

# BRETT SINGER & ASSOCIATES, LLC

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The Riant Theatre  
Celebrates its 12<sup>th</sup> Season of  
THE STRAWBERRY ONE-ACT FESTIVAL  
February 15 through February 25  
With an Awards Ceremony on March 2

January 12, 2007

The Riant Theatre Company is pleased to announce the return of *THE STRAWBERRY ONE-ACT FESTIVAL*, which is celebrating its 12<sup>th</sup> season. The festival will begin on Thursday, February 15 and will take place at The American Theatre of Actors, 314 West 54<sup>th</sup> Street, in the Chemuchin Theatre, between 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Avenues. The Awards Ceremony and Performance will be on Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 8pm at The Leonard Nimoy Thalia Theatre at Symphony Space, 2537 Broadway at 95<sup>th</sup> Street.

The Strawberry One-Act Festival, the brainchild of Artistic Director Van Dirk Fisher, is a play competition in which the audience and the theatre's judges cast their votes to select the best play, best director, best actor, best actress and best set design of the season. In addition, this winter the festival will be videotaped and broadcast on their website [www.therianttheatre.com/video](http://www.therianttheatre.com/video), where viewers will also have the opportunity to cast their votes. The price to view the Strawberry One-Act Festival online is \$25 per series.

Twice a year, hundreds of plays from across the country are submitted for the competition, of which 40 are chosen to compete. Plays move from the 1<sup>st</sup> round to the semi-finals and then the finals. On March 2<sup>nd</sup> the festival will culminate with the Awards Ceremony and Performance at the Leonard Nimoy Thalia Theatre at Symphony Space. The playwright of the winning play receives a \$100 cash prize and a development deal to have a full-length play developed by the Riant Theatre. In addition, several plays will be chosen to be published in The Riant Theatre Company's next anthology: *The Best Plays From The Strawberry One-Act Festival: Volume Four*. Volumes One, Two and Three are available online at [www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com), [www.BarnesandNoble.com](http://www.BarnesandNoble.com), the Riant's online store at [www.therianttheatre.com](http://www.therianttheatre.com) and at the Drama Book Shop.

The Riant Theatre was founded in 1979, as a not-for-profit, tax-exempt organization, by Artistic Director, Van Dirk Fisher. The Riant is a theatre that provides a nurturing environment to develop new plays and outstanding artists.

The Riant believes that by furthering the understanding between the races, people can all advance and learn to live in harmony. The company celebrates their diversity and takes joy in sharing their cultural differences and similarities. The company acknowledges that theatre is an important tool that has been used for centuries to help people see themselves in a new light and achieve a new perception of themselves and the world in which they live. The Riant (which means merriment and laughter in French) has grown to become a place where artists (singers, writers, actors, directors, musicians, & visual artists) can come together to collaborate on new works and share ideas.

*THE STRAWBERRY ONE-ACT FESTIVAL* will run from February 15 through February 25 (Monday through Friday at 7:30pm & 9:30pm; Sat & Sun at 1pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm & 9pm) at The American Theatre of Actors, 314 West 54<sup>th</sup> Street, in the Chernuchin Theatre, 2<sup>nd</sup> Fl, NYC, between 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> Avenues. *THE STRAWBERRY ONE-ACT FESTIVAL* Awards Ceremony and Performance Winter 2007 will be held at The Leonard Nimoy Thalia Theatre at Symphony Space at 2537 Broadway at 95<sup>th</sup> Street on Friday, March 2 at 8pm.

For reservations, call 646-623-3488 or visit [www.therianttheatre.com](http://www.therianttheatre.com). Tickets are \$20.00 for each series, \$25.00 for the finals (Price includes reception) and \$35 for the awards show.

A complete schedule of all performances and events follows.

- more -

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## Schedule For Festival Performances

### Series A

Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm

**TIMING** by Rudolph Cecera & Directed by Bernard Etienne

Featuring: Rudy Cecera, Denise Collins, Laura D'Amico & Jiffy Reed

A man goes to see a psychiatrist to get advice on how to handle a relationship.

**CAPTAIN NIGHTMARE** by Michael J. Quinones & Directed by Marc Santa Maria

Featuring: Curran Connor, Rainbow Dickerson & Vincent Madero

An up and coming visual artist learns an important lesson about putting ambition above friendship.

**THE LAST MINSTREL SHOW** by Isaac Shapiro & Directed by Lanigiro

A satirical send up of the music industry in which an up and coming rapper gets the offer of a lifetime. But will the ghosts of his past conflict with the potential prosperity of his future?

**YES, DEER** Written & Directed by Loretta Napolitano

Featuring: Matt Mickelson & Meredith Napolitano

A woman suffers from Post Traumatic Deer Disorder after she hits a deer on her way home from the Y. What's a husband to do?

### Series B

Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 pm

**HOW TO INTRODUCE YOUR GIRLFRIEND TO YOUR PARENTS**

Written & Directed by Jonathan Galvez

Featuring: Kenneth Kasch, Alan Pagano, Alison Walminski & Katie Weigl

A delightful "How To" guide with a few great lessons for everyone.

