

Portland Area Theatre Alliance presents



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACT

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Fertile Ground's fourth year shows abundant growth for Portland creative prowess!

More than 100 New Works

Theatre, Comedy, Dance, Animation, Events
50 Producers, 40+ Venues
...and, as always, growing...

PORTLAND, OREGON – December 14, 2011 – In its fourth year, the Portland-grown Fertile Ground City-Wide Festival of New Work continues to flourish planted in a town of prolific playwrights, abundant actors, innovative dancers, talented designers and adventuresome producers. With many returning companies as well as new producers, FG12 brings over 100 interesting and diverse world premiere works to Portland making **Fertile Ground 2012 the lushest jungle of creation yet.**

With 17 fully produced theatrical world premieres, 14 dance world premieres, and a myriad of workshop productions, staged readings, readings and events at all times of the day, **Fertile Ground will be thriving on stages, nooks and crannies all over Portland for 10 days from January 19 to 29, 2011.**

Shining out through the winter darkness, Fertile Ground offers an astonishing breadth of creative work for the stage, compressed into 10 of the darkest and wettest days of the Portland calendar. Close to every single major theatre company and many dance companies in town are participating, presenting new work as a world premiere or as a piece in development. In addition to seasoned producers, dozens of small, local producers, playwrights and choreographers are also choosing to offer their work for this collaborative Portland showcase festival.

Audiences will meet a people like a redneck Mormon thespian, a teenage commando, a grease monkey girl in a musical, teenagers in crisis, do-gooder State Department bureaucrat, fairytales that come to life, a boy with Tourette's, Galileo's daughter and many more. The festival offers inventive adaptations of seminal works like *The Duchess of Malfi*, *They*, *Rapunzel* and *King Lear*. Social and political issues are explored with true stories of the sex trade in Portland and homelessness, and with plays like *Famished*, *Café Baghdad*, *Word.Voice.*, *No Good Woman*, *B'aktun 13*, *Graceland*, *Paraguay* and others. In the dance genre, fresh dance pieces populate the "Groovin' Greenhouse," and Meshi Chavez and tEEth at White Bird offer completely new choreography. Also added to this year's breadth is *Portland Animation Now!* where local animators share their digital artistry.

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TICKET INFORMATION

Single tickets for all festival events are purchased directly through the producing companies. **All access Festival Passes are \$50** and are available on the Fertile Ground [website](http://www.fertilegroundpdx.org). Festival “Dig It!” buttons and Festival Guides are available for free at various theater lobbies throughout Portland; button-wearers are offered discounts at the door to select performances. Production descriptions, locations, times and ticket information vary; see festival website for details: www.fertilegroundpdx.org.

What Makes Fertile Ground Unique. Several theatre companies across the nation host “new works festivals” and nearly all of these festivals present “staged readings,” works-in-progress curated by the artistic aesthetic of one company’s artistic staff. They are also typically exclusive to genre. In contrast, the Fertile Ground Festival presents a non-curated collection of fully staged world premiere productions in theatre and dance, as well as workshop and staged reading productions, and more. Fertile Ground is about process as well as product in creative development. This festival is the collaborative work of our local artistic community expressing the mother lode of creative capacities, in a quintessentially Portland manner.



Fertile Ground Festival of New Work Presented by the Portland Area Theatre Alliance

Dates:	January 19-19, 2012
Venue:	City-wide, check website or Festival Guide for locations
Tickets:	All ticket information at www.fertilegroundpdx.org Event tickets sold through each producer
Festival Passes:	\$50 – www.fertilegroundpdx.org
Description:	More information about the Fertile Ground Festival and full event listings and descriptions can be found in the Festival Guide and at www.fertilegroundpdx.org

The Fertile Ground Festival of New Work is presented by the Portland Area Theatre Alliance. The festival organizers are comprised of volunteers who strongly believe in showcasing Portland’s vibrant creativity.

Fertile Ground was launched by the Portland Area Theatre Alliance (the service organization for Portland theatre artists and organizations) in 2009 to provide a platform for Portland theatre companies to showcase their commitment to new work, but the Festival has grown to embrace many forms of new works in art allowing Portland's arts lovers to discover **Portland's truly fertile ground for creativity, innovation and daring acts of performance.**

Fertile Ground 2012 is a program of the Portland Area Theatre Alliance and is sponsored by The Oregonian, OregonLive.com, Artslandia, KINK Radio, KBOO Community Radio, KZME Radio.

