



AIMÉE HAYES, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR MARIEKE GABOURY, MANAGING DIRECTOR

**THEATRE NEWS \*\*\* FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

To request interviews or photos, please contact [szoghbi@southernrep.com](mailto:szoghbi@southernrep.com)

**December 19, 2011**

**SOUTHERN REP ANNOUNCES THE 2011-2012 LINEUP  
for the annual NEW PLAY BACCHANAL**

*New Orleans* — Southern Rep is thrilled to announce the line-up for our 2011-2012 Season Annual NEW PLAY BACCHANAL, January 4 – 7, a non-stop, jam-packed feast of workshops, readings, and one-of-a-kind events that all celebrate world premiere new plays! Featuring the workshop and readings of this year's winner and finalists of the Southern Rep Ruby Prize, named in honor of civil rights veteran Ruby Bridges.

*The NEW PLAY BACCHANAL is Southern Rep's yearly opportunity to bring its community together to talk about theatre as it is today in NOLA and the field at large via panels, readings and plays. With our 25th Anniversary this season we are taking the focus local with an Actors Studio-style chat with NOLA's most iconic performers Ricky Graham, Janet Shea and Carol Sutton, then we're investigating how NOLA's many different theatre communities interact and support each other; followed by a play reading by our founder, Rosary O'Neill's and her newest theatrical creation, MARILYN/GOD WILL MARILYN MONROE GET INTO HEAVEN?. Add to that an exciting 6x6 exercise--Eight playwrights wrestle with Two Characters, Gemma and Jack, and follow them through 30 years history of love, friendship and heartache. With our 2012 exciting RUBY PRIZE readings by some of America's finest playwrights this will be an unforgettable festival! As usual we cap the week with a wild Toga Party to celebrate our great theatre community and toast the start of the Carnival Season in New Orleans.*

—Aimée Hayes, Artistic Director, Southern Rep

**Dates: January 4 – 7, 2012. Tickets range from FREE to \$5 per entry. The BACCHANAL PASS is just \$15 (over \$40 value!). Book tickets online at [www.SouthernRep.com](http://www.SouthernRep.com) or by calling (504) 522 – 6545.**

**SCHEDULE:**

**Wednesday at 6pm - tickets \$5**

**MARILYN/GOD WILL MARILYN MONROE GET INTO HEAVEN?**

by Rosary O'Neill

Join us before the reading at 5pm for our **OPENING NIGHT SOIRÉE!**

**Thursday at 6pm - FREE EVENT!**

**PANEL: Mash It Up? Devised Work, Musical Theatre, Straight Plays**

**Wed, Thur & Fri at 8pm - tickets \$5**

**GEMMA & JACK**

by Southern Rep's 6x6 Playwrights

Our formidable 6x6 writers join forces! In this world premiere collaboration, 8 playwrights imagine the evolution of a relationship over 30 years.

**Friday at 6pm - tickets \$5**

**YOU FOR ME FOR YOU**

by Mia Chung (Ruby Prize Finalist)

In this intriguing comedic satire of East meets West, two sisters pay a smuggler to help them to escape North Korea.

**Saturday at noon - FREE EVENT!**

**YO NOLA Students present: WORKS IN PROGRESS**

followed by Talkback and Cookies & Punch Party

**Saturday at 2pm - tickets \$5**

**TAKARAZUKA!!!**

by Susan Soon He Stanton (Ruby Prize Finalist)

A Japanese all-female theater troupe reenacts lavish Broadway-style Western musicals. Part ghost story, part love story, all wrapped up in a musical extravaganza!

**Saturday at 4pm - FREE EVENT!**

**PANEL: New Orleans Masters**

A conversation with local Master Performers Ricky Graham, Janet Shea and Carol Sutton: Enjoy a question-and-answer session with these iconic actors as we explore their lives, creative chops and professional trajectory in the New Orleans Theatre.

**Saturday at 6pm - tickets \$5**

**MERIT**

by Lenelle Moïse (Ruby Prize Winner)

In a fictional college town in Vermont, Mona is the only student of color (and Southerner) in her graduate program. When she befriends her distinguished professor, the two must find a balance between curiosity and propriety, professionalism and desire.

**Saturday at 8pm - tickets \$5**

**SPECIAL EVENT: HEAL ME TELEVISION**

by Martha Wollner

Featuring Clarke Peters and Yolonda Ross of HBO's "Treme"

**Saturday at 10pm - tickets \$5**

**ALTERNA-ENDING PLAY SLAM**

Theatre makers submit and perform twist endings to familiar works. Hilarious fun!

**SUBMISSIONS ARE DUE BY DECEMBER 31, 2011.**

**Email [andrew.d.farrier@gmail.com](mailto:andrew.d.farrier@gmail.com) for more information.**

**Saturday at 11:30pm - tickets \$5 - FREE BEER & FEAST!**

**TOGA PARTY**

Join the revelry - eat, drink, dance & costume! (Sheets will be available at the door for the unadorned.)

**Southern Rep** enters its 25th season as the region's premiere professional theatre, continuing to produce bold world and regional premieres under the leadership of Artistic Director, Aimée Hayes and Managing Director, Marieke Gaboury. In addition to Southern Rep's ongoing commitment to new play development with exciting programs like 6X6, PlayLab, and

DEBAUCHERY, a host of evocative main stage shows are taking the stage for this important Southern Rep anniversary. The season began with the underlying animalisms of seemingly civilized parents in GOD OF CARNAGE, and continued with the trials of an ambitious artist in RED, while spring will bring a fresh production of the American and New Orleanian classic, A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE. We are also thrilled to welcome so many of our friends and neighbors to the Southern Rep this season in the return of the popular CITY SERIES, featuring productions from Ricky Graham, Running With Scissors, Theatre13 and the New Orleans Bingo! Show. Southern Rep offers educational programs such as free student matinees, \$10 student rush tickets and Academy SRT; as well as providing an artistic home to new works in development in the annual New Play Bacchanal.

*Southern Rep continues to show that it is staging the most important, challenging, and downright mesmerizing pieces of theater New Orleans audiences are graced to experience.*

- Theodore P. Mahne, *The Times-Picayune Lagniappe*

###