



**DEPAUL UNIVERSITY** 2135 N. Kenmore Ave. • Chicago IL 60614 • <http://theatreschool.depaul.edu>

## NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
July 30, 2007

### **The Theatre School at DePaul University Announces its 2007-2008 Season** ***Dynamic Plays Feature Coming of Age, Revenge and Quests for Truth***

The Theatre School at DePaul University is pleased to announce its 2007-2008 season. For information or to purchase tickets, contact the Box Office at (312) 922-1999, [theatreboxoffice@depaul.edu](mailto:theatreboxoffice@depaul.edu), or visit <http://theatreschool.depaul.edu>. All performances are held at DePaul's Merle Reskin Theatre, 60 E. Balbo Drive, unless otherwise noted.

Founded as the Goodman School of Drama in 1925, The Theatre School is the Midwest's leading theatre conservatory and is recognized around the nation for its professional training programs. Throughout its history, the school has provided Chicago audiences with affordable and meaningful theatrical experiences. Students are involved in all aspects of production — as actors, designers, dramaturgs, technicians and crew. Acclaimed as "a legendary training ground" by the *Chicago Tribune*, the school has launched the careers of notable artists including Gillian Anderson, Zach Helm, Charlayne Woodard, Michael Rooker, Judy Greer, Scott Ellis and John C. Reilly.

#### **THE THEATRE SCHOOL SHOWCASE**

The Theatre School Showcase (Dexter Bullard, Artistic Director) offers a dynamic season of contemporary and classic plays and features the following productions this season:

##### ***Hamlet*** by William Shakespeare

Directed by Lisa Portes

October 5-14, 2007 (previews 10/3 and 10/4)

A crumbling superpower is seized by Claudius, a new leader with a familiar face. His stepson Hamlet uncovers a secret that pits 21st century youth against their politically depraved elders. In this *Hamlet*, betrayal runs rampant, trust means nothing, and, although a camera's eye catches the state's every action, no one is truly safe.

##### ***The Burial at Thebes*** by Seamus Heaney

Directed by Barry Brunetti

February 8-17, 2008 (previews 2/6 & 2/7)

Irish poet and Nobel Prize-winning author Seamus Heaney retells Sophocles' classic *Antigone* and explores the eternal struggle between the rights of the individual and the security of the state. When Antigone defies the King of Thebes over the burial of her brother, she is faced with violent and tragic consequences.

##### ***The Heidi Chronicles*** by Wendy Wasserstein

Directed by Jane Brody

April 18-27, 2008 (previews 4/16 & 4/17)

Winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Drama and the Tony Award for Best Play, *The Heidi Chronicles* masterfully captures the evolving role of women over three decades. In this story of female

independence in a male dominated world, Wasserstein infuses A+ wit and smart dialogue to this comical and sincere ride through history.

***Kosi Dasa*** written and directed by Shepsu Aakhu  
May 16-25, 2008 (previews 5/14 & 5/15)

The lives of young couple No Eyes and Diata are changed forever as each must accept sacrifice in the name of community, family and spiritual beliefs. A coming-of-age story told through African storytelling, African and Indian dance, and Brazilian and Asian combat styles, *Kosi Dasa* examines the values and cultures that bind a community and the divine implications therein.

The Theatre School Showcase's single ticket prices are \$6 - \$15. Not ready for the commitment of a subscription? Try the membership program – for \$48, members will receive a membership card which entitles them to attend any performance at any show for free, which also includes one free guest pass and no handling fee. Group rates are available for 15 or more people. Post-show discussions and performances interpreted in American Sign Language are scheduled for each production. Subscribers are entitled to free ticket re-scheduling, parking coupons and other benefits. For complete details or to purchase a subscription, call the Merle Reskin Theatre Box Office at (312) 922-1999.

### **CHICAGO PLAYWORKS FOR FAMILIES AND YOUNG AUDIENCES**

Founded as the Goodman Children's Theatre in 1925, Chicago Playworks for Families and Young Audiences (Lisa Portes, Artistic Director) is the city's oldest continuously operating children's theatre. One of the first major children's theatres in the United States, it now presents productions to more than 37,000 parents, children and schoolchildren each season. This year the series is proud to present:

***Tales as Old as Africa*** written and directed by Ann Wakefield  
WORLD PREMIERE

October 30-December 6, 2007

Inspired by *Nelson Mandela's Favorite African Folktales*, this world premiere features three magical stories illustrating how the animals received their unique personalities and traits. Brought to life by two mystical sangomas, or witchdoctors, these tales will delight audiences just as they have for generations throughout Africa. *Recommended for ages 5 and up.*

***A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings*** by Gabriel Garcia Marquez

Adapted for the stage by Nilo Cruz

Directed by Carlos Murillo

January 12-March 4, 2008

This tale of a mysterious winged creature that falls from the sky explores the innocence and faith of two children. They convince their parents, and the rest of their forgotten town, that the visitor is truly an angel. An enchanting story by Nobel Prize-winning author Gabriel Garcia Marquez, *A Very Old Man With Enormous Wings* reminds us of the imagination and beauty that childhood can hold. *Recommended for ages 8 and up.*

***The Giver*** by Lois Lowry

Adapted for the stage by Eric Coble

Directed by Ernie Nolan

April 1-May 24, 2008

Based on the Newbery Award-winning book, *The Giver* takes place in a seemingly perfect world without pain, war, fear or inequality. But when young Jonas is selected as the Receiver of Memories, he begins to learn difficult truths about his existence and the possibilities that a life full of choices can bring. *Recommended for ages 9 and up.*

Subscriptions to Saturday performances of Chicago Playworks productions are \$21. Single tickets are \$8. Group rates are available for 15 or more people. Teacher/Production Guides, performances interpreted in American Sign Language and post-show Ice Cream Socials with the cast are available for each production. Subscribers are entitled to free ticket rescheduling, \$6 parking coupons and other benefits. For complete details and to purchase subscriptions, call the Box Office at (312) 922-1999.

**NEW DIRECTORS AND NEW PLAYWRIGHTS SERIES**

The Theatre School will also present two student directed and one student written play this season which are free and open to the public.

***Cloud Tectonics*** by José Rivera

Directed by Scott Illingworth

November 9-18, 2007 (previews 11/7 & 11/8)

Baliwick Repertory Main Stage

Rivera's lyrical text explores the possibility of a connection between subjective space and time to love and relationships when Celestina, a beautiful, pregnant stranger, enters Anibal's life. "What better way to respond to a miracle than to fall in love with it."

***Machinal*** by Sophie Treadwell

Directed by Rachel Walshe

February 15-24, 2008 (previews 2/13 & 2/14)

Baliwick Repertory Main Stage

A 1928 Broadway hit, *Machinal* takes an insightful look at a world where men have the power to shape and determine every aspect of a young woman's life. Helen is suffocated with feelings of entrapment and helplessness with deadly results.

***World Premiere***

Author and Director TBA

May 9-18, 2008 (previews 5/7 & 5/8)

Athenaeum Studio Three

Interviews are available upon request. Please contact Maliwan Diemer for details.

*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, culturally diverse and that strives for the highest level of professional skill and artistry. A commitment to diversity and equality in education is central to our 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. We seek to enhance the intellectual and cultural life of our university community, our city and the profession. For more information visit <http://theatreschool.depaul.edu>.*