

17TH ANNUAL

Pacific Playwrights Festival



THE 2014 PACIFIC PLAYWRIGHTS FESTIVAL

Launched in 1998, South Coast Repertory's annual Pacific Playwrights Festival (PPF) has become a major national showcase for new plays. The 17th festival in April 2014 will bring the total number of plays presented in PPF to 112, representing the work of 87 playwrights. Each year's three-day festival attracts theatre professionals from across the nation, who are drawn by the chance to be the first to see some of the best new plays in the country. These artistic leaders, along with SCR's devoted new play audiences, take advantage of the opportunity to engage with seven new plays that traverse the theatrical spectrum. And in between plays, PPF offers a convivial gathering place for the sharing of ideas with colleagues and friends, old and new.

This year's festival takes place April 25–April 27 and features four staged readings and three fully-staged world premieres during an action-packed weekend.

The New York Times calls SCR "an incubator of major talent... South Coast has mounted an impressive list of acclaimed plays, long before the East Coast establishment got wind of them."

SCR's 16 previous festivals have included such award-winning plays as Amy Freed's *The Beard of Avon*, Lynn Nottage's *Intimate Apparel*, Nilo Cruz's *Anna in the Tropics*, Julia Cho's *The Language Archive*, Rolin Jones' *The Intelligent Design of Jenny Chow* and David Lindsay-Abaire's Pulitzer Prize-winning *Rabbit Hole*.

READINGS

ZEALOT

by Theresa Rebeck

directed by Marc Masterson

cast includes Omid Abtahi, Tala Ashe, Adam El-Sharkawi, Penny Johnson Jerald and Alan Smyth

Friday, April 25, at 1 p.m., on the Segerstrom Stage

At the British consulate in Mecca, a tactical tea is interrupted by news of nearby violence. When a witness seeks asylum, a diplomatic battle of wits ensues, while a life hangs in the balance.

FUTURE THINKING

by Eliza Clark

directed by Lila Neugebauer

cast includes Greg Derelian, Enver Gjokaj, Arye Gross, Linda Gehringer and Justine Lupe

Friday, April 25, at 3:30 p.m., on the Segerstrom Stage

Chiara, the spoiled starlet. Peter, her obsessed, middle-aged stalker-fan. Add a stage mother, a bodyguard with a past and a security guard who really wants to be a cop, and fantasies collide—with each other and with reality.

MR. WOLF

by Rajiv Joseph

directed by Matt Shakman

cast includes Mia Barron, John de Lancie, Kaitlyn Dever, Laura Heisler and Jon Tenney

Saturday, April 26, at 10:30 a.m., on the Segerstrom Stage

The only woman 17-year old Theresa has ever known revolves around Mr. Wolf. He taught her the

universe. When she's taken from him and thrust into the arms of well-meaning strangers, she must grapple with who she is and where she belongs.

OF GOOD STOCK

by Melissa Ross

directed by Lynne Meadow

cast includes Tessa Auberjonois, Noah Bean, David Denman, Kathleen Early, Evan Handler and Katie Lowes

Sunday, April 27, at 10:30 a.m., on the Segerstrom Stage

Three sisters and their respective partners gather for the weekend at their late father's house in Cape Cod. As the drinks flow, so do the family feuds, witty banter and surprising confessions

FULL PRODUCTIONS

REST

World Premiere

by Samuel D. Hunter

directed by Martin Benson

March 28–April 27 on the Segerstrom Stage

A nursing home in northern Idaho is shutting down, and one of the three remaining patients has wandered off in the midst of a record-breaking blizzard. When the search for the missing man takes an unexpected turn, residents and staff alike find themselves powerless in the face of an uncertain future. A funny and heartbreaking new play from the author of *The Whale*.

FIVE MILE LAKE

World Premiere

by Rachel Bonds

directed by Daniella Topol

April 13–May 4 on the Julianne Argyros Stage

Jamie enjoys a quiet life in his small Pennsylvania town, fixing up his grandfather's old lake house and pining after Mary, his troubled coworker. When his brother comes back to town with a new girlfriend, Jamie's peaceful world is turned upside down. A tender story about those who stay and those who go away.

THE PURPLE LIGHTS OF JOPPA ILLINOIS

World Premiere

by Adam Rapp

directed by Crispin Whittell

April 23–May 4 in the Nicholas Studio

Ellis Shook lives alone in a small duplex apartment in Paducah, Kentucky. He works nights buffing floors, keeps to himself—and always remembers to take his medication. But when two teenage girls arrive at his doorstep one autumn afternoon, their visit will force him to confront a tragic past while also offering him a glimpse of hope.

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