PHOTO LINK: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/fertilegroundportland/>

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FULL LISTINGS FOR 2012 FESTIVAL

SPECIAL EVENTS

Artists Repertory Theatre hosts *Festival Kick-off Party* with Fuse Ensemble
Reed College presents *Dramaturgs' Town Hall Meeting* hosted by Kate Bredeson and Mead Hunter
Playback Theater PDX presents *Playback Teaching Workshop*

FULLY STAGED WORLD PREMIERES

Artists Repertory Theatre presents *(I Am Still) The Duchess of Malfi* by Joseph Fisher
Contagious Theatre & Gorilla Bomb Productions presents *Fully Loaded Russian Roulette* by Dug Martell, Anneke Wisner & Edward Lyons, Jr.
Portland Playhouse presents *Famished* by Eugenia Woods
Shaking The Tree presents *The Tripping Point: An Exhibition of Fairytale Installations* by Karin Magaldi, Ellen Margolis, Andrea Stolowitz, Patrick Wohlmüt, Eugenia Woods, Andrew Wardenaar, Nick Zagone, Matt Zrebski
The Accuardi Sisters presents *Love Scenes* by Sara Jean Accuardi
Teatro Milagro presents *B'aktun 13* by Dañel Malán
Curious Comedy Theater presents *David Saffert's Birthday Bashstravaganza 2! Older & Wisier* by David Saffert
SexyNurd Productions presents *Big Plastic Heroes: Trying to Be Your Idol is Dangerous Teenage Commando* by auGi and *The Last American Gladiator 3* by Slash Coleman
Portland Center Stage presents *The North Plan* by Jason Wells
Walking Shadow Productions presents *They* by Witkacy
Third Eye Theatre presents *Grand Guignol 4: Psychosis (The Faith Healer by Matt Hanf, Bedford's Sty by Daniel Guyton, Operation Midnight Climax by Ron Burch, The Mistaken Lover by Martha Patterson)*
Unexpected Company presents *One Day* by Kevin Muir
Playback Theater PDX presents *Playback Theater*
String House Theatre presents *Waxwing* by Emily Gregory
Curious Comedy Theater presents *Irregardless* by Stacey Hallal
Playback Theater PDX presents *POWER/EMPOWERMENT: The Voice of the People*

MUSICAL THEATRE

Brent Rogers Creative Services, Inc. presents *Oil Change the Musical Comedy* book by Klay Rogers, lyrics by Klay Rogers & Brent Rogers, music by Brent Rogers
Playwrights West presents *Ablaze*, an a cappella musical thriller written by Matthew B. Zrebski
Vanport Square Studio presents *Fight Call* book by Steve Rathje, music by Billy Rathje, lyrics by Billy Rathje and Steve Rathje
Golden Fang Productions presents *Bite Me a Little* book and music by Arlie Conner
Live On Stage presents *4 X 4 = 8 Musicals* by Diane Englert, Sam Gregory, Chanda Hall, Michael Allen Harrison, Mont Chris Hubbard, Aubrey Jessen, Jeffrey Kaufmann, Mark LaPierre, Valory J. Lawrence, Connery MacRae, Reece Marshburn, Cameron McFee, Kurt Misar and Greg Paul.

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WORKSHOP PRODUCTIONS

Redneck Mormon Productions presents *Redneck Mormon Thespian* by Cory Huff
BaseRoots Theatre Company presents *No Good Woman: The Ballad of Joan Little* by Bobby Bermea
PDX Playwrights presents *Three Short Plays: A Pretty Girl with Cancer* by Dave Chapman, *This is Temporary* by Debbie Lamedman & *Scrooge and Marley Have Dinner in Hell* by Dave Chapman
Olio Productions Presents *Trifecta: Blanche* by Sascha Blocker, *Voicemail* devised by ensemble & *400,000 Letters* by Sarah Soards Directed by Nathan Crosby
Public Folklore presents *The Most Delicious Chaos: Characters From the World of Professional Servitude* by RJ Hodde
Readers Theatre Repertory presents *The Penguins of Ithaca* by David Berkson
Hand2Mouth presents *Something's Got Ahold Of My Heart* created by the Hand2Mouth ensemble

STAGED READINGS

Artists Repertory Theatre presents *Dear Galileo* by Claire Willett
PDX Playwrights presents *Double Feature: Ephemery* by Miriam Feder & *Dad I Hardly Know You* by Gary Corbin
PlayWrite, Inc. presents *Word.Voice.* written by recent PlayWrite graduates
The Pulp Stage presents *PULP DICTION III: Gift of a Thousand Tongues* by Fengar Gael
PDX Playwrights presents *A Simple Thread* by Jenni GreenMiller
Standing Gard presents *Graceland, Paraguay* by Jason Rosenblatt
Jewish Theatre Collaborative presents *Café Baghdad* adapted by Sacha Reich
Dust and Dreams Ensemble presents *A Live Dress* by Martha Jane Kaufman
CoHo Productions presents *A Noble Failure* by Susan Mach (announce 11/11)
Portland Shakespeare Project presents *Lear's Follies*, an adaptation of William Shakespeare's *King Lear* by C.S. Whitcomb
Standing Gard presents *Satanic Organics* by Jason Rosenblatt
PDX Playwrights presents *Double Feature: Triptych Americana* by Karen Alexander-Brown & *Skin Garden* by Jeremy Benjamin
PDX Playwrights presents *Double Feature: Sacagawasquatch & Spellbinders* by Brad Bolchunos
PDX Playwrights presents *Double Feature: Green* by Kate Belden & *Fiona and the Queen of Baltimore* by David Holloway
The Pulp Stage presents *PULP DICTION III: Red Hands* by Matt Haynes, from the screenplay by Adam Haynes
PDX Playwrights presents *Jerusalem Story* by Sharon Sassone

