

BRETT SINGER & ASSOCIATES, LLC

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, PLEASE

PRESS CONTACT: Brett Singer (212) 307-7181

Page 1 of 2

Reverie Productions is Pleased to Announce

WINTER REPERTORY FESTIVAL

Begins Jan 8th at 59E59 Theater

Featuring the Winners of the 2005 Next Generation Playwriting Award:

Havana Bourgeois by Carlos Lacámara

And

Ping Pong Diplomacy by Joe Basque

Reverie Productions will present its first *WINTER REPERTORY FESTIVAL* beginning January 8th and running through February 5th at 59E59 Theater, 59 East 59th Street. The evening will feature the winners of Reverie's 2005 Next Generation Playwriting Award: *Havana Bourgeois* by Carlos Lacámara and *Ping Pong Diplomacy* by Joe Basque.

Havana Bourgeois is the compelling story of an advertising agency in Havana in 1958. Alberto Varela is a young, talented commercial artist on the verge of getting the life he always wanted—big promotion, nice house, beautiful wife. Then Revolution comes. With clear-eyed objectivity about a subject that inspires strong passions, *Havana Bourgeois* explores the impact of Fidel Castro's Revolution on the middle class inhabitants of Havana, Cuba. *Havana Bourgeois* will be directed by Jocelyn Sawyer, whose work has been seen at HERE, BAX's Women's Performance, Strawberry and Turnip/American Globe Theatre Festivals.

Carlos Lacámara, the writer of *Havana Bourgeois*, is an actor who has appeared in over one hundred television shows, including recent appearances in "Curb Your Enthusiasm", "CSI: Miami" and "NCIS". He currently plays the father in Nickelodeon's groundbreaking hit series, "The Brothers Garcia". In April of 2000, he returned to Cuba after an absence of forty years. His observations and conversations with family inspired him to write the play *Becoming Cuban*, which The Los Angeles Times called "A rare, insightful new play," and LA Weekly proclaimed the "Best Political Drama of 2002." *Havana Bourgeois* is the second in a trilogy of Cuban plays he plans to write.

The cast of *Havana Bourgeois* will include Jaime Sanchez (Chino in original *West Side Story*), James Martinez (Public Theatre, Classic Stage Co.), Ursula Cataan (NJ Rep), Selena Nelson (New Victory Theatre), Thom Rivera (Ensemble Studio Theatre), Rashaad Ernesto Green (Classical Theater of Harlem), George Bass (2004 HOLA award for *Campania*), and Alexander Alito (Steppenwolf Theatre).

Running in rotating repertory will be a work set at the opposite geographical end of the Cold War: *Ping Pong Diplomacy*, which recounts the historic moment of the 1971 U.S. Table Tennis team's Goodwill tour of China. With equal parts of wit, humor and tenderness, the play follows protagonist Nick Bedford as he learns about table tennis, tolerance, and true love. *Ping Pong Diplomacy* will be directed by David Hilder who served as Assistant Director on the Broadway and Off Broadway productions of *Frozen* (4 Tony nominations, 4 Outer Critics Circle Nominations, 6 Lucille Lortel Award nominations). The cast of *Ping Pong* will include Kim Donovan (Ensemble Studio Theatre and The Pearl Theatre), Jesse Hooker (Vineyard Theatre), Jerry Gwiazdowski (Lincoln Center Institute), Robert Wu (Old Globe, Williamstown Theater Festival), Jeffrey Nauman, Christopher Graham (Pearl Theatre Company), Constance Wu and David Shih (Cherry Lane Theatre).

Reverie Productions' mission is to produce original works by emerging and established playwrights and artists from other genres and to show neglected classics in a new artistic light. In 2004, they had their first Next Generation Playwriting Contest; the contest was a huge success and is now an annual event. In order to provide a place for writing talent to grow, the company has created Reverie Labs, a new playwriting group. Previous Reverie shows include Carson Kreitzer's *Self Defense*, Oppenheim Award winner Robert O'Hara's *American Ma(u)l*, and FringeNYC founder John Clancy's *Fatboy*. *Fatboy* moved to the Edinburgh Festival Fringe where it won the Scotsman Fringe First Award.

WINTER REPERTORY FESTIVAL will begin on Sunday, January 8th and run through Sunday, February 5th. For the repertory schedule, please see the calendar on page two. Tickets will be \$19. Reservations can be made by calling Ticket Central at (212) 279-4200 or by visiting www.ticketcentral.com. Photos will be available for download at www.brettsinger.com/clients/winterrepertory.html. To learn more about the company, visit www.reverieproductions.org.

-More -

BRETT SINGER & ASSOCIATES, LLC

Page 2 of 2

WINTER REPERTORY FESTIVAL

Havana Bourgeois by Carlos Lacámara

Ping Pong Diplomacy by Joe Basque

LOCATION: 59E59 THEATERS - Theater C, 59 East 59th Street (bet. Madison & Park)

TICKETS: \$19.00; to purchase tickets, call (212) 279-4200 or visit www.ticketcentral.com.

SCHEDULE:

Havana Bourgeois = HB *Ping Pong Diplomacy* = PPD

January 2006/February 2006						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thur	Fri	Sat
8 HB - 7:30	9	10 PPD - 8:30	11 HB - 8:30	12 HB - 8:30	13 PPD - 8:30	14 HB - 2:30 PPD - 8:30
15 PPD - 2:30 HB - 7:30	16	17 HB - 8:30	18 PPD - 8:30	19 PPD - 8:30	20 HB - 8:30PM	21 PPD - 2:30 and 8:30
22 HB - 2:30 PPD - 7:30	23	24 PPD - 8:30	25 HB - 8:30	26 HB - 8:30	27 PPD - 8:30	28 PPD - 2:30 and 8:30
29 HB - 2:30 PPD - 7:30	30	31 HB - 8:30	1 February PPD - 8:30	2 PPD - 8:30	3 HB - 8:30	4 HB - 2:30 PPD - 8:30
5 PPD - 2:30						
