



588 Sutter Street #318  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
415.677.9596 fax 415.677.9597  
[www.sfplayhouse.org](http://www.sfplayhouse.org)

## PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release  
January 8, 2010

VENUE: 533 Sutter Street, @ Powell  
Contact: Susi Damilano  
[susi@sfplayhouse.org](mailto:susi@sfplayhouse.org)

---

### **\*\*New Program\*\***

## **THE SANDBOX SERIES**

**San Francisco, CA** (January 2010) – **The SF Playhouse** (Bill English, Artistic Director; Susi Damilano, Producing Director) is thrilled to announce a new program for presenting World Premieres in their second stage at the SF Playhouse, The Sandbox. The space will be called “**The Sandbox**” and present a series of bare bones productions of World Premieres. **Jon Tracy**, Director of Artistic Development will oversee production of these shows.

The mission of The Sandbox series is to promote new works utilizing top-notch directors and actors. The presentations will have limited design elements and will be promoted primarily using online services, thus reducing the costs and risk of each production. By reducing risk, we hope to bridge the gap between “readings” and “main stage” productions and thus provide increased exposure to the new voices in American Theater.

**The Sandbox** will launch with two World Premieres by local playwrights.

The first presentation, ***The Safe House***, written by **Geetha Reddy** and originally commissioned by **PlayGround**, will be directed by **Nancy Carlin** in a **PlayGround co-production**. ***The Safe House*** opens **February 13 through March 6** (previews **February 10-12**). The cast includes: **Cole Alexander Smith, Marissa Keltie, Brian Herndon\* and Amy Resnick\*** (\*appear courtesy of actor’s equity).

In ***The Safe House***, we enter the isolation chamber of a stay-at-home mother raising a pair of profoundly different twins, June and July. As her world becomes smaller, she goes to extreme measures to survive the threats of the modern world. When real disaster strikes, will she be ready?

## THE SF PLAYHOUSE

### ***The Sandbox***

*Continued:*

The second presentation, *The Apotheosis of Pig Husbandry* by **William Bivins**, will be directed by **Bill English** and **open May 22 through June 12**. Casting will be announced.

In *The Apotheosis of Pig Husbandry* we find a woman in a slip handcuffed to a bed. A bar that only serves one drink. Windows duck-taped to keep out the smell. Welcome to the Lazy Eight Motel, where sex, revenge, social theory and pig farming mix in an explosive cocktail.

**Jon Tracy** is the Director of Artistic Development at The SF Playhouse where he directed Aaron Loeb's award winning *First Person Shooter*, *Man of La Mancha*, *Bug*, and the upcoming *Slasher*. He has also worked with such companies as Darkroom Productions (Founder/Former Artistic Director; directed and developed *Some Devil Whisper* (his adaptation of *Titus Andronicus*) and *The Good News*), Shotgun Players (*The Farm*, currently under commission to write *The Salt Plays*), Impact Theatre (writer/director of *See How We Are*), Aurora Theatre (developed Ron Campbell's *Sinker*), Marin Theatre Company (developed A. Zell Williams' *Blood/Money*), and Missouri St. Theatre (writer/director of *Chatterbox: The Anne Frank Project*). Jon is an Affiliate Artist with The Foothill Theatre Company, Marin Shakespeare Festival, Berkeley Playhouse and Alter Theatre Ensemble, and a Company Member of PlayGround. A graduate of Solano College Theatre's Actor Training Program, he is the recipient of the Kennedy Center Meritorious Achievement Award, fifteen North Bay Arty Awards, a Sacramento Elly Award, Bay Area Critics Circle Award and grants from Theatre Bay Area and the National Endowment for the Arts.

**PlayGround** is the Bay Area's leading playwright incubator. Founded in 1994, PlayGround creates community by nurturing collaboration between early career playwrights and established professional directors and actors. Led by co-founder and Artistic Director Jim Kleinmann, PlayGround has developed more than 500 short plays by 150 Bay Area writers and, since 2002, has commissioned and developed 28 new full-length plays, including Aaron Loeb's *First Person Shooter* and *Abraham Lincoln's Big Gay Dance Party*. For more information, visit [www.playground-sf.org](http://www.playground-sf.org).

## THE SF PLAYHOUSE

### ***The Sandbox***

*Continued:*

Founded by **Bill English and Susi Damilano** in 2003, **The SF Playhouse** is San Francisco's fastest growing and most awarded Theater Company and 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*. Located in Union Square, The SF Playhouse offers intimate, professional theatre with top notch actors and world class design. It has received multiple awards for overall productions, acting and design including the SF Weekly Best Theatre Award, Bay Guardian's Best Off-Broadway Theatre Award. The *San Francisco Chronicle* raved, "*One of the most **meteoric rises** [of the decade] has been that of SF Playhouse, Bill English and Susi Damilano's 7-year-old-start-up that has been attracting more top-notch actors, directors, and scripts every year.*" The SF Playhouse has become the intimate theatre alternative to the traditional Union Square theatre fare, providing a creative home and inspiring environment where actors, directors, writers, designers, and theatre lovers converge to create works that celebrate the human spirit.

## THE SF PLAYHOUSE

### ***The Sandbox***

*Continued:*

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

**WHAT:**     ***The Safe House* by Geetha Reddy.** Enter the isolation chamber of a stay-at-home mother raising a pair of profoundly different twins June and July. As her world becomes smaller, she goes to extreme measures to survive the threats of the modern world. When real disaster strikes, will she be ready?

**DATES:**     Previews: **February 10, 11, 12, 2010**  
                  Open:     **February 13, 2010**  
                  Close:    **March 6, 2010**

**SHOWS:**     Wednesday through Saturday at 8 p.m.

**WHERE:**     **Stage 2** at the SF Playhouse  
                  533 Sutter Street (one block off Union Square, b/n Powell & Mason)

**TICKETS:**    For tickets (\$15 previews, \$30 regular) or more information, the public may contact The SF Playhouse box office at **415-677-9596, or [www.sfplayhouse.org](http://www.sfplayhouse.org)**.