upper echelons of entertainment royalty if it were not for a slight “reoccurring case of homosexuality.” Enter Diane, über-agent and Mephistopheles in Manolos, whose mission in life is to secure her paycheck (and his) by keeping his pants on and his taste for rent boys out of the limelight.

The one (not so tiny) complication? Mitchell's most recent “gay for pay” purchase, the strapping and sexually confused Alex, turns out to be the love of his life, and Alex's recently ex-girlfriend, Ellen, turns out to have a (growing) problem of her own. To save the

day, Diane conjures a brilliant solution involving a sham marriage, a ‘personal assistant’ and the movie rights to a play that would be perfect for Mitchell if it weren't so, well, gay. It all works perfectly as long as no one's feelings are taken into account, and well, since when do feelings matter in show business?

It's a play stuffed with crackling one-liners and preternaturally handsome half-naked men, plus more than a few juicy innuendos about the truth behind certain couch-jumping, paparazzi loving movie stars that we all know and (loathe to) love. Best of all, in Portland Center Stage's up close and personal “in the round” staging, the audience will just inches away from each slanderous whisper and breathtaking ...reveal.

Please note: This play includes explicit language, boys who kiss, and full frontal nudity.

Playwright **Douglas Carter Beane** has written the screenplays for *To Wong Foo, Thanks for Everything, Julie Newmar*; *Advice from a Caterpillar* (Best Film, Aspen Comedy Festival, Best Feature, Toyota Comedy Festival) and the upcoming *Skinner's Eddy*. His plays include *As Bees In Honey Drown* (Outer Critics Circle John

Gassner Playwriting Award); *The Country Club* (LA Times Critics' Choice Awards); *Music From A Sparkling Planet*; *Advice From a Caterpillar* (Outer Critics Circle Award Nomination); *White Lies*; *Devil May Care* and *Old Money*. His new musical, *The Big Time* (with music and lyrics by Douglas J. Cohen) was just produced by Drama Dept. He is currently working on writing the book for the Broadway premiere of *Xanadu*. As Artistic Director of the Drama Dept., he produced more than 40 productions including revivals of *As Thousands Cheer*, *June Moon* and *The Torchbearers* and world premieres by Paul Rudnick, David Sedaris and Wendy Wasserstein. He resides in NYC with his partner, Lewis Flinn, and their children Cooper and Gabrielle.

The Little Dog Laughed will be directed by Portland Center Stage Artistic Director **Chris Coleman**. The cast includes **Brik Berkes** as Mitchell Greene, **Dennis Flanagan** as the rent boy Alex, Antoinette LaVecchia as power-playing agent Diane and **Natalie Knepp** as Alex's ex-girlfriend Ellen. Scenic Design is by **Dex Edwards**, Costume Design will be by **Jeff Cone**, Sound Design will be by **Casi Pacilio** and lighting will be designed by **Ruth Walkowski**.

PORTLAND CENTER STAGE inspires our community by bringing stories to life in unexpected ways. Established in 1988 as an off shoot of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, PCS became an independent theater in 1994 and has been under the leadership of Artistic Director Chris Coleman since May 2000. The company presents a blend of classic, contemporary and original productions in a conscious effort to appeal to the eclectic palate of theatergoers in Portland. PCS also offers a variety of education and outreach programs for curious minds from six to 106, including the PCS GreenHouse, a school of theater.

THE GERDING THEATER AT THE ARMORY houses a 599-seat Main Stage and a 200-seat black box Studio. It was the first building on the National Register of Historic Places, and the first performing arts venue, to achieve a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Platinum certification. The Gerding Theater at the Armory opened to the public on Oct. 1, 2006. The capital campaign to fund the renovation of this hub for community artistic activity continues.

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Douglas Carter Beane's
The Little Dog Laughed
 directed by Chris Coleman

Fact Sheet

Portland Center Stage * Studio * Gerding Theater at the Armory * 128 NW Eleventh Ave
Box Office: 503.445.3700 **Info, Blogs and Tix by Web:** www.pcs.org

The Cast

Mitchell.....Brik Berkes*	*the actors and stage managers in this production are members of Actors Equity, the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States.
Alex.....Dennis Flanagan*	
Diane.....Antoinette LaVecchia*	
Ellen.....Natalie Knepp*	

Performance Dates

Previews:	T – Th, April 29-May 1	7:30pm	Please consult www.pcs.org for a complete list of performance dates/times.
Opening:	Friday, May 2	7:30pm	
No Show on May 3rd because of the Annual Gala			
Closing:	Sunday, June 15	7:30pm	

Matinees

Every Thursday Matinee at Noon is programmed especially for our student and senior audiences. Patrons enjoy discounted ticket prices and post-show Q&A sessions with the cast and crew of *The Little Dog Laughed*. Thursday Matinees with Q&As are available on May 8, 15, 22, and 29. Additional matinees without the Q&A are available on June 5 and 12.

Selected **Saturdays include a 2:00 pm Matinee** performance. Saturday Matinees are available on May 10, 24, June 7 and June 14.

Sunday Evenings

Selected Sunday evening 7:30 pm performances are available on May 4, May 18, June 1 and 15.

Audio Described Performance

Friday, May 9 7:30 PM

Sign Interpreted Performance

Thursday, May 15 7:30 PM

The Gerding Theater Studio is fully accessible for patrons with disabilities. Assistive listening devices are available from the coatroom.

Studio Ticket Prices

Preview Evenings	\$21.50
Sunday – Thursday Evenings	\$31.50
Friday & Saturday Evenings	\$43.50
Sunday Matinees	\$41.50
Thursday & Saturday Matinees	\$26.00
Students (excluding Fri. /Sat. Evenings)	\$21.50
18 & under (all performances with I.D.)	\$16.50
Rush (cash only, day of show, 15 minutes to curtain)	\$10.00

Preferred price range listing: \$21.50 - \$43.50 adults, with student and group rates available