**SPINMEISTERS** Written & Directed by Tanya Klein

Featuring: Dolan Byrnes, Natasha Graf, Mateo Moreno & Laurie Ann Orr

A political farce in which the White House speech writing team battles desperately to make a hopeless situation sound good.

**THE FILE ON J. EDGAR HOOVER** by Steve Gold & Directed by Mark Stone

Featuring: Mark Stone

A confrontation between JFK and Hoover in the Oval Office in June of 1962.

### Series C

Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm

**THE CELLAR** Written & Directed by Melissa Gawlowski

Featuring: Brian Greer, Dianna Marino & Joshua Seidner

Two teens' plan to have a little creepy fun in an abandoned house takes a turn for the worse.

**HERE AND THERE** by Irwin Nayman & Directed by Christopher Thomasson

Featuring: Jason Fogerty & Roger Militec

When a man ask his boyfriend to move in with him he learns some unexpected things about his boyfriend and their relationship.

**1190 UNDERDOG ...A Historical Story** by Mary E. Goulet & Directed by Jesse L. Kearney

Featuring: Phil E. Eichinger, David Heron & Hirotaka Otsuka

Beginning in 1190 A.D., a talking Tree is alternately visited by the then rivals Jamuka and Temujin, who as boys on the Mongolian steppe had pledged brotherhood.

### Series D

Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 pm

**BALLOONS AND THICKETS** by Jimmy Nolan & Directed by Lyssa Mandel

Featuring: Kelly Dwyer, Pam Jones, Lee Markham, Joe Sousa

A story of loss and love steeped in historical inaccuracies and set in the woods.

**MANAGER OF THE MONTH** by Keri Taylor & Directed by Cody Potter

Featuring: Mia Anderson, Rebecca Anderson, Tania Diaz Flores, Amanda Ochoa, Keri Taylor, Mariya Tsakalo, Adam Weir

At a dinner to honor an outstanding worker something's brewing that's bound to stir things up. Something's rotten, and I don't mean Denmark.

- more -

THE PATTERN by Brian Harris & Directed by Michael Burdick

A surprise visit to a psychologist's office by a confused couple reveals repressed desires as an unusual relationship develops.

A GREAT PAIR OF SHOES written & directed by Laurie Newkirk

A delightful comedy unfolds as three generations of women discuss the world of dating.

## Series E

Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm

M5 by Liza Lentini & Directed by Tony Raymond

Featuring: Rick Plaucher & Christine Seisler

Two strangers with a penchant for wild stories, spontaneous sex, and small handguns meet at an urban bus stop.

THE ROBOT PLAY Written & Directed by Jason Cutler

Featuring: Sherri Quaid & Nathan Riley

Are the sex lives of Robots any different than the sex lives between human beings?

THE HIRED HAND Written & Directed by Paul Trupia

Featuring: Maureen Chandler, Matt Fitzgerald & Sheilah Spagnoli

A woman orders a hired man to help around the house and gets more than she bargained for.

## Series F

Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm

WELCOME TO NORWAY Written & Directed by Robin Anne Joseph

Featuring: Laura Maggie Kramer & Steve Plaushin

A woman discovers a powerful lesson about life's destinations and how to accept it.

GETTING IN Written & Directed by Mara Leemann

Featuring: Jordan Auslander, Lauren Cozza, Alice Elliott & Lou Nargi

St. Peter searches for someone to cover his post at the pearly gates so he can take a vacation.

CAWFFEE TAWK Written & Directed by Jenifer Badamo

Featuring: Cathy Marie Chimenti, Renee Delio, Maria McConville & Samantha Sheehan

A woman is blackmailed and must make a decision that will change her life forever!

EVERYTHING by Geraldo Pena

For every action there is a reaction, from Landlord vs. Tenant to Rich Countries vs. Third World Countries. And the beat goes on.

## Series G

Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm

SAME MISTAKE TWICE Written & Directed by Jesse Schmitt

Featuring: Jane Bacon, David Holt & Katharine Poklemba

A chance meeting between a guy and a girl holds a mirror to their lives and the truth within.

THE SITUATION LOON Written & Directed by Patrick W. Hughey

Featuring: John Concillo, Claire Hughey, Patrick Hughey, Emma Morrison-Cohen & Bob Watkins

A political docu-farce about the third term of President George Bush.

FILIBUSTERO! Written, Directed & Performed by Andrew Harriss

United States Senators debate the merits of Federal Judicial nominees and the validity of filibusters.

DOG PAPERS Written by Alexis Kozak

A young female college professor tries to end a relationship with her student.

## Series H

Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm

SAINTS IN STRANGE PLACES Written & Directed by David Holstein

Featuring: David Holstein, Michael Kohn, Leah Rachel & Black Silver

Two people meet under bizarre circumstances and do whatever it takes to overcome their status as underdogs.

- more -

THE RED PAINT BALL Written & Directed by Alyssa and Laura Waldron

Featuring: Carrie DiGeronimo, Vincent DiGeronimo, Laura Kelly, Will Lenihan, Alyssa Schroeder, Will Szigethy  
Childish pranks leads to hanky panky as obedience is measured in steady strokes.

