

PRESS RELEASE

The Studio Theatre
The Studio Theatre 2ndStage
The Studio Theatre Acting Conservatory
1501 Fourteenth Street, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

STUDIO THEATRE

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VENUS IN FUR EXTENDS FOR A FINAL WEEK! MUST CLOSE JULY 31

“A smart scoopful of fun, a delectably compressed actors’ pas-de-deux.” —*The Washington Post*

The critics are calling *Venus in Fur* “electrifying” and a “rollicking romp” with “vivacious” and “astonishing performances.” This blockbuster hit has enthralled Washington audiences for 10 weeks. The final performance of the show is on **July 31, 2011**.

Inspired by Leopold von Sacher-Masoch’s notorious erotic novel (which first shocked readers in 1870), *Venus in Fur* is a crackling exploration of desire and control. David Ives’s saucy and sensational play pits actress against playwright in a virtuosic display of seduction, cruelty, and gamesmanship.

When an actress arrives unscheduled for an audition, the writer/director grudgingly allows her to try out for his new play, an adaptation of Sacher-Masoch’s novel. What begins as a normal audition turns into an increasingly seductive battle for power. As the action shifts between the audition and the play-within-a-play, the two engage in a cat and mouse game that blurs the edges of reality and theatricality, dominance and subjugation, pleasure and pain.

***Venus in Fur* has extended for one additional week, and MUST CLOSE July 31, 2011.**

ACCOLADES FOR VENUS IN FUR

“Outstanding performances...this intelligent comedy hurts so good!” —*Washingtonian*

“A wickedly ingenious dark comedy—a knockout!” —*Washington City Paper*

“A delectable dance of dominance and submission.”—*Metro Weekly*

“The best performances I have seen this year!” —*DC TheatreScene*

“*Venus in Fur* is a completely hilarious...utterly brilliant play.... A darkly comic and engrossing exploration of power, sexuality, and love.” —*Brightest Young Things*

“Remarkable... riveting... a highly theatrical comedy.” —*We Love DC*

VENUS IN FUR INFORMATION

Where: The Milton Theatre

Dates: MUST CLOSE! Now playing through July 31

Performances: Tuesday-Saturday: 8:00pm, Sunday: 7:00pm

Matinees: Saturday and Sunday: 2:00pm

Ticket Prices: \$44–\$65

Starring: **Christian Conn** (Thomas) and **Erica Sullivan** (Vanda)

Director and Designers: **David Muse** (Director), **Blythe Quinlan** (Set Designer), **Jennifer Moeller** (Costume Designer), **Michael Lincoln** (Lighting Designer), and **Matt Nielson** (Sound Designer).

THE STUDIO THEATRE INFORMATION:

The Studio Theatre is Washington's premiere venue for contemporary theatre, "where local audiences will find today's edgiest playwrights" (*Variety*). Founded in 1978 by Joy Zinoman, the theatre is in its first season under the leadership of Artistic Director David Muse. Muse is joined by Keith Alan Baker, Managing Director/Artistic Director, 2ndStage; Serge Seiden, Associate Producing Artistic Director; and Morey B. Epstein, Executive Director of Institutional Development.

One of the most respected midsized theatres in the country, The Studio Theatre produces the work of today's greatest writers, augmented by occasional productions of modern classics, performed by acclaimed actors in intimate spaces. Studio's programming, while purposefully eclectic, emphasizes plays of sophistication and style with true literary and theatrical merit. The six plays of The Studio Theatre Season form the core of its work, and are complemented by its Special Events, which bring unique performances and one-of-a-kind events to Washington DC, and the rawer, frequently irreverent productions of The Studio 2ndStage. Housed in a landmark complex that anchors the 14th Street Arts District, each of Studio's four theatres seats fewer than 225 patrons, giving Studio productions their signature intimacy. Throughout the Theatre's 33-year history, the quality of its work has been recognized by sustained community support as well as with 267 nominations and 54 Helen Hayes Awards for excellence in professional theatre. In addition, The Studio Theatre Acting Conservatory has trained over 10,000 students, many of whom have gone on to acclaimed careers across the country. A premiere cultural organization in Washington DC, The Studio Theatre serves more than 75,000 people annually and is proud to make a vital contribution to its neighborhood and city.

DISCOUNTS

Student, senior citizen (62+) and military discount: \$5.00 off (except Saturday evenings).

Student Rush: \$15 tickets for full-time students are available one-half hour before curtain on a seating available basis (except Saturday evenings).

Groups: for parties of 10 or more. Call the Group Sales Manager at 202-232-7267.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Accessibility: All performances are fully accessible to accommodate patrons with special needs.

FM listening assistive system available. Call for schedule of sign-interpreted performances.

Accessible seats available by reservation. Call the Box Office at 202-332-3300 or V/TTY 202-667-8436.

Location: 1501 14th Street, NW (Northeast corner of 14th and P Streets).

Parking: Please call the Box Office for parking information.

Metro Stops: Red Line: Dupont Circle, Orange/Blue Lines: McPherson Square, and Green Line: U Street/Cardozo.

Contact Information: Tickets: 202-332-3300 V/TTY: 202-667-8436 Fax: 202-332-1187

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