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## **SIX EMERGING PLAYWRIGHTS DEBUT NEW WORKS DIRECTED & PERFORMED BY BAY AREA PROFESSIONALS**

**OCTOBER 19 AT BERKELEY REPERTORY THEATRE**

**Six 10-Minute Plays on the Topic: "FUTURISM REVISITED"**

**PlayGround announces 2009/10 Writers Pool & Company**

BERKELEY, (October 9, 2009) – And off they go! At 9am Friday morning, 36 playwrights were given the topic "***FUTURISM REVISITED***" in connection with the centennial of F.T. Marinetti's "Futurist Manifesto" this year and a number of exhibitions, screenings and performances organized by Performa, SFMOMA and other community organizations. The writers now have until Tuesday, Oct. 13 at 2pm to write and submit their respective scripts for the first **Monday Night PlayGround** event of the 2009/10 season, happening at **8pm, Monday, October 19** in residence at **Berkeley Repertory Theatre**. A panel of judges will select six plays from those submitted to be rehearsed with professional Bay Area actors and directors for 90 minutes each before being presented as staged readings. Directors signed on for October include: Jon Tracy, Mark Rucker, Brava! Artistic Director Raelle Myrick-Hodges, Joy Carlin, George Maguire, and PlayGround Artistic Director Jim Kleinmann.

New this season, PlayGround audiences will enjoy several new ways to participate – from entering a contest to nominate one of this year's topics (*October 19 audiences only*) to voting on a favorite Monday Night play, with the top play each month receiving the new "People's Choice" Award and moving to the finals for Festival selection. PlayGround will also continue to offer pre-performance discussions at 7:10pm, featuring playwrights and other special guests related to that month's topic.

**PlayGround**, the Bay Area's incubator for the next generation of playwrights, recently completed selection of 36 writers from out of nearly 100 Bay Area applicants who submitted material for consideration. The resulting Writers Pool is the source for each month's script submissions.

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The 2009/10 Writers Pool is comprised of: Sharif Abu-Hamdeh, Crish Barth, Tim Bauer, Cass Brayton, Erin Bregman, Robyn Brooks, Ron Campbell, Adam Chanzit, Sharon Eberhardt, Garret Jon Groenveld, Daniel Heath, Mandy Hodge Rizvi, Susan Jackson, Martha Jane Kaufman, Sang Kim, Brady Lea, Morgan Ludlow, Katie May, Alex Moggridge, Marisela Orta, Erin Panttaja, Michael Phillis, Evelyn Pine, Kenn Rabin, Carolina Rojas Moretti, Dan Rubin, Diane Sampson, Ken Slattery, Martha Soukup, Tom Swift, Nick Turner, Maya Tussing, Malachy Walsh, Jeffrey Wincek, Sunny Wong, Ignacio Zulueta.

In addition, PlayGround announced this season's resident Company, representing the Bay Area's leading directors and actors. The 2009/10 PlayGround Company members are: Patrick Alparone\*, Mary Baird\*, Aldo Billingslea\*, Julia Brothers\*, Anna Bullard\*, Ron Campbell\*, Joy Carlin\*, Nancy Carlin\*, Sally Dana\*, Carolyn Doyle\*, Douglas B. Giorgis\*, Amy Glazer, Cindy Goldfield\*, BW Gonzalez\*, Gabriel Grilli\*, Eric Fraisher Hayes\*, Brian Herndon\*, Andrew Hurteau\*, Christen Karle\*, Arthur Keng, Austin Ku\*, Danielle Levin\*, Gwen Loeb\*, George Maguire\*, Gabriel Marin\*, Julia McNeal\*, Sam Misner\*, Lisa Morse\*, Anthony Nemirovsky\*, Molly Noble\*, Barbara Oliver\*, Soren Oliver\*, Carla Pantoja, Louis Parnell\*, Michael Phillis\*, Virginia Reed, Cathleen Riddley\*, Katja Rivera\*, Adrian Roberts\*, Stacy Ross\*, Mark Routhier, Lee Sankowich, Bill Selig, Brian Yates Sharber\*, Kerri Shawn, Robert Sicular\*, Chris Smith, Ken Sonkin\*, Cat Thompson\*, Danielle Thys\*, Jon Tracy, Mark Rafael Truitt\*, Liam Vincent\*, Tracy Ward, Aaron Wilton\*. \* *Actors' Equity Association*

#### **FOR CALENDAR EDITORS:**

**WHAT:** Occurring monthly, October-March, the popular Monday Night PlayGround series presents short works from new and emerging playwrights each month in residence at Berkeley Repertory Theatre, featuring the best of the Bay Area's professional actors and directors in short rehearsed staged readings. The given topic for the October 19 PlayGround event is "**FUTURISM REVISITED**".

**WHERE:** Berkeley Repertory Theatre  
2025 Addison St  
Berkeley, CA

**WHEN:** **Monday, October 19, 2009 at 8pm**

Additional Season Dates:

November 16, 2009 – Collaboration with Tao House

December 21, 2009

January 18, 2010

February 15, 2010 – Collaboration with Mathematical Sciences Research Institute

March 15, 2010

**TICKETS:** \$15, available online or at the door. Pay-What-You-Can at the door beginning one hour before the performance, subject to availability. Introductory subscriptions are just \$45 (50% off general admission). For more information about the Monday Night PlayGround series, call **(415) 704-3177** or visit **www.PlayGround-sf.org**.