

CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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“CARNIVAL NOCTURNE”

**Silent Theatre Company welcomes visitors
into the mysterious underground world of a traveling carnival**

**Chicago DCA Storefront Theater
November 19 – December 20, 2009**

Silent Theatre Company, in association with Chicago DCA Theater, presents the world premiere of ***Carnival Nocturne***. The production, created by the Silent Theatre Company and directed by Artistic Director Tonika Todorova, comes to Chicago DCA Theater’s Storefront Theater at 66 E. Randolph Street, from November 19 – December 20, 2009. Members of the press are invited to the opening performance on Thursday, November 19, at 7:30 p.m.

Carnival Nocturne welcomes visitors into the mysterious underground world of a traveling carnival. In the midst of fire breathers, fortune tellers, bestial tamers and natural freaks, a somber secret lies – a curse that binds them all together. With a live band and physical acts of carnival performance, this original dark fable combines the styles of Tim Burton and Edward Gorey in a thrilling and enchanting ride through a world of whimsy and the macabre.

Performances are Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday afternoons at 3 p.m. There is no performance on Thursday, November 26, due to the Thanksgiving holiday, but there will be an additional matinee performance on Saturday, December 5, at 3 p.m. A post-show discussion with the cast and crew will follow the performance on Thursday, December 3.

Tickets for ***Carnival Nocturne*** are \$20 for general admission, \$10 for seniors and students. Discounts are available for Chicago Cultural Center Mosaic Members, military personnel, theater industry affiliates, and large groups. All tickets are available by calling 312.742.TIXS (8497), visiting www.dcatheater.org, or stopping by the box office, open Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 6 p.m.; Sundays, noon to 4 p.m.; and one hour prior to each performance.

Cast and Production Team

Carnival Nocturne cast includes: Brian Nemtusak, Dan Howard, Marvin Eduardo Quijada, Nathan Paul, Blayne Greiner, Dean Evans, Lindsey Marks, Taylor Bibat, Kyla Webb, Tzvetana Dontcheva, Rachel Rizzuto, Molly Plunk and Joe Vonderhaar. Music by : David Taylor, Lucas Elinitski, Jason Wells and Rob Frye.

Carnival Nocturne production team includes: Light Design: Dan Tamarkin. Assistant Light Co-Design: Shannon Evans and Chloe Honeyman-Bloede. Master Electrician: Jennifer Larkin. Make-up Design: Stephanie Schultz. Costume Design: Barb Staples. Videographers: Matt Massaro and Kris

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Piotrowski. Assistant Director: Gillian Hastings. Director: Tonika Todorova. Conceived and written by: Gillian Hastings

Silent Theatre Company aims to provide accessible entertainment in universal ways. Often, their productions are presented beyond the use of verbal communication, relying on the common understanding of body language. The thirteen ensemble performers debuted its production *LULU: a black and white silent play* in 2005 and went on to exhibit this inaugural production 120 times coast-to-coast. Beyond the world of mime and the style of abstract physical histrionics, Silent Theatre had discovered a new genre of performance. Now fifteen members strong, including a live band, the company has gone on to debut *NOIR: a shot and a chaser*, *A Charlie Chaplin Christmas*, and *KANE: a story of a modern American citizen*, as well as a Vaudeville show, and several short silent films

Special Events

In association with the production, Silent Theatre and Chicago DCA Theater present:

“Shtick” Physical Theater Workshops

Saturdays, November 21, November 28, December 12 and December 19, 2 – 5 p.m.

Storefront Theater

Reservations encouraged at www.dcatheater.org or (312) 742-TIXS (8497)

Silent Theatre ensemble member & Oona Productions Director, Matt Massaro teaches participants to find action-reaction relationships and hone their improvisational skills.

Frecks film screening with live, original musical accompaniment by the Silent Theatre Band

Wednesday, December 9, at 7 p.m.

Claudia Cassidy Theater in the Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington Street

Casting many actual carnival performers, this 1932 horror film about sideshow “freaks” and “normal” people examines which are the real monsters.

The Storefront Theater and the Studio Theater, its companion theater located in the Chicago Cultural Center at 78 E. Washington Street, comprise Chicago DCA Theater, an anchor of the downtown theater district. Chicago DCA Theater offers downtown audiences an off-Loop theater experience with an exciting look at the vibrant emerging theater companies that call Chicago home.

Discounted parking is available at Wabash Randolph Self Park at 20 E. Randolph. Patrons can receive the \$14 rate by validating their ticket at the Storefront Theater box office.

For more information about Silent Theatre Company's ***Carnival Nocturne*** and Chicago DCA Theater, call 312.742.TIXS (8497) or [visit www.dcatheater.org](http://www.dcatheater.org). The enhanced website features more about DCA Theater performances and programs, including a blog, photo galleries, and visitor information. More information on Silent Theatre Company can be found at www.silenttheatre.com.

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Note to Press: Electronic images are available at www.dcatheater.org/press or by request.