

For Immediate Release
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Halcyon Theatre Announces The Alcyone Festival 2010

CHICAGO, IL (November 1, 2010) **Halcyon Theatre presents *The Alcyone Festival 10***. This year's festival celebrates the work of Maria Irene Fornés. *The Alcyone Festival 2010* features: *Letters from Cuba*, *Manual for a Desperate Crossing*, *Sarita*, *Summer in Gossensass* and *What of the Night*. All but *What of the Night* are Chicago Premieres.

Each summer Halcyon produces *The Alcyone Festival*, celebrating female playwrights. Because female playwrights are horribly represented on stages across America, we created *The Alcyone Festival* to combat this directly, by celebrating the depth and breadth of women writers.

"When we were thinking of a theme for this year's *Alcyone Festival*," says Artistic Director Tony Adams, "everything we thought of hovered around Irene. So we decided to focus this year on her. I think she has had a greater impact on the American Theatre than any writer other than Eugene O'Neill, but most people don't know much of her work."

"When I feel sick of plays, writing, theatre, the whole business, I sometimes think of yours and I get a flicker of what it is I like about it all . . ." ~ Caryl Churchill, from *A Poem for Maria Irene Fornes*.

"America has produced no dramatist of greater importance than Maria Irene Fornes . . . Her plays and productions profoundly altered my understanding of what theatre is . . ." ~ Tony Kushner

The festival features: *Letters from Cuba* directed by Juan Castañeda, *Manual for a Desperate Crossing* directed by Coya Paz, *Sarita* directed by Gina LoPiccolo, *Summer in Gossensass* directed by Lavina Jadhvani, *What of the Night* directed by Margo Gray.

The Alcyone Festival plays Thursday, Friday nights at 8:00 p.m.; Saturdays at 3:00 and 8:00; Sundays at 6:00. January 21st through February 27th, 2010. Tickets to individual performances are \$15 (\$10 for students and seniors); Festival passes are available for \$50. Both are available through the Halcyon Theatre box office at 773.413.0453, or online at halcyontheatre.org/boxoffice.

Members of the media are invited to attend any performance. Performances will be at the Lincoln Square Theatre in the Barry United Methodist Church. 4754 North Leavitt in Chicago. Play Summaries, link to a map and additional info may also be found at halcyontheatre.org/alcyone10. Advance copies of the plays are available upon request.

About Halcyon:

Mission- Halcyon Theatre explores how stories and the art of storytelling can cross cultures, heal old wounds, reconnect peoples, create communal experiences and forge new paths forward

About- We live in a fractured society; few know their neighbors; people are clamoring for community. At its heart theatre began as a communal form of storytelling. In many ways this has been lost in our day. We challenge audiences to think and dream of the richness of our world, both in far away lands and our own backyard.

Company bios may be found at: halcyontheatre.org/company

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WHAT: Halcyon Theatre presents *The Alcyone Festival 2010*.

WHERE: Performances will be at the Lincoln Square Theatre in the Barry United Methodist Church. 4754 North Leavitt in Chicago.

WHEN: Thursday, Friday nights at 8:00 p.m.; Saturdays at 3:00 and 8:00; Sundays at 6:00. January 21st through February 27th, 2010. Exact rep performance schedule follows.

ADMISSION: \$10-20 for single tickets. \$50 Festival Pass for entry to all shows. Performance schedule may be found at halcyontheatre.org/alcyone10

BOX OFFICE: halcyontheatre.org/boxoffice or 773.413.0453

WEBSITE: halcyontheatre.org/alcyone10

Featured Shows include:

Letters from Cuba directed by Juan Castañeda

Manual for a Desperate Crossing directed by Coya Paz

Sarita directed by Gina LoPiccolo

Summer in Gossensass directed by Lavina Jadhvani

What of the Night directed by Margo Gray

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Performance schedule as found at halcyontheatre.org

Letters from Cuba

Thursday, January 21; 8pm
Sunday, January 31; 6pm
Saturday, February 6; 8pm
Saturday, February 13; 3pm
Friday, February 19; 8pm
Saturday, February 27; 8pm

Sarita

Friday, January 22; 8pm
Thursday, January 28; 8pm
Sunday, February 7; 6pm
Saturday, February 13; 8pm
Saturday, February 20; 3pm
Thursday, February 25; 8pm

What of the Night

Saturday, January 23; 3pm
Friday, January 29; 8pm
Saturday, February 6; 3pm
Friday, February 12; 8pm
Saturday, February 20; 8pm
Friday, February 26; 8pm

Summer in Gossensass

Saturday, January 23; 8pm
Saturday, January 30; 3pm
Friday, February 5; 8pm
Thursday, February 11; 8pm
Sunday, February 21; 6pm

Manual for a Desperate Crossing

Sunday, January 24; 6pm
Saturday, January 30; 8pm
Thursday, February 4; 8pm
Sunday, February 14; 6pm
Thursday, February 18; 8pm
Saturday, February 27; 3pm

Performance schedule as found at halcyontheatre.org

Week 1

Thursday, January 21; 8pm Letters from Cuba
Friday, January 22; 8pm; Sarita
Saturday, January 23; 3pm; What of the Night;
Saturday, January 23; 8:00pm; Summer in Gossensass
Sunday, January 24; 6pm; Manual for a Desperate Crossing

Week 2

Thursday, January 28; 8pm; Sarita
Friday, January 29; 8pm; What of the Night
Saturday, January 30; 3pm; Summer in Gossensass
Saturday, January 30; 8pm; Manual for a Desperate Crossing
Sunday, January 31; 6pm; Letters from Cuba

Week 3

Thursday, February 4; 8pm; Manual for a Desperate Crossing
Friday, February 5; 8pm; Summer in Gossensass
Saturday, February 6; 3pm; What of the Night
Saturday, February 6; 8m; Letters from Cuba
Sunday, February 7; 6pm; Sarita

Week 4

Thursday, February 11; 8pm ; Summer in Gossensass
Friday, February 12; 8:00pm; What of the Night
Saturday, February 13; 3pm; Letters from Cuba
Saturday, February 13; 8pm; Sarita
Sunday, February 14; 6pm; Manual for a Desperate Crossing

Week 5

Thursday, February 18; 8pm; Manual for a Desperate Crossing
Friday, February 19; 8pm; Letters from Cuba
Saturday, February 20; 3pm; Sarita
Saturday, February 20; 8pm; What of the Night
Sunday, February 21; 6pm; Summer in Gossensass

Week 6

Thursday, February 25; 8pm; Sarita
Friday, February 26; 8pm; What of the Night
Saturday, February 27; 3pm; Manual for a Desperate Crossing
Saturday, February 27; 8pm; Letters from Cuba