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The Theatre School at DePaul University's New Directors Series Presents
Keira Fromm's Production of *THE HOUSE OF BLUE LEAVES* by John Guare

The Theatre School at DePaul University presents *THE HOUSE OF BLUE LEAVES*, written by John Guare and directed by Keira Fromm, as the first installment of the 2008-2009 New Directors Series. The production opens Friday, November 7th and runs through Sunday, November 16th, 2008, at the Bailiwick Repertory Mainstage. Performances are Wednesdays through Saturdays at 7:30 PM and Sundays at 2 PM. Previews are on November 5th and November 6th at 7:30 PM.

THE HOUSE OF BLUE LEAVES follows Artie Shaugnessy, a zookeeper from Queens, as he pursues his lifelong dream of becoming a famous singer-songwriter. Set in 1965 on the day that Pope Paul VI visits New York, John Guare's Tony Award-winning dark comedy illuminates the myth of the American Dream and the destructiveness of searching for it.

Admission is FREE but reservations are recommended. Call the Box Office at (312) 922-1999.

New Directors Series productions are directed in partial fulfillment of the Master of Fine Arts degree in Directing at The Theatre School. *THE HOUSE OF BLUE LEAVES* serves as Director Keira Fromm's MFA thesis project, after three years of production practice and training in order to fulfill her degree requirements. Lisa Portes, Head of Directing, says of Fromm's work: "her Theatre School productions of *THE CHAIRS*, *BABY WITH THE BATHWATER* and *THE GOAT OR WHO IS SYLVIA* beautifully evoked the tragicomedy of humans striving for greatness. She takes text very seriously and digs deeper than most to mine the gold of a piece—both for pathos and comedy. She is the rare director who can drill down into a text while keeping the production out of the mineshaft." To learn more about Fromm's past projects, The New Directors Series or the MFA Directing curriculum, please visit <http://theatreschool.depaul.edu>.

The Bailiwick Repertory Mainstage is located at 1229 W. Belmont Ave., in Chicago. Street parking is available, and there is \$7 valet parking on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. Bailiwick Repertory, which is handicapped accessible, is near the Belmont El Stop on Red and Brown CTA lines (walk 0.4 miles west on Belmont to the theatre), and the #77 Belmont bus.

KEIRA FROMM (Director) graduated cum laude from Boston University's School for the Arts with a BFA in Theatre Studies/Directing. She has directed for companies such as: The Williamstown Theatre Festival, Lark Theatre Company, Project 400 Theatre Group, Here Performance Art Cafe and others. Keira has assistant directed on productions at The Public Theatre/NYSF, The Mark Taper Forum and The Guthrie Theatre. She has served as the resident casting director for Music-

Theatre Group. Keira has also served as the resident director of the popular off-Broadway shows, *The Donkey Show* and *The Karaoke Show*. Keira is a proud member of The Lincoln Center Theatre Director's Lab.

The cast features **Stephanie Chavara** (Bananas Shaughnessy), **Katherine Cobb** (Second Nun), **Ariana Dziedzic** (Head Nun), **Andrew Gallant** (Artie Shaughnessy), **Bridget Gress** (Corinna Stroller), **Benjamin Huth** (Ronnie Shaughnessy), **Jason T. Love** (Billy Einhorn), **Hannah Tuber** (Bunny Flingus) and **Kelly Wilson** (Little Nun).

The staff includes **Keira Fromm** (Director), **Robert Tolzein** (Lighting Design), **Kalif Aljami** (Scenic Design), **Elizabeth Schmeski** (Dramaturg), **Bonnie Kooklin** (Costume Design), **Victoria “Toy” Delorio** (Sound Design) and **Kelly Montgomery** (Stage Manager).

A **post-show discussion** with the cast and members of the staff will be held on **Thursday, November 13th** (7:30 PM). An **Opening Night Party** will be held on Friday, November 7th, following the performance. Contact Andrea Tichy for details and more information.

Photos, media reservations, Keira Fromm’s Artistic Statement, and interviews are available upon request.

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The Theatre School at DePaul University, founded as the Goodman School of Drama in 1925, educates, trains and inspires students of theatre in a conservatory setting that is rigorous, disciplined and culturally diverse. The school and its students strive for the highest level of professional skill and artistry. A commitment to diversity and equality in education is central to its mission. As an integral part of the training, The Theatre School produces public programs and performances from a wide repertoire of classic, contemporary and original plays that challenge, entertain and stimulate the imagination. The school seeks to enhance the intellectual and cultural life of the university community, the city and the profession.