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DCA THEATERS ANNOUNCE FALL SEASON FOR 2006

A Season of Physical Theater at the Storefront Theater; Studio Theater Highlights Family Theater Programming

The Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs announces a full roster of events for the fall at the DCA Theaters, including the Storefront Theater, located in the Gallery 37 Center for the Arts, 66 East Randolph Street and the Studio Theater in the Chicago Cultural Center, 77 East Randolph Street. Additional events in the historic Chicago Cultural Center will round off the season.

This fall, the Storefront Theater pays tribute to the city's physical theater scene with a season of movement, music and digital technology and includes offerings by Plasticene, 500 Clown and Ravenous Productions, along with the annual site-specific event, "Site Unseen" at the Chicago Cultural Center. An open forum about physical theater with expert panelists will be held on September 18 at 6:30 p.m. at the Chicago Cultural Center.

The Studio Theater at the Chicago Cultural Center will play host to Incurable Theater, Tireswing Theater as well as the Pauly the Clown Show, as part of a delightful series of family programming this fall. Free hands-on workshops will be offered before select matinees.

"This year, DCA Theaters offer two very distinct types of seasons. Storefront Theater offers edgier, more innovative work in our physical theater series, while the Studio Theater offers fare for the whole family," said Claire Geall Sutton, Director of Theater of the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs.

All tickets are available by phone by calling 312-742-TIXS (8497), on-line at www.dcatheater.org, or by visiting the box office in the Gallery 37 Center for the Arts. The box office is open Tuesday through Saturdays from 12 Noon to 6 p.m. and one hour prior to show time.

The DCA Theaters' **Physical Theater Series** includes:

SWEET RELEASE

September 21 – October 8, 2006, Thursdays – Saturdays at 7:30pm and Sundays at 3pm
Storefront Theater

\$20; \$15 for students, seniors

Tickets (312) 742-TIXS (8497) or visit www.dcatheater.org

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Take a whimsical look at death in *Sweet Release*, a multi-media performance blending theater, movement and visual art. Inspired by "The Merry Cemetery" where the dead are remembered with colorful and witty grave markers, *Sweet Release* examines a unique and remote village in Romania and contrasts it to our hectic American lifestyles. Created as a collaboration between Ravenous Productions and What?Works, *Sweet Release* is at once a challenge to death as well as a hymn to life.

ONE FALSE NOTE, OR HOW TO ROB A BANK

October 19 – November 5, 2006, Thursdays--Saturdays at 7:30pm, Sundays at 3pm
Storefront Theater
\$20; \$15 for students
Tickets (312) 742-TIXS (8497) or visit www.dcatheater.org

Plasticene, Chicago's critically-acclaimed physical theater company, returns to the Storefront Theater for its tenth anniversary with the world premiere of *One False Note, or How to Rob a Bank*. Following a tradition of expert physicality and scenic brilliance, *One False Note* delivers dynamic physical sequences detailing a rogue's gallery of those who walk into a bank in order to walk out rich - the tactical, the desperate, the ingenious, the hilarious, the bloody, the failed, and the wildly successful.

SITE UNSEEN 2006

Wednesday, November 15, 6-9 PM
Located throughout the Chicago Cultural Center
All tickets are free
For more information, call 312.744.6630

Site Unseen returns for its third year with all-new site-specific performances and installations created specifically for the spaces and architecture of the Chicago Cultural Center. Julie Laffin again curates this multi-disciplinary performance festival highlighting individual artists and ensembles working in performance, dance, music, sound, media and visual art.

500 CLOWN CHRISTMAS

November 17-26, 2006, Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 pm, Sundays at 3 pm **AND**
December 8, 2006-January 6, 2007, Wednesdays – Saturdays at 7:30pm and Sundays at 3pm
(No show December 24 and 31)
Storefront Theater
\$20; \$15 for students, \$15 for November 17-19 shows
Tickets (312) 742-TIXS (8497) or visit www.dcatheater.org

500 Clown returns to the Storefront Theater to host its smash hit musical extravaganza packed with old and new physical feats and featuring original music by John Fournier. New and returning audiences will be surprised and delighted by this wildly interactive holiday alternative to Chicago's standard Christmas fare.

The DCA Theaters' **Family Series** includes:

THE PAULY THE CLOWN SHOW

September 8 – 17, 2006, Fridays at 7, Saturdays at 2, 4 and 7, Sundays at 1 and 3
Studio Theater
\$15, \$10 for age 12 and under
Tickets (312) 742-TIXS (8497) or visit www.dcatheater.org

Laugh out loud with the whole family! Dynamic and comedic, Pauly delivers an hour of non-stop thrills as he balances ladders, spins plates, juggles clubs, performs hat tricks, and embarrasses even grown men. Everyone – from the highfalutins to the rapsallions – will love clowning around with Pauly! Pauly the Clown, also known as Paul H. Miller, is a former Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus Clown and Founder & Chief Goof-Officer of CircEsteem and the Chicago Youth Circus.

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JATAKA TALES

October 6 – November 12, 2006, Fridays at 8:00, Saturdays at 5 and 8, Sundays at 2
(No show October 27 and November 10)
Studio Theater
\$15, \$10 for students and children under 12
Tickets (312) 742-TIXS (8497) or visit www.dcatheater.org

Join Tireswing Theatre as it presents a stop in Northern India along the Silk Road with the *Jataka Tales*, very old stories passed on from generation to generation, that serve as a source for moral behavior. Tireswing Theatre presents stories of wisdom written around 300 B.C. about the past incarnations of Buddha, meant to teach the values of self-sacrifice, honesty, and other didactic values. Perfect for families of all ages!

Family Day Workshop:

JATAKA TALES HANDS-ON FAMILY ACTIVITY

Sundays, October 8 & 15, 2006, 12:30 p.m.

1st floor Education Center, Chicago Cultural Center

Experience the world of *Jataka Tales* before the show through hands-on activities that reveal creative aspects of Indian culture. Free, but space is limited. Call 312-742-TIXS (8497) for reservations.

THE NUTCRACKER AND THE KING OF MICE

November 29, 2006 – January 7, 2007, Fridays at 7, Saturdays at 3 and 7, and Sundays at 3pm
(No show December 24 and 31)

Studio Theater

\$15, \$10 for students, seniors and children under 12; \$10 for November 29-30 shows

Tickets (312) 742-TIXS (8497) or visit www.dcatheater.org

E.T.A. Hoffmann's dark and fantastic holiday tale comes to life through puppetry, music and masks as it returns to the Chicago Cultural Center for the second year. Abandoning the sometimes predictable and traditional telling of the story, Incurable Theater presents a fresh version of the tale that honors Hoffmann's vision and explores the darker side of childhood in a performance that is suitable for families of all ages.

Family Day Workshop:

MAKE YOUR OWN NUTCRACKER PUPPET

Sundays, December 3 & 10, 1:30 p.m.

1st floor Education Center, Chicago Cultural Center

Come out before the show for hands-on puppet making activities with artists from Incurable Theater. Admission is free, but space is limited. Call 312-742-TIXS (8497) for reservations.

Additional summer/fall 2006 programming at the DCA Theaters include staged readings by AFTRA/SAG Senior Radio Players, Chicago Scriptworks, Rasaka Theatre Company, ShawChicago, Silk Road Theatre Project and Tall Grass Theater. The DCA Theaters offer downtown audiences the best opportunity to experience Chicago's vibrant off-Loop theater scene with an innovative and exciting look at the many diverse theater companies that call Chicago home.

For more information about the entire 2006 season, visit www.dcatheater.org or call 312. 742.TIXS (8497).

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