

**N E W S   R E L E A S E**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**The Theatre School's Dexter Bullard Directs Kafka's *THE TRIAL***  
*You may be innocent, but innocent of what?*

The Theatre School at DePaul University presents Franz Kafka's ***THE TRIAL***, adapted by Steven Berkoff, directed by Dexter Bullard, as part of its Showcase Series. Spellbinding and thought provoking, this literary puzzle opens Friday, April 20 and runs through Sunday, April 29, 2007 at DePaul's Merle Reskin Theatre, with preview performances on April 18 and 19. Performances are Wednesdays through Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. To purchase tickets, call the Box Office at (312) 922-1999.

In *The Trial*, protagonist Joseph K awakes to find himself arrested and accused of unnamed crimes. Though unsure why he is on trial, he must fight through layers of process, rumor and myth to prove his innocence before an unfathomable court of law. Berkoff's physically charged adaptation brilliantly illuminates Kafka's questions about the nature of authority, the ambiguity of justice, and the power of guilt.

Tickets are \$15. Group rates are available for 15 or more people. Seniors (over 60), DePaul employees and alumni, and college students receive a discount (with ID). Tickets are available by calling the Box Office at (312) 922-1999 or online at [www.ticketweb.com](http://www.ticketweb.com).

Performances are at DePaul's Merle Reskin Theatre, 60 E. Balbo Drive at Michigan, Chicago. Discount parking is available with coupons from the Box Office, and the theatre is accessible via CTA busses (3-King Drive, 29-State Street, 146-Michigan/Museums and others), and CTA El stops (Red, Blue, Brown, Green, Orange, Purple and Pink).

**SPECIAL EVENTS:** Post show discussions with the cast will be held on April 22 and 26. The performance on April 29 will be interpreted in American Sign Language. A special half-priced performance for the DePaul Community and all university students occurs on April 25. Tickets for this performance are \$3 for all students and \$6 for DePaul alumni and employees with valid ID. Details for these and other events available at <http://theatreschool.depaul.edu> or by calling (773) 325-7819.

**Dexter Bullard** (*Director*) is the head of the graduate acting program and the Showcase Season Artistic Director at The Theatre School. He has taught acting, improvisation and physical theater throughout the city including at University of Illinois-Chicago, Roosevelt University, Columbia College, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Second City Training Center, The Audition Studio, TVI and The Actors' Center. Dexter is an award-winning director dedicated to directing new plays and creating original theater for Chicago. Most recently, he directed Craig Wright's *Grace* at Northlight Theater. In 2004, Dexter was awarded the Lucille Lortel Award for Outstanding Direction Off-Broadway for Tracy Letts' *Bug* at The Barrow Street Theater, as well as a Drama Desk Nomination for Outstanding Director. In 1995 Dexter co-founded Plasticene Physical Theater, whose critically-acclaimed experimental works have been featured at The Steppenwolf Studio, The Edinburgh Fringe Festival, The Storefront Theatre, and in New York City. With the Plasticene Company, he has directed and collaboratively created ten original works including *The Palmer Raids* (2003) and *One False Note* (2006). In 1990, Dexter founded The Next Lab at The Next Theatre where he directed *Bouncers*, for which he received a Jefferson Citation and an After Dark award for his direction. He has also directed projects for Famous Door, American Theatre Company, The Goodman Theatre, Steppenwolf Theatre, Hartford Stage Company, and many times for A Red Orchid Theatre.

Cast includes **Tim Frank** (Josef K), **Talon Beeson** (Ensemble), **Anya Clingman** (Ensemble), **Melissa Davis** (Ensemble), **Melissa DiLeonardo** (Ensemble), **Amanda Powell** (Ensemble), **Ben Rovner** (Ensemble), **Dima Rozental** (Ensemble), **Kristin Secrist** (Ensemble), **Erròn Jay** (Ensemble), and **John Smythe** (Ensemble)

Production staff includes **Dexter Bullard** (Director), **Karen Hashley** (Stage Manager), **Brian Sidney Bembridge** (Scenic Designer), **Chris Binder** (Lighting Designer), **Meghann Plummer** (Costumer Designer), **Josh Horvath** (Sound Designer), **Kelly Kerwin** (Dramaturge) and **Mark Mason** (Assistant Dramaturge).