2006

Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas
Conference Brochure, July 20-23, 2006

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Conference Presenters

Kevin Kling (Keynote) graduated from Gustavus Adolphus College. He has performed his plays at the Guthrie Theater, Actors Theatre of Louisville, Seattle Rep, The Goodman, Second Stage Theater (Off Broadway), Denver Center Theater, the Jungle, and Frank Theatre. He is the author of Lloyd's Prayer, 7 Dwarfs, The Ice Fishing Play, Mississippi Panorama and Gulliver, A Swift Journey. Favorite roles include Sean Keogh in The Playboy of the Western World and Peter Quince in A Midsummer’s Night Dream at the Guthrie, Hephaestus in Interact Theater’s Cloud Cuckooland, Joseph in A Holiday Pageant for Open Eye Figure Theatre, Vladimir in Waiting for Godot and Madman in Diary of a Madman at the Jungle Theater. He has hopped freight trains, joined a circus, been to Mardi Gras and eaten things before knowing what they were. He loves Mary Ludington, their dogs, and motorcycles, in that order. His commentaries can be heard on National Public Radio’s “All Things Considered” and he is a proud member of the trio Bad Jazz.

Open Eye Figure Theatre (Special Presentation) creates original work with a specialized interest in the puppetry arts. This event features one of their works—either The Elusive It, a traditional trick marionette show presented with comical word-play, or The Adventures of Juan Bobo, a world turned upside down, inspired by Latin folktales—both of which are part of Open Eye Figure Theatre’s “The Driveway Tour.” Open Eye co-founders Michael Sommers and Susan Haas will speak about their company following the conference kick-off performance on Thursday.

Porter Anderson is the first Senior Producer with CNN Pipeline, the new breakthrough multi-live-feed broadband initiative of the Time Warner CNN News Group. CNN Pipeline is the only Internet service to offer the user a choice of up to four simultaneous live feeds from wherever in the world news is being reported. Before going to CNN-USA as a News Anchor in 1995, then to CNN International before moving to CNN.com in 1999, Anderson was a theatre critic with The Village Voice in New York, and a theatre and dance critic and reporter with The Dallas Times-Herald, The Dallas Observer, The Tampa Tribune and The Sarasota Herald Tribune. A former Vice President of the International Theatre Critics Association (based in London, Paris and Athens) and past International Chairman of the American Theatre Critics Association, Anderson was commissioned by the Kennedy Center in Washington to write its production notes on the national premiere of Martha Clarke’s Vers la flamme in 1999. For Actors Theatre of Louisville, he has delivered addresses on John Steinbeck and Anne Bogart in the Brown-Forman Classics in Context Festival (those speeches are published in 500 Years of Theatre History, Smith & Kraus, 2000). And in March 2006, he gave a talk on theatre, criticism and the new media in Torino at the World Congress of the International Theatre Critics Association as an invited guest of the Premio Europa per il Teatro (the Prize of Europe for Theatre), which was awarded to Harold Pinter.

Conference Features

Special Session: Travel and the Dramatic Imagination
In 2003, the Guthrie Theater received support from the Bush Foundation to send eleven playwrights anywhere they chose to go in the world and then write plays for the Guthrie, and destinations included Liberia, Cambodia, Turkey, and the Palestinian Occupied Territories. After playwrights discuss the dramaturgical challenges of using cultural explorations as inspiration for new plays, the entire group will break into brainstorm sessions for other ways to connect theater to global events, opportunities, and stories.

Participants: Kia Corthron, Julie Marie Myatt, and a playwright TBA

NEW SUNDAY PROGRAMMING!
From Empty Space to Cyberspace: Brooking the Final Frontier with Porter Anderson

What may be the last chance for theatre to position itself among the new media—and re-enter the cultural consciousness of wider society—is a hyper-jump from the most contained to the most liberated performance space. To paraphrase Peter Brook, this could mean going from a Dying Theatre to the most Immediate Theatre imaginable in which your 300-seat house becomes a 3-million seat arena, your local audience becomes a global confab and your work at last becomes that “oasis” Brook wrote about, in the lives of people you’ll never even meet. The practical technology, suddenly, is here. In this session, we’ll explore what’s at our fingertips every day of our lives.

Conference Hotels: Reserve Now!

**TownePlace Suites Downtown Minneapolis**
$64 per night
525 2nd St. N.
Minneapolis, MN 55401
Reservations can be made by calling 612-340-1000.
Reservation deadline: May 20, 2006. Reserve early for this special deal.

**Holiday Inn Minneapolis Metrodome**
$119 per night
1500 Washington Ave. S.
Minneapolis, MN 55454
Free Shuttle Service anywhere within 3 mile radius. Sign up upon check-in.
Reservations can be made by calling 800-448-3663 or 612-333-4646. Please specify that you are with the LMDA conference in order to be guaranteed the group rate.
Reservation deadline: June 29, 2006.

