

FLASHPOINT

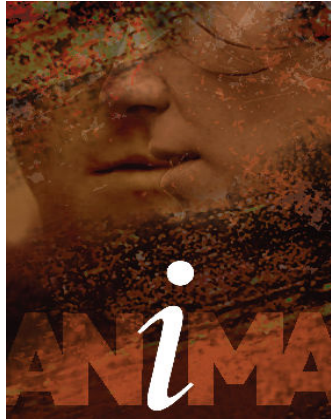
A CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION PROJECT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FLASHPOINT PRESENTS THE DC PREMIERE OF *ANIMA*. *Doorway Arts Ensemble's premiere examines identity and power in relationships*



WASHINGTON DC - The Mead Theatre Lab Program at Flashpoint is proud to present Doorway Arts Ensemble's production of *ANIMA*. Led by Founder and Producing Director, Claire Myles, *ANIMA* is the first production by the newly established Doorway Arts Ensemble. In *ANIMA*, Playwright **Christiaan Greer** offers a gritty depiction of an interdependent and ultimately destructive relationship by illustrating the poisonous results of living one's life for someone else. Ella, trapped by expectations of the men surrounding her, struggles to free herself from a volatile relationship with Vlad, a parasite reliant on her for his emotional survival. When James, a shaken Iraq war veteran arrives at Ella and Vlad's apartment needing a place to stay, a violent power struggle between the three explodes on stage.

***ANIMA* runs April 24 - May 11, 2008, Thursday – Saturday at 8pm and Sundays at 3pm and 8pm. Pay-What-You-Can-Previews are April 22 and 23 at 8pm. Opening and press night is April 24 at 8pm. Tickets may be reserved online at www.boxofficetickets.com or by calling 1.800.494.TIXS.**

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR, PLAYWRIGHT AND CAST

Director **Patrick Torres** is the Program Manager at Young Playwrights' Theater (YPT) and a freelance director in Washington, DC. Recent credits include: Rorschach Theatre's 1st Annual Myth Appropriations Festival (*The Boy Who Knew No Fear*), The Kennedy Center Page-to-Stage New Play Festival (staged readings of *ANIMA* and *Soft Cover Hard Core*) Round House Theatre (*The Tale of Jumping Mouse*), The Madcap Players (*Nietzsche Ate Here*, *The First Day of School* and *Surprise*), The Riot Actors of Washington at the Capitol Fringe Festival (*Two of Mee*) and Assistant Director, The Kennedy Center (*The Glass Menagerie*). Patrick is a Drama League Directing Fellow, SSDC Foundation Observer, a former Directing Fellow at The Shakespeare Theatre Company and holds an MFA in Directing from University of Southern Mississippi.

Playwright **Christiaan Greer**, a native Washingtonian, received a Maryland State Arts Council grant for his one-act play *Attica's Waiting* which was produced at Colgate University where he graduated with a BA in English Literature. Upon moving to New York in 2000, he became the resident playwright for the Bobik Arts Ensemble, which produced *Coming and Going* at The Independent Theater and *The Great Reawakening* at The Phil Bosakowski Theater.

The cast includes **Parker Dixon** (Vlad), **Marissa Molnar** (Ella) and **Andres Talero** (James). Parker Dixon has worked with Studio Theatre and the Shakespeare Theatre Company, as well as at the Kennedy Center, Arena Stage, Theater J and American Century Theatre. He was recently seen in the Studio

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Theatre Second Stage production *All That I Will Ever Be*. Marissa Molnar has worked with Synetic Theatre, most recently in *Romeo and Juliet*, and Rorschach Theatre, Didactic Theatre Company, Spooky Action Theatre and Classika Theatre. Andres Talero has performed with GALA Hispanic Theatre, *Eden* Productions and a joint production with Woolly Mammoth Theater and the University of Maryland. He was recently seen with The Riot Actors of Washington at the Capital Fringe Festival 2007.

ABOUT DOORWAY ARTS ENSEMBLE

Founded in 2007 by producing director Claire Myles, an active member of the DC theater arts community, Doorway Arts Ensemble (DAE) is dedicated to producing provocative and socially relevant work and to showcasing emerging theater talent in Washington, DC and the surrounding region. DAE's productions seek to challenge, entertain and excite the imagination as it employs a multidisciplinary and collaborative ensemble approach to new and existing works using multicultural and nontraditional talent when possible. DAE's first performance was the staged reading of *ANIMA* for the Kennedy Center Page-to-Stage Festival 2007.

ABOUT THE MEAD THEATRE LAB PROGRAM

CuDC's Mead Theatre Lab program is an intensive mentorship program for performing artists and independent theatre companies. Inaugurated in January 2006 with *'Capers*, the program provides theatre space, technical production support and production mentoring. A panel of noted DC theatre professionals selects the projects and provides guidance to the chosen producers. The result is an eclectic group of innovative, edgy productions and an environment in which emerging performing artists can grow. The Mead Theatre Lab Program at Flashpoint is made possible by the generous support of the Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, the DC Commission on the Arts & Humanities, the Max & Victoria Dreyfus Foundation, the Aaron & Cecile Goldman Foundation, the Jovid Foundation, Mary & Daniel Loughran Foundation, the MARPAT Foundation, Jaylee & the late Gilbert Mead, the Eugene & Agnes E. Meyer Foundation, Prince Charitable Trusts and many other sponsors. Hotel Helix is Flashpoint's 2007-2008 Hotel Partner. Barefoot Wines is Flashpoint's 2007-2008 Wine Partner.

ABOUT FLASHPOINT

Flashpoint, a Cultural Development Corporation project, is a non-profit, multi-disciplinary arts space dedicated to nurturing emerging artists and cultural organizations in order to build their professional capacity. Flashpoint provides services and training for cultural organizations to help strengthen their management capacity and offers exhibit and performance spaces that enable arts groups to focus on their artistic goals and expand their visibility. Flashpoint includes a contemporary art gallery, the 75-seat Mead Theatre Lab, the Coors Dance Studio and shared office space for arts organizations.

Where: The Mead Theatre Lab at Flashpoint, 916 G Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001

Dates: April 24 – May 11, 2008

Pay-What-You-Can Previews: April 22 and 23, 8pm

Opening and Press Night: Thursday, April 24, 2008, 8pm (RSVP to karyn@culturaldc.org)

Performances: Thursday – Saturday at 8pm; Sunday at 3pm and 8pm.

Tickets: Tickets are \$15 payable by cash or credit card. Call 1.800.494.TIXS or visit

www.boxofficetickets.org for info and reservations. Tickets will also be sold at the door. The box office opens 60 minutes before performance start time.

This show is intended for mature audiences.

More information is available at flashpointdc.org & DoorwayArts.org

Mead Theatre Lab at Flashpoint • 916 G Street, NW • Washington, DC 20001

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