

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release
January 5, 2009

VENUE: 533 Sutter Street, @ Powell
Contact: Susi Damilano
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*****CASTING ANNOUNCED*****
LANDSCAPE OF THE BODY

BY JOHN GUARE

DIRECTED BY BILL ENGLISH

Opens (Press Night) January 31st through March 7, 2009

Previews January 28, 29 and 30th

San Francisco, CA (December 2008) – **The SF Playhouse** (Bill English, Artistic Director; Susi Damilano, Producing Director) is pleased to announce casting for its third show of the 2008-09 season, a long overdue revival of *Landscape of the Body* by John Guare.

Part comedy, part mystery, part musical, this urban fantasy by John Guare (author of *Six Degrees of Separation*) moves back and forth in space and time to create an affecting study of the American dream gone awry. A childlike woman comes to New York to look for a lost sister and unwittingly assumes her identity while the sister croons a musical counterpoint from that piano bar in the stars.

The play will be directed by **Bill English** and feature **Julia Belanoff, Sofie Christensen, Susi Damilano, Andrew Hurteau*, Rana Kangas-Kent, Gideon Lazarus, Gabriel Marin*, Anthony Miller, Otto Pippenger, Haley Reicher, Alexander Szotak.** (*courtesy of Actors Equity*).

John Guare was educated at Georgetown and Yale universities. His plays include *The House of Blue Leaves* (1971, New York Drama Critics' Circle Award for Best American Play; 1986 revival, four Tony Awards); *Rich and Famous* (1974 and currently playing at ACT); *Landscape of the Body* (1977); *Bosoms and Neglect* (1979); *Six Degrees of Separation* (1990, OBIE Award, New York Drama Critics' Circle Award, Olivier Award for Best Play as well as several Bay Area Awards for the SF Playhouse production in our 2007-08 season), which became a film in 1993; His screenplay *Atlantic City* (1981), directed by Louis Malle, won the New York, Los Angeles, and National Film Critics' Circle awards for best screenplay and was

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nominated for an Academy Award. Guare was a founding member in 1965 of the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center's National Playwrights Conference and in 1976 was resident playwright at the New York Shakespeare Festival. He was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Letters in 1989 and to the Theater Hall of Fame in 1993. He received the New York State Governor's Arts Award in 1996 and the Gold Medal in Drama from the American Academy of Arts and Letters in 2004. The Signature Theatre Company in New York City honored Guare by devoting its 1998-99 season to his plays. He has served as a trustee of the PEN American Center, co-edits the *Lincoln Center Theater Review*, teaches playwriting at Yale School of Drama, and is a council member of the Dramatists Guild of America. He lives in New York City with his wife, Adele Chatfield-Taylor.

Founded by **Bill English and Susi Damilano** in 2003, **The SF Playhouse** is Union Square's intimate, professional theatre. Using professional actors and world class design, The SF Playhouse, which won the SF Weekly 2007 Best Theatre Award, Bay Guardian's 2006 Best Off Broadway Theatre Award and about which the *San Francisco Chronicle* raved, "San Francisco's newest theatre isn't just another tiny stage carved out of a storefront . . . its an enticing introduction to a new company," has become an intimate theatre alternative to the traditional Union Square theatre fare, garnering multiple awards for its productions and providing a creative home and inspiring environment where actors, directors, writers, designers, and theatre lovers converge, The SF Playhouse, hailed as a "small delicacy" by *SF Weekly* , "eclectic" by the *San Francisco Bay Guardian* and "local theater's best kept secret" by *San Francisco Magazine*, strives to create works that celebrate the human spirit.

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FOR CALENDAR EDITORS:

WHAT: Part comedy, part mystery, part musical, this urban fantasy by John Guare (author of *Six Degrees of Separation*) moves back and forth in space and time to create an affecting study of the American dream gone awry. A childlike woman comes to New York to look for a lost sister and unwittingly assumes her identity while the sister croons a musical counterpoint from that piano bar in the stars.

DATES: Previews: **January 28, 29 and 30, 2009**
Open: **January 31, 2009**
Close: **March 7, 2009**

SHOWS: Tuesday 7pm, Wednesday through Saturday at 8 p.m., plus Saturdays 3p.m.
NEW: Thursdays are now “Talkback” night.

WHERE: **The SF Playhouse**
533 Sutter Street (one block off Union Square, b/n Powell & Mason)

TICKETS: For tickets (\$30 previews, \$40 regular) or more information, the public may contact The SF Playhouse box office at **415-677-9596**, or **www.sfplayhouse.org**.