Check our website for conference updates: www.lmda.org

LMDA Conference 2006

Think Dramaturgically, Act Locally

July 20 – 23

Minneapolis • St. Paul

There is more activity taking place in the Twin Cities July 20-23 than anywhere else in the country. Come add to the buzz! See staged readings by some of the country’s most talented playwrights, featured in The Playwrights’ Center’s annual new play festival, and be at the first conference in the new Guthrie Theater—and on its opening weekend. Don’t miss puppetry by Michael Sommers, an inspired (and funny!) keynote by Minnesota’s own Kevin Kling, a bus tour through the cities’ vibrant theatre communities, hear from playwrights who have traveled the world—and much much more.
LMDA Conference 2006

Conference Hosts/Partners
The Guthrie Theater was founded in 1963 by Sir Tyrone Guthrie as a prototype for a new kind of theater in the United States that would perform plays with the highest professional standards. In contrast to the commercial environment of Broadway, the Guthrie is dedicated to producing the great works of literature, to cultivating artists’ talents and nourishing the audience. Joe Dowling, The Theater’s Artistic Director since 1995, has led the Guthrie to unprecedented growth; subscriptions have reached an all-time high, and he has led the campaign for the new Guthrie—a national center for theater arts and theater education. The new home of the Guthrie Theater is a 285,000-square foot theater center located in the historic Mills District on the banks of the Mississippi River in downtown Minneapolis. The project includes three theaters, expansive lobbies, rehearsal rooms, classrooms, administrative offices, production and support facilities, restaurants, bars, and parking. The new building replaces the former facility at Vineland Place in Minneapolis.

The Playwrights’ Center, one of America’s most respected resources for new play development, welcomes LMDA to its 23rd Annual PlayLabs Festival, one of the nation’s most prestigious developmental events. After two weeks of rehearsal room dramaturgy with the Twin Cities’ finest actors, dramaturgs, and guest directors from across the country, 8 featured playroom dramaturgy with the Twin Cities’ finest actors, dramaturgs, and guest directors from across the country, 8 featured playroom dramaturgy with the Twin Cities’ finest actors, dramaturgs, playwrights present their scripts-in-progress readings to packed houses at The Playwrights’ Center’s intimate Waring Jones offices, production and support facilities, restaurants, bars, and parking. The new building replaces the former facility at Vineland Place in Minneapolis.

Conference Specials
Twin Cities Theater Tour: Hop on a bus to get a firsthand look at the theater scene in Minneapolis and St. Paul. Veteran theater artists and critics are your guides as we discover the bounty and variety of companies and spaces—from the well-known to the brand new—nestled among the parks, lakes, rivers, and bluffs of the Twin Cities.

Play and Book Swap: It worked so well last year, we’re doing it again. Bring a play and a book you would like to share with a fellow LMDA member, and get ready to take home some for yourself. An interactive way of sharing the wealth, and beginning conversations which could lead to future connections.

The Write Stuff: Share your organizational materials with your colleagues. Come bearing study guides, actor packets, brochures, newsletters and anything else in print that you would like your fellow members to see and/or take.

CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

Thursday, July 20: Open Eyes
12:00-5:00 Registration—Guthrie Theater
12:00-2:30 Tour New Guthrie: Optional—every half hour
3:30-4:30 Open Eye Figure Theatre: a puppetry experience
5:00-6:00 Keynote Address: Kevin Kling at Guthrie Theater
6:00 Dinner and Theatregoing
10:00 Conference Bar: TBA

Friday, July 21: Looking Outward
9:00-1:00 Registration
9:00-10:00 Regional Breakfast
10:12-12:30 Twin Cities Theater Tour: Hop on the Bus!
12:30-2:00 Catered Lunch with playwrights at The Playwrights’ Center
2:00-3:00 PlayLabs Panel: Actors Talking Turgy
3:30-4:45 Dramaturg Driven Sessions
• Travel and the Dramatic Imagination
• Dramaturgy Across the Pond
5:00-6:00 Panel: Twin Cities Ingredients—Sharing the Pie
6:00 Dinner and Theatregoing

Saturday, July 22: Looking Inward
9:00-11:00 Registration
9:00-10:00 Hot Topics Breakfast
• Early Career
• Institution-Based Dramaturgs
• U Caucus
10:15-11:45 Affinity Groups: Breakout Sessions
• U Caucus: Dramaturging Rehearsal
• Early Career/Freelancers/Institution-Based Turgs: Negotiating Skills
12:00-1:00 Dramaturgs in Relationships: Breakout Sessions
• Board Games: Dramaturgs & Boards of Directors
• Show Us the Money: Dramaturgs and Funders
• Analyze This: Methods of Play Analysis
1:15-2:15 Dramaturgs in Relationships, Part 2
• Prospero’s Books: Dramaturgs and Archives
• Beyond Adjectives: Dramaturgs and Marketing
• Who Let the Turgs Out?: Turgs & the Community
2:15-3:15 Lunch
3:15-4:45 Breakout Sessions
• Lost (and Found) in Translation and Adaptation
• Hooked on Classics: Old as New
• Come Together Right Now: The Multigenerational Audience Revolution
5:00-6:30 Annual General Meeting
8:00 Banquet at Solera Restaurant

Sunday, July 23: Looking Forward
9:00-10:30 Board Meeting/Breakfast
10:30-11:30 From Empty Space to Cyber Space: Brooking the Final Frontier with Porter Anderson
11:45-12:15 Wrap Up
12:30-2:00 New Executive Committee Meeting

Go to www.lmda.org for full information on all sessions, conference updates, and information on Guthrie tickets.