

CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
NEWS RELEASE

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“SOIREE DADA: SCHMÜCKT DER HALLEN”

**WNEP Theater, the masters of Chicago DADA,
take a sledgehammer to the holiday season
Chicago DCA Storefront Theater
November 21 – December 20, 2008**

WNEP Theater, in association with Chicago DCA Theater, presents the World Premiere of the holiday rendition of its immensely popular Soiree DADA. The production comes to Chicago DCA's Storefront Theater at 66 E. Randolph Street, from November 21 – December 20, 2008.

Back by popular demand, the WNEP Theater DADAs take on the most wonderful time of the year with penetrating wit and outrageous absurdity. Utilizing the tools of chaos, anarchy, and a wicked sense of humor, DADA sets out to destroy and rebuild Christmas. With the willing assistance of their audience, the largest **Soireé DADA** cast in thirteen years will create a spectacle unlike any seen on these shores. There will be a tree and presents, too.

Performances of **Soiree DADA: Schmückt der Hallen** are Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday afternoons at 3:00 p.m. There is no performance on Thursday, November 27, due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

Tickets are \$20 for general admission and \$15 for students and seniors. Those filled with holiday spirit can bring an unwrapped gift to the theater and receive a \$5 discount - \$10 if really cool. Discount rates are available for groups of 10 or more. 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.

Soiree DADA: Schmückt der Hallen is the sixth **DADA Soiree** created by WNEP Theater in 1996 and the third production in a row to be directed by Don Hall. Combining a stable ensemble of WNEP DADA veterans, including Artistic Director Jen Ellison as DADA Dabo, with a cast of brand new DADAs, this installment promises to be even more anarchic and out-of-control.

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The show's set design is by John Wilson with lighting by Sarah Gorsky.. Assisting Director Don Hall is Assistant Director Bries Vannon, and stage managing her third DADA show is Stephanie Hoerner.

Founded in 1993 as an experiment in "destiny control" by three graduates of the Second City Training Center, WNEP (What No one Else Produces) Theater has been a critically acclaimed creative force in Chicago with a strange but intentional mix of improvisation, sketch comedy, game shows, one-act plays, full length comedies and dramas, musicals, and performance art to its credit.

For the last 12 years, WNEP Theater has produced **Soireé DADA** on the fringes of Chicago. Since its beginnings with Trap Door Theatre, the DADA incarnations have included *Soiree DADA*, *Soiree DADA: Goat Pushing Clown* and most recently, *Soireé DADA: Blinde Esel Hopse* at the Chicago Cultural Center. In each of these productions, the performers, speaking in faux-German, dressed in three-piece suits and wearing white face, confront the audience with irrationality, chance and humor, offering (and occasionally forcing upon) their guests the opportunity to participate on an active level.

The Storefront Theater and the Studio Theater, its companion theater located in the Chicago Cultural Center at 77 E. Randolph 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 and developing theater companies that call Chicago home.

Discounted parking is once again 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 WNEP Theater's **Soiree DADA: Schmückt der Hallen** and Chicago DCA Theater, visit call 312.742.TIXS (8497) or visit www.dcatheater.org. The enhanced website features more information about DCA Theater performances and programs, including a new blog, photo galleries, and visitor information.

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