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

*SITE SPECIFIC NEW WORK, WORKSHOPS AND PARTIES ADD TO THE
EXCITING LINEUP*

JAW: A PLAYWRIGHTS FESTIVAL July 21- 24, 2011



July 7, 2011 Puppets in the lobby, pink wigs in the men's room and butoh by the bathrooms; the new play action spills out into every nook and cranny of the Armory. Portland Center Stage rounds out JAW's Big Weekend July 21st through 25th with Devise & Conquer: a series of performances from community arts organizations, Community Artists Labs for theater artists and a big party to close it all out!

DEVISE & CONQUER

New performance pieces created especially for JAW by local performers.

Thursday, July 21

3:15 & 3:40pm

Another 88 Days

Gallery Level Lobby

7:15 & 7:40pm

Reclaiming Pink

Gallery Level Men's Restroom

Friday, July 22

3:15 & 3:40pm

Reclaiming Pink

Gallery Level Men's Restroom

7:15 & 7:40pm

LOCAL CULTURE PROJECT

Vera Katz Sliver Park

Saturday, July 23

3:15 & 3:40pm

Another 88 Days

Gallery Level Lobby

7:15 & 7:40pm

LOCAL CULTURE PROJECT

Vera Katz Sliver Park

Sunday, July 24

3:15 & 3:40pm

Another 88 Days

Gallery Level Lobby

7:15 & 7:40pm

Reclaiming Pink

Gallery Level Men's Room

Another 88 days by Sarah Frechette

Another 88 days is a puppet show about my friend Joshua. Joshua is eleven. He has a dark side. He has a light side. But he will never grow up. And this show is all about how I deal with it.

Sarah Frechette is a designer, builder and performer of puppetry, whose work has been seen across the U.S., Germany, Austria and China. Her shadow puppets lit up the stage for the PCS production of *Alfred Hitchcock's The 39 Steps*. As a Night Shade Shadow Theater artist Sarah performed at PICA's TBA Festival along with the band Japanther and at the New Orleans Fringe Festival with Night Shade's pop-up book shadow play "Order of Wolf". She has studied

marionettes in Germany with Master Puppeteer Albrecht Roser and will tour this fall with her marionette show "The Snowflake Man". (The show "Another 88 days" is sponsored by a Grant from the Vermont Community Foundation and the Joshua Tree Foundation.)

Reclaiming Pink by Max Voltage

Incorporating story-telling, humor, history, dance, drag, camp, costuming & pop music, Max Voltage weaves together a short piece about colors and the performance of gender. Please join Max in the Men's restroom.

Max Voltage is a Portland-based performance-artist, musician and event-producer. Max won the San Francisco Drag King Competition in 2003, and has been performing drag, dance & genderfuck in San Francisco, Portland and nationally for over 10 years. Max currently runs Pants-Off Productions, a radical queer event-production company responsible for Homomomentum, Homo's Got Talent, Freakshow-a-Go-Go and many other projects. More info at www.pantsoffpdx.com

LOCAL CULTURE PROJECT by Water in the Desert

LOCAL CULTURE PROJECT is a contemporary performance + urban farm exploration and a year-long inquiry into the relationships between local communities, foods and the arts--working under the hypothesis that all are essential pieces of the sustainable discourse.

Water in the Desert (WITD) is a Portland-based 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to presenting cross-cultural contemporary performances and educational events that respond to our collective need to forge meaning and connection with each other and our environment. It is the mission of Water in the Desert to do this in a way that showcases the global influence of butoh, physical theatre, contemporary performance and other genres which seek to connect with audiences through the creation of emotional and primal states of intimacy. Themes often examined in WITD productions include ritual, identity, ecology and diversity.

Community Artist Labs

Admission is FREE, but in order to maintain a high level of quality, attendance for each Lab is limited and determined by random lottery. Check out www.pcs.org/jaw for detailed descriptions and instructions on how to participate.

Saturday, July 16 - 1pm to 4pm: Your Playwriting Brilliant Career with Mead Hunter

Tried, true and out of the blue strategies for jump-starting your playwriting career in today's competitive market. Bring pen and paper and come prepared to participate—this ain't no lecture. Mead Hunter consults frequently for theaters and arts service organization around the U.S. under the banner of SuperScript Editorial Services, a writer's resource.

Saturday, July 23 – 1pm to 4pm: Writing History/Memory with Dan O'Brien

Methods of adapting memory, both cultural and personal, for the stage. Participants are encouraged to bring scenes and monologues from works-in-progress.

Sunday, July 24 – 1pm to 4pm: Directing or Detecting: and the scene of the crime with Rose Riordan

"I posit the theory that being a director is like being a detective. Always trying to figure out why

this or that happened and reconstructing events for a “dramatic re-enactment”. Director Rose Riordan, PCS’s Associate Artistic Director, will present the scene of a crime and with your help walk you through the how it all really happened.

JAW Happy Hour Lounge

A laid back, low key, lounge experience designed to fuel you up and chill you out between the afternoon and evening readings. Entertainment provided by local musicians with sandwiches, salads and snacks offered by the Armory Café including special prices on beer and wine.

JAW Closing Party

Please come and celebrate with us at the **JAW Closing Party!** A new JAW event added this year to provide JAW company, JAW audience and the Portland theater community, a chance to simply celebrate and socialize. Enjoy food and drink specials from the Armory Café, dance to the beats of a DJ and keep your eye out for special performances by surprise guests. You won’t want to miss it!

ABOUT JAW. For 13 years JAW has created a space for playwrights to grow as writers and as professionals. Of the 40 plus plays that have received workshops at the festival, **more than 50% have received world premiere productions** at a regional theaters ranging from the NY Theater Workshop to Steppenwolf to Berkeley Rep to Portland’s own Third Rail Rep. Ten JAW plays have later received fully staged productions at Portland Center Stage, giving Portland a strong national reputation for not only incubating new work, but helping to see that work to successful fruition.

JAW: A Playwright’s Festival is made possible in part by funding from **Boeing; The Kinsman Foundation;** and **The Oregon Cultural Trust, investing in Oregon's arts, humanities and heritage.**

PORTLAND CENTER STAGE inspires our community by bringing stories to life in unexpected ways. Established in 1988 as a branch 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.

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.