

# BRETT SINGER & ASSOCIATES, LLC

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Niaterra Arts & Entertainment To Present

## PARADISE LOST, THE MUSICAL

Written by Benjamin Birney and Rob Seitelman

Directed by Rob Seitelman

Performances Begin on Thursday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>

At The Producer's Club II, 616 Ninth Avenue (between 43<sup>rd</sup> and 44<sup>th</sup>)

NEW YORK CITY – February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2006 – Niaterra Arts & Entertainment is pleased to announce that *PARADISE LOST*, a musical drama by Benjamin Birney and Rob Seitelman, will begin performances on Thursday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> and run through Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at the Producer's Club II, 616 Ninth Avenue between 43<sup>rd</sup> and 44<sup>th</sup> Streets.

*PARADISE LOST*, set to an accessible and romantic score, tells the story of Adam and Eve, Lucifer and his minions, and the angelic host that opposes them. Unlike previous stagings of this classic Biblical tale, *Paradise Lost* aims to go beyond the earlier works to explore the nature of good and evil, justice and love and, ultimately, forgiveness. Facets of the creation story present in earlier versions (such as the Jewish Kabbalah and Greek mythology) that are usually omitted have been put back into this version, as Sophia, the feminine divine, reappears as a central character. This production will feature a cast of twenty singers with full musical accompaniment.

Composer and co-lyricist Birney, graduate of Williams College, has been developing *Paradise Lost* since January of 2002, collaborating with director Greg Pliska. Prior to his work on *Paradise Lost*, Birney composed and produced a light musical comedy at Williams entitled *Villains!* He has also composed music for computer games and for films.

Co-lyricist and director Seitelman, who graduated from the American Conservatory Theatre, wrote the lyrics and book for *Book of Greenwich* and *aMUSEing*. He has directed *Waiting For Godot*, *Les Miserables* and *West Side Story*, and currently appears at the Algonquin Hotel as Alexander Woollcott in *The Talk of the Town*.

Seitelman and Birney produced two readings of *PARADISE LOST* in July 2005 at the Bank St. Theatre in Greenwich Village. They used feedback from the reading to make substantial revisions to the score and libretto. Cast members include Paul Schaefer, Danielle Erin Rhodes, Darryl Calmese, Ashleigh Davidson, Sarah Madej, Kevin Collins, Tim Roberts, Al Pagano, Margaret Spirito, Patrick Ludt, Tynan Davis, Melissa Robinette, Chris Gleim, Felicity Claire, Michelle Dyer, Adia, Ashleigh Chilton, Seth Baird, Kyle Barisich and Jonathan Payne.

Performances for *PARADISE LOST* will be at the Producer's Club II at 616 Ninth Avenue between 43<sup>rd</sup> and 44<sup>th</sup> St. The show will preview on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, open on February 25<sup>th</sup>, and close on March 18<sup>th</sup>. Performances will be Thursdays through Saturdays at 8PM and Sundays at 2:30. Tickets will be \$18 and can be purchased by calling SmartTix at (212) 868-4444 or by visiting [www.smarttix.com](http://www.smarttix.com). For more information, visit [www.paradiselostthemusical.com](http://www.paradiselostthemusical.com).

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Opening Scheduled for Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup>

Through Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup>

SCHEDULE: Thursdays through Saturdays at 8pm; Sundays at 2:30pm

TICKETS: \$18; Call Smarttix at (212) 868-4444 or visit [www.smarttix.com](http://www.smarttix.com).

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