

For Immediate Release
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Halcyon Theatre Announces The Alcyone Festival 09

CHICAGO, IL (March 26, 2009) **Halcyon Theatre presents *The Alcyone Festival 09***. This year's theme is: terrorism, the cult of martyrdom and its effects upon the innocents. *The Alcyone Festival 2009* features six writers from across the globe in rotating repertory.

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.

“For this year's *Alcyone Festival*,” says Artistic Director Tony Adams, “we decided to play with the notion that women only write small domestic dramas, picking a theme as far away from that as possible.”

The festival features: *The Black Eyed* by Betty Shamieh (Chicago Premiere), *Blessed Child* by Astrid Saalbach (The first US production of Saalbach's work), *Bounty of Lace* by Susan Merson (Chicago Premiere), *Fucking Parasites* by Nina Tersman (World Premiere), *Heads* by EM Lewis (Chicago Premiere) and *The Toymaker's War* by Jennifer Fawcett (a developmental production.) These will be performed in rotating repertory. There will also be panel discussions and other events TBA.

The Alcyone Festival plays Thursday, Friday nights at 8:00 p.m.; Saturdays at 3:00 and 8:00; Sundays at 6:00. June 11th through July 18th, 2009. Tickets to individual performances are \$15-\$20 (\$10 for students and seniors); Festival passes are available for \$50. Both are available through the Halcyon Theatre box office at 312.458.9170, or online at halcyontheatre.org/boxoffice.

Members of the media are invited to attend any performance. **Please note:** *The Toymaker's War* is a developmental production and members of the press are kindly asked not to review. All other performances and events are open to review.

Performances will be at the Lincoln Square Theatre in the Barry United Methodist Church. 4754 North Leavitt in Chicago. A link to a map may also be found at halcyontheatre.org/alcyone09.

Play Summaries and additional info may be found at halcyontheatre.org/alcyone09.

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

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ADMISSION: \$10-20 for single tickets. \$50 Festival Pass for entry to all shows. Performance schedule may be found at halcyontheatre.org/alcyone09

BOX OFFICE: halcyontheatre.org/boxoffice or 312.458.9170

WEBSITE: halcyontheatre.org/alcyone09

Featured Writers/Shows include:

The Black Eyed by Betty Shamieh

Blessed Child by Astrid Saalbach

Bounty of Lace by Susan Merson

Fucking Parasites by Nina Tersman

Heads by EM Lewis

The Toymaker's War by Jennifer Fawcett

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