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The Midtown International Theatre Festival

Presents

DIET MONOLOGUES: THE MUSICAL

A New Musical

Written by Monica Bauer

Directed by Heather Guthrie

At the Where Eagles Dare Theatre, 347 West 36th Street

Begins Monday, February 12 and runs through Wednesday, March 7

January 4, 2007

The Midtown International Theatre Festival will present Monica Bauer's new musical, *DIET MONOLOGUES: THE MUSICAL*, as part of its new Next Step Developmental Series. *DIET MONOLOGUES: THE MUSICAL* will be at the Where Eagles Dare Theatre, 347 West 36th Street and will run from February 12 through March 7.

DIET MONOLOGUES: THE MUSICAL is a cross between musical revue, cabaret, and standup comedy from the pen of award-winning playwright/composer Monica Bauer. There is not a "fat joke" in the evening; instead, sharply etched characters such as The Nutrition Nun, Estelle Liebowitz from Queens, and opera star Ms. Diva DeLuxe deliver character-driven laughs based on true stories of diet disasters. Some of the funniest numbers include "The Dieter's Rap," "The Twelve Days of New Years," and "The Salad Song."

DIET MONOLOGUES has been seen in Denver, Boston and Cambridge. Bauer's well-reviewed *The Maternal Instinct* was part of the Midtown Festival this past summer, where her playwriting talents caught the eye of festival producer John Chatterton.

Monica Bauer is an award-winning playwright and composer. A graduate of Brown and Yale, she was the Teaching Fellow in the Graduate Playwriting Program at Boston University in 2004-05, where she studied with Derek Walcott, Kate Snodgrass, and Richard Schotter. She has also studied with Craig Lucas as part of the Pataphysics seminars at The Flea Theater in New York City. Her work has been seen regionally from San Diego to Boston, and off-off Broadway at the HERE Arts Center, the Bowery Poetry Club, and Emerging Artists Theater. *The Maternal Instinct* was awarded third place in the national New Works for Young Women playwriting competition.

Director Heather Guthrie has been acting, directing and living in New York for the past 7 years. Most recently she directed and acted in *Wearing Me Down* at the Chernuchian Theater. Off-Broadway: *Thanksgiving Dinner* and *Guitar (Tongue In Cheek)*, *Sisters (Rita, Tongue In Cheek)*. New York Theater: *The Baltimore Waltz*, *Anton in Show Business*, *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress* (Bunyip Theater Company) and *Women for Women* (Theatre for the Future with Push Productions, Inc.). Some other recent projects include: *Summertree*, *The Last Night of Ballyhoo*, *Painting Churches*, *The Death of Bessie Smith* and *The House of Yes*.

Musical Director Carl Haan's credit's include the Broadway production *Lestat* and Off-Broadway productions such as *Five-Course Love*, *Miracle Brothers*, *On The Town*, *The Pirates of Penzance* and *We're Still Hot*. Carl just finished cruising the Caribbean as the musical director for *Second City at Sea*. Since moving to NYC he has taught on the faculty of Wagner College and CAP 21.

DIET MONOLOGUES was originally a one-woman show, as seen recently in the Emerging Artists Theater's One Woman Standing Festival. However, this expanded version stars Kimberly Stern, who received rave reviews for her off-Broadway turn in *Becoming Adele*, as well as Stephen Roath (Mill Run Theatre in Chicago), Eleonore Thomas (*South Pacific*), Amma Osei (*Ain't Misbehavin'*), and Renee Bergeron (*The Public Sings!*).

DIET MONOLOGUES: THE MUSICAL will be presented Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays, at 8PM at the theatre at 347 W. 36th St., between 8th & 9th avenues. Tickets cost \$18 for adults and \$15 for students and seniors; to purchase, call (212) 868-4444 or visit www.smarttix.com.

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