AIRPORT by Christopher Loar & Directed by Sam Williams

Featuring: Daniel Ball, Ricke Benson, Uys Du Buisson, Melissa Hughes & Tyler Swank  
One man's ordinary journey spirals into a web of entrapment and illusion.

NANCY TO A POINT Written & Directed by Alaina Hammond

Featuring: Sonya-Marie Aleman, Isabel Agnes, Chris Gilmer, Nikki Gold, Alaina Hammond,  
Sean O'Hagan & Anitra Thomas  
A woman escapes into the recesses of her mind while dealing with a traumatic experience.

## Series I

Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 pm

DIRTY LAUNDRY ON THE CRAZY GIRLS LINE

Written & Directed by Hollie Rosenberg

Featuring: Hayli Henderson, Ben Hollandsworth, Chris O'Neil & Heather Rosen  
Crazy Girl explores her current predicament of being emotionally unbalanced and single.

PSYCHE IN THE DARK Written by Brad Jennings & Directed by Wayne Yeager

Featuring: Eve Armstrong

A woman flirts with death and becomes the hit of her dreams.

COMING CLEAN by Steven Shapiro

A young business executive finds his life in shambles after his wife files for divorce.

## Series J

Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm

SELLING ARNOLD Written by Dean Preston Shtainhorn & Co-Directed by Dean Preston Shtainhorn & Robert Learner. Featuring: Justin Delasko, Michael Lester & Sean O'Hagan

Two struggling artist face financial crisis as their friendship unravels.

THE GARDEN PARTY by Martin M. Zuckerman & Directed by Jana Mattioli

Featuring: Emily Beatty, Nina Kassa, Robin LeMon & Misti Tindiglia

Life's little miseries almost puts a damper on a planned garden party as the beat plays on.

PINATA by Zach Messner & Directed by Nick Dujnic

Featuring: Jon Anderson, Michael J. Contini, Paul Gagnon, Ross Gallo, Jenny Jordon, Zach Messner & Jake Silberman

An absurd comedy about murder, mayhem and roommates.

WELCOME HOME by Jay Hanagan

Something very special can happen when the love and history that surrounds a family and their home reaches out to embrace a new family.

## Series K

Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm

SHE RETURNS by Dennis Hurley & Directed by Steven Brillon

Featuring: Jon Amundsen, Dennis Hurley, Elise Rovinsky, Shelly Smith & Erin Wilk

A comic's night of elation quickly turns into a nightmare when an unexpected guest appears.

KNAVE OF HEARTS by Rosemary Martino & Directed by Matthew Hamel

Featuring: Tiffany Clementi, Evan J. Hamm & Paul Mischeshin

A jewel thief steals a woman's heart and unleashes a passion that's so hot, it's a crime!

- more -

A MURDER AT THE CHURCH Written & Directed by Jacqueline Hankins

Featuring: Cory Brookshire, Jacqueline Hankins, Leroy Hankins, Chris Johnson, Robbyne Kaamil, Penelope Lagos, Veronica Palazzolo, Lance Phillips, Crystal Roman, Vincenzo Vaccaro, Eric Walker

The church organist is ridiculed when she says she witness a murder during choir rehearsal, but no body is found. A very funny hip hop musical mystery. Can you figure out who done it?

GALOSHES Written by Robert Brophy

A prodigal son finally stands up for himself and becomes his own man.

The Strawberry One-Acts Festival Semi-Finals Winter 2007

February 18<sup>th</sup> thru February 23<sup>rd</sup>

Sat, Sun, Mon, Tues, Wed & Thurs at 7:30 pm & 9:30 pm

The best plays from Series A thru L of the competition. Tickets: \$20.00

Call the box office 646-623-3488 after February 16<sup>th</sup> to see which shows are in the Semi-Finals or join our Email Club to receive notification.

The Strawberry One-Acts Festival The Wild Night Winter 2007

February 22<sup>nd</sup> (Thurs) & 22<sup>nd</sup> (Fri) at 9:30 pm

The Theatre's Artistic Director selects a few plays and gives them one more chance to be in The Finals. Tickets: \$20.00

Call the box office 646-623-3488 after February 18<sup>th</sup> to see which shows are in the Wild Night or join our Email Club to receive notification.

The Strawberry One-Acts Festival Finals Winter 2007

Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 2pm & 7pm & Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at 3pm

The best plays from the Semi-Finals & The Wild Night

Tickets: \$25.00. Price includes a reception at each show.

Call the box office 646-623-3488 after February 19<sup>th</sup> to see which shows are in the Finals or join our Email Club to receive notification.

The Strawberry One-Acts Festival Awards Ceremony and Performance Winter 2007 At the Leonard Nimoy Thalia Theatre at Symphony Space

Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 8pm

The four best plays from the Finals will perform. Awards will be given to the Best Play, Best Director, Best Actress, Best Actor & Best Set Design

Tickets: \$35.00.

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