



For immediate release

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THE SAN FRANCISCO PLAYHOUSE ANNOUNCES 2013-14 SEASON

May 2013 — San Francisco Playhouse Artistic Director **Bill English** and Producing Director **Susi Damilano** announced selections today for the 2013-14 Season.

“As we searched for exciting drama to launch the first year of our second decade, we were most drawn to plays focused on our contradictory human nature. Our animal instincts, our intellectual curiosity and our spiritual yearning are inextricably intertwined in the human character. The phrase “body and soul” seems to sum up the connection between the powerful plays San Francisco Playhouse will present this season.”
– Artistic Director, *Bill English*

Main Stage

The **2013-14 Season** includes **five plays and a musical**. It opens with **Rajiv Joseph’s** *Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo* starring Playhouse favorites Carl Lumbly, Gabriel Marin and Craig Marker. **John Patrick Shanley** will usher in the holiday season with the west coast premiere of *Storefront Church*. We bring a bold start to 2014 featuring the first American production of Tony winning *Jerusalem* by **Jez Butterworth**, followed by the world premiere of a San Francisco Playhouse commission, **Bauer**, by Lauren Gunderson, which sheds light on the gifted artist (Bauer, a contemporary of Kandinsky) who mysteriously stopped painting just as he was becoming well-known. The season concludes with a return of one of our favorite writers, **Theresa Rebeck** and the Bay Area premiere of *Seminar*. Next summer we’ll revive the magical, twisted musical ***Into the Woods*** by **Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine**.

San Francisco Playhouse

Founded in 2003 and boasting 2500 subscribers, the only mid-sized professional venue in downtown San Francisco, the San Francisco Playhouse has quickly filled the need for a broad-based intimate, professional presenter of edgy premieres and re-invigorated classics.

Ticket Information

Season subscriptions are available immediately online at www.sfplayhouse.org, or by calling direct at 415-677-9596. Packages range from \$120 to \$360 with savings averaging over \$90 savings from single ticket rates which range from \$30 to \$100 each. Single Tickets will go on sale to public August 1, 2013.

THE SAN FRANCISCO PLAYHOUSE
2013-14 Season Announcement

Continued:

The San Francisco Playhouse's 2013-14 Season:

Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo *Regional Premiere*

Written by **Rajiv Joseph** (*Animals Out of Paper*), Directed by **Bill English**
October 1st to November 16th, **opens October 5th**

In this Pulitzer Prize finalist, two US Marines and an Iraqi translator are thrust into a world of greed, mystery and betrayal after an encounter with a now-deceased but still very pissed-off tiger. The streets of war-torn Baghdad are filled with ghosts, riddles and wry humor in this groundbreaking play that explores the power and perils of human nature.

Storefront Church *West Coast Premiere*

by **John Patrick Shanley**, directed by **Joy Carlin**
November 26 to January 11th, **opens November 30th**

God vs. Gelt. Is it a moral failing to collect the rent? Find out when a politically savvy Bronx borough politician faces a Pentecostal minister who's short on faith. Will the mortgage get paid? If so, at what cost?

Jerusalem *West Coast Premiere*

by **Jez Butterworth**, Directed by **Bill English**
January 21 to March 8th, **opens January 25th**

Everyone wants Johnny. His son wants to go to the county fair. His mates want his stash and his booze. County officials want him evicted. Whatever happened to the simple life in the country? Come find out in this hit Tony and Olivier winning play!

Bauer *World Premiere*

by **Lauren Gunderson**, Directed by **Bill English**
March 18th to April 19th, **opens March 22nd**

Why did he stop? Imprisoned by the Nazis, he sketched on scraps. His fiery love affair with Hilla Rebay (Guggenheim curator) lasted a lifetime. The Guggenheim was built to house his work. Why did the genius that survived all that suddenly stop painting? This is a San Francisco Playhouse commissioned work.

Seminar *Bay Area Premiere*

By **Theresa Rebeck** (*The Scene, Smash*), Directed by **Amy Glazer**
April 29th to June 14th, **opens May 4th**

Five hundred dollars a week for all the abuse you can take. And maybe sex. That's what four aspiring novelists pay for a ten-week private writing class with the legendary Leonard. It's a smorgasbord of vicious, and very funny, wordplay, as innocence collides with experience in this biting Broadway comedy about power, sex, and art.

Into the Woods *Revival*

Music and Lyrics **Stephen Sondheim**, Book by **James Lapine**, Directed by **Susi Damilano**
June 24th to September 6th, **opens June 28th**

What happens *after* Happily Ever After? In Sondheim and Lapine's beloved musical retelling of the Grimm classics, a parade of familiar folktale figures find their way "Into the Woods" and try to get home before dark.