

PRESS RELEASE

The Studio Theatre

THE STUDIO THEATRE. THE STUDIO 2NDSTAGE. THE STUDIO THEATRE ACTING CONSERVATORY. 1501 FOURTEENTH STREET, NW, WASHINGTON, DC 20005. WASHINGTON DC

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EVOLVE. EMERGE. EXPAND.

THE STUDIO THEATRE ANNOUNCES ITS 2010-2011 SEASON



11 WORKS WILL BE PRODUCED: A SIX-PLAY STUDIO THEATRE SEASON, TWO SPECIAL EVENTS AND THREE 2NDSTAGE PROJECTS

SEASON INCLUDES A TWO-PLAY REPERTORY BY ENDA WALSH AND A SPECIAL PROJECT SELECTED BY THE NEW ARTISTIC DIRECTOR. SPECIAL EVENTS FEATURE DAVID CALE AND PHILIP GOODWIN AS KENNETH TYNAN. 2NDSTAGE TO SHOWCASE EXPERIMENTAL PLAYWRIGHT YOUNG JEAN LEE AND THE NEW ANDY WARHOL MUSICAL POP!

Enter into the exciting world of The Studio Theatre 2010-2011 season. The full eleven-production lineup continues the Theatre's ongoing commitment to the highest quality, cutting-edge writing and thrilling performances. The coming season showcases an idiosyncratic and eclectic mix featuring the work of the freshest playwrights. From sweet to harsh, poetic to realistic, these writers tackle everything from a barrier-breaking, experimental exploration of race and identity to a Broadway story of an unlikely friendship. Comprised entirely of area premieres, the coming productions will delight, enflame and transfix audiences. All but the last production were chosen by retiring Founding Artistic Director Joy Zinoman; the new Studio Theatre Artistic Director, to be announced later this spring, will choose the final play of the season.

6 PLAYS: EXHILIRATING PLAYS, EXCEPTIONAL PRODUCTIONS!

The subscription season begins with *Circle Mirror Transformation*, a disarmingly moving play by **Annie Baker**, one of the freshest young playwrights to emerge in recent years. The season continues with *Superior Donuts*, **Tracy Letts**'s hilarious Broadway portrait of friendship and redemption. Next, The Studio Theatre concludes **Tarell Alvin McCraney**'s stunning trilogy, *The Brother/Sister Plays*, with *Marcus; or the Secret of Sweet*. Performed simultaneously in two separate theatres under the leadership of one director and design team, **Enda Walsh**'s *The Walworth Farce* and *The New Electric Ballroom* bring both male and female perspectives to the danger of living solely in the past. The 2010-2011 season will conclude with a yet-to-be announced production selected by The Studio Theatre's new Artistic Director, who will be announced later this spring.

– MORE –

SPECIAL EVENTS: ELECTRIFYING SOLO PERFORMANCES!

Both of The Studio Theatre's 2010-2011 Special Events feature tour-de-force performances by a solo performer. In *Tynan*, **Richard Nelson**'s new adaptation of famed theatre critic Kenneth Tynan's letters, one man (played by the unparalleled Philip Goodwin) reveals the salacious and secret truths of this theatrical legend. **David Cale**, award-winning playwright and actor, returns to The Studio Theatre to share his heartfelt tale of a New York gigolo in *Palomino*.

2NDSTAGE: EDGY AND EVOCATIVE!

The Studio 2ndStage presents its own unique combination of spirited and irreverent performances, all presented this season in its flexible raw space, Stage 4. **Young Jean Lee**, one of the hottest, most controversial playwrights working today, explores cultural identity and minority rage in the "hysterically funny" *Songs of the Dragons Flying to Heaven*. **Jez Butterworth**'s rock'n'roll tale *Mojo* takes the audience into the seedy underbelly of a London nightclub. In *Pop!*, Andy Warhol, murder and the New York art world meet in **Maggie-Kate Coleman** and **Anna K. Jacobs**'s exuberant musical.

The 2010-2011 Subscription Series:

Downtown New York's Smash Hit!

CIRCLE MIRROR TRANSFORMATION

by **Annie Baker**

September 8, 2010 – October 17, 2010

In the Mead Theatre

"Absorbing, unblinking and sharply funny." – *The New York Times*

Emerging playwright Annie Baker took New York by storm this past year with her originality and quirky humor. This charming new play invites the audience into an amateur theatre class in rural Vermont. Theatre games and acting exercises mirror the real drama taking place between the students. The Studio Theatre, founded as an acting conservatory, finds a perfect match with a play about the life lessons stumbled across and relationships forged in acting class.

Hilarious and Heartwarming!

SUPERIOR DONUTS

by **Tracy Letts**

directed by **Serge Seiden**

November 10, 2010 – December 19, 2010

In the Metheny Theatre

"A wonderfully affecting and amusing work that reveals a playwright fully in command of his powers."
– *The Hollywood Reporter*

In this delicious new comedy from the Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright of *August: Osage County*, an offbeat friendship grows between a cantankerous white shop owner and an ambitious black teenager with something to hide. As the two men bond over literature and entrepreneurship, they discover that family runs deeper than blood. Amidst the changing face of an old Chicago neighborhood, a local donut shop becomes the setting for old secrets and new beginnings.

The Final Brother/Sister Play!