READINGS

Lunacy Stageworks presents *Stories: From Survivors of the Sex Trade* by survivors of the sex trade
Third Eye Theatre presents *Copernicus Rising* by Michael A. Rose
Sowelu Ensemble Theater presents *Two Writers: Two Works - Comic Book City* by Hunt Holman & *A Boy Interrupts His Chores* by Lorraine Bahr
PDX Playwrights presents *Manful!* by John Servilio
Third Eye Theatre presents *The Bag Lady's Christmas* by Sharon Sassone
Passing Fool Productions presents *Farm Story* by Jacklyn Maddux
Portland Theatre Works presents *Next of Kin* by Steve Patterson and *Live from Douglas* by Andrew Wardenaar

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LUNCHTIME

Redneck Mormon Productions presents *Redneck Mormon Thespian* by Cory Huff
PDX Playwrights presents *Kookaburra* by Amy Doherty
PDX Playwrights presents *The Widow of Tom's Hill* by Aleks Merilo
PDX Playwrights presents *Cate Darringer* by Sally Sunbear
The Waffle Tree presents *City of Roses/City of Thorns* by Travis Smith and Eileen DuClos

LATE NIGHT

Penplay presents *Asylum No More* by Sandra de Helen
Redneck Mormon Productions presents *Redneck Mormon Thespian* by Cory Huff
The Pulp Stage presents *PULP DICTION III: The Pulp Sampler-- Operation Midnight Climax* by Ron Burch, *How to Talk to Little Girls* by Tina Connolly, *Iced* by Michael Cooper, *Best Son* by Paul Handley, *Route Nine* by Samantha Henderson, *All Hallowed Puppets* by Bill Ratner and *The Devil Made Me Do It* by Sydney Somerfield
Fuse Theatre Ensemble presents *Karaoke Night! (the musical)* devised by the ensemble
Brent Rogers Creative Services, Inc. presents *Oil Change the Musical Comedy* book by Klay Rogers, lyrics by Klay Rogers & Brent Rogers, music by Brent Rogers
Northwest Children's Theater presents *Rapunzel ~ Uncut!* adapted by James W. Moore

DANCE PERFORMANCE

Meshi Chavez presents...*or be dragged*. Choreographed by Meshi Chavez
White Bird presents *Make/Believe*. A new evening-length work by tEEth. Choreographed by Angelle Herbert.
Composed by Phillip Kraft
Oregon Ballet Theatre presents *Saint Säen's Carnival of the Animals* by Anne Mueller

GROOVIN' GREENHOUSE DANCE SHOWCASE SERIES presented by Polaris Dance Theatre

Beat BangerZ presents: *The Rhythm* - Choreography by Damon Keller, *Swunk* - Choreography by Damon Keller & Erin Lee, *Fragile* - Choreography by Shannon Wilcox, *Rockin' to The Beat* - Choreography by Hillary Hart & Erin Lee, *Greenlight* - Choreography by BBZ
PDX Dance Collective presents: *Them and Us* - Choreography by Timothy M. Johnson,, *Givers* - Choreography by Elise Ericksen
Portland Festival Ballet presents: *Fluid* -- Choreography by Lavinia Magliocco
NW Fusion presents: *New Works from NW Fusion* – Choreography by Brad Hampton, Eowyn Barrett, Erika Boudreau and Autumn Dones
Dance Coalition of Oregon presents: *Collection of Dances*—Choreography by Rachel Slater, Kristine Anderson, Agnieszka Laska and The Dolly Pops
Polaris Dance Theatre presents: *Dis-Cooperire* –Choreography by Robert Guitron
Laura Onizuka with members of Portland Flamenco Events Performance Group present: *No Soy Bailarina*-- Choreography by Laura Onizuka
Agnieszka Laska Dancers present: *Broken Flowers* -- Choreography by Agnieszka Laska
AWOL Dance Collective presents: *Distant Points* –Choreography by Jen Livengood, Alicia Doerrie, Jessica Hoage of A-WOL dance collective with guest Jenni Bregman, dancer and choreographer from San Francisco.
Cerrin Lathrop and Carlyn Hudson with members of SubRosa Dance Collective present: *Original Works* – Choreography by: Cerrin Lathrop and Carlyn Hudson
Jennifer Camp with members of Pacific University's Dance Ensemble present: *Beneath the Surface + additional works TBA*— Choreography by Jennifer Camp

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ANIMATED FILM SHORTS

Northwest Animation Festival presents *Portland Animation Now!*

Eyeliners by Joanna Priestley

Ursula 1000 - Rocket by Eric Kilkeny

Ruby Rocket, Private Detective by Sam Niemann & Stacey Hallal

Missionary by Mike A. Smith

Old-Time Film by Barbara Tetenbaum & Marilyn Zornado

Operation: Fish by Jeff Riley

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