MARCUS; OR THE SECRET OF SWEET

by **Tarell Alvin McCraney**

January 12, 2011 – February 20, 2011

In the Mead Theatre

"Mr. McCraney's plays...are pumped full of a senses-heightening oxygen that leaves you tingling."
– *The New York Times*

The sweltering final chapter of *The Brother/Sister Plays*, including The Studio Theatre hits *The Brothers Size* (2008) and *In the Red and Brown Water* (2010), cuts close to the bone. In this whimsical story of a young boy becoming a man and discovering his sexuality, Marcus risks alienating his loved ones in his own search for love. Past and present, obligation and desire, lust and friendship all collide in the sultry Louisiana heat.

Two Masterpieces at Once!

THE ENDA WALSH REPERTORY

directed by Matt Torney

“Walsh confirms himself as one of the most dazzling wordsmiths of contemporary theatre, and one who has a direct conduit to our wanting hearts.” – *The Guardian*

A brilliant duo of shocking stories from one of Ireland’s most powerful voices. These haunting plays excavate the darkest recesses of memory. See both when they run simultaneously in two different theatres. Each play complements the other, yet stands alone as an independent work. A truly one-of-a-kind event you won’t want to miss!

Eye-opening and Unforgettable!

THE WALWORTH FARCE

by Enda Walsh

directed by Matt Torney

starring Ted van Griethuysen

April 6, 2011 – April 24, 2011

In the Milton Theatre

“Hugely entertaining and hugely horrifying.” – *The Guardian*

A sinister twist on the classic farce, this chilling tale exposes a family’s Sisyphian games as a father forces his two sons to reenact a shocking story from their troubled past. When a young woman from the outside unwittingly intrudes, things take a ghastly and irrevocable turn.

Provocative and Lyrical!

THE NEW ELECTRIC BALLROOM

by Enda Walsh

directed by Matt Torney

April 13, 2011 – May 1, 2011

In the Metheny Theatre

“Mordantly funny, weirdly transfixing...casts a powerful, macabre spell.” – *The New York Times*

Three aging Irish sisters, long past their prime, are imprisoned inside their reenactments of a tragic and pivotal night years ago. As the sisters faithfully rehearse these ancient scenes, a lonely fisherman interrupts, bringing both devastation and possible redemption to these three isolated women. In this beautiful and eerie family drama, the past is tyrannical.

A Special Introduction!

TO BE ANNOUNCED

May 25, 2011 – July 3, 2011

In the Mead Theatre

Before planning his or her first full season, the Artistic Director will choose a play to be in the 2010-2011 season as an introduction for Studio Theatre audiences. The new Artistic Director will be announced later this spring.

THE 2010-2011 SPECIAL EVENTS:

TYNAN

Based on the book *The Diaries of Kenneth Tynan* edited by John Lahr

Adapted for the stage by Richard Nelson with Colin Chambers

directed by Paul Mullins

starring Philip Goodwin

January 26, 2011 – February 13, 2011

In the Metheny Theatre

Feed your inner voyeur with an inside look at the twisted and incisive mind of Kenneth Tynan. Starring Philip Goodwin as arguably the greatest theatre critic of the twentieth century, *Tynan* unapologetically divulges all – from this Englishman’s own scandalous love affairs to celebrity dirt.

PALOMINO

Written, directed and performed by David Cale

June 15, 2011 – July 3, 2011

In the Milton Theatre

“David Cale...is a spellbinder. Fascinating as he is to watch, and exquisite as his verbal imagery can be, it is Cale’s gifts as a storyteller that hold an audience rapt.” – *San Francisco Chronicle*

One-of-a-kind performer David Cale returns to The Studio Theatre in his newest one-man show, a touching and comic glimpse into the world’s oldest profession. A carriage-driving gigolo and his female clients recount their experiences with sex and the search for human connection.

THE 2010-2011 STUDIO 2NDSTAGE SEASON:

SONGS OF THE DRAGONS FLYING TO HEAVEN

by Young Jean Lee

September 29, 2010 – October 24, 2010

In Stage 4

“Perverse, provocative and very funny...” – *The Village Voice*

A coterie of Korean women smash conventions of Asian-identity to bits and toss them up like confetti in this violent, explosive and hilarious theatrical event by one of New York’s hottest downtown playwrights.

MOJO

December 1, 2010 – December 26, 2010

by Jez Butterworth

directed by Chris Gallu

In Stage 4

“The language, blunt and coarse and often hilarious, pours out of the characters with the force of the blaring jukebox rock that forms a leitmotif for the dark, violent action.” —*Chicago Tribune*

Underground rock-and-roll meets the London underworld in this fierce, hip comedy. Buzzing with music and the raucous energy of the 1950s, *Mojo* won the Olivier Award for Best New Comedy after its original run at the Royal Court Theatre in London.

POP!

Book and Lyrics by Maggie-Kate Coleman and Music by Anna K. Jacobs

directed by Keith Alan Baker

July 13, 2011 – August 7, 2011

In Stage 4

“Filled with glamour, wit, intrigue, sex, and several pistols, *POP!* is vibrant, hip, fresh, and a hell of a lot of fun.” – *Variety*

Who shot Andy Warhol? A musical murder-mystery extravaganza that peeks inside the tumultuous artistic revelry of Warhol’s infamous Factory.

ALL PLAYS, DATES AND SPACES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

THE STUDIO THEATRE INFORMATION:

“Most of the best plays I saw last season were either presented Off Broadway or by such regional companies as... Washington’s Studio Theatre. That’s the new reality of drama in America.”

— *Terry Teachout, Wall Street Journal*

The Studio Theatre is Washington’s premiere venue for contemporary theatre, and is **“where local audiences will find today’s edgiest playwrights...a place for innovation,”** according to *Variety*. The Studio Theatre’s mission is to produce the best in contemporary theatre. Its restless, innovative spirit makes it a leader both in Washington, DC, and in the nation.