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CHICAGO, IL

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Media passes, photographs, videos, interviews and additional materials are available on request.

Chicago Danztheatre Ensemble Remounts the Original Adaptation of

"The Yellow Wallpaper" by Charlotte Perkins Gilman

- Also, Women's Literature and Art Event on September 20 -

WHAT:

Chicago Danztheatre Ensemble closes their 8th season with an updated theatrical production of their original adaptation of "***The Yellow Wallpaper***." First produced six years ago, this iteration of the play continues to bring the short story to life through new text adaptations; lurid and complex wallpaper descriptions (portrayed through voice and movement by a chorus of four women); new staging and set design; and, building on the original music composed for the first production, Joe Griffin's new sound design adds to the eerie backdrop for production.

"***The Yellow Wallpaper***" is based on Charlotte Perkins Gilman's gripping 1890 short story of one woman's battle with her own rapidly vanishing sanity in the throes of postpartum depression. Given the "rest cure" by her physician husband, she retires to her bedroom where she becomes hypnotically fixated on the yellow wallpaper patterns, which eventually take on the forms of other trapped women. The Woman (played by Beth Czechanski) depicts her depression and confinement through both monologues and modern dance as she hypnotically follows the patterns in the paper. Her husband John (played by David Goodloe), and her sister-in-law Jeanine (played by Morgan Christiansen) care deeply for her but are left hopeless when they see her insanity intensify. Each evening will present the below guest artists first for about 25 minutes, then a 10 minute intermission, followed by "***The Yellow Wallpaper***," which runs about 50 minutes (total evening running time about 90 minutes).

Performances also include other works by artists exploring the themes of "***The Yellow Wallpaper***," including physical theatre from **Erica Mott** (exploring identity, feminism, and reality versus sanity, as a woman made of trash enacts the social norms of a high society lady and plays out her obsession with romantic ideals to the point of hysteria), and **Sabrina Cavins** ("***Weaving Trail of Difference***"-modern dance Inspired by conversations and stories from her grandmother, Cavins' new work explores the ways in which opposing values can coexist inside a close relationship. Combining text derived from these conversations with Cavins' unique, kinesthetically conscious movement style, her solo endeavor touches upon themes of history, war, religion, and love) the weekend of October 3-5; and the final weekend of October 10-12 will feature poetry by **Rachel Javellana** and **Nina Corwin's** poetry with music.

- more -

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WHERE: Gorilla Tango Theatre, 1919 N. Milwaukee, Chicago, IL 60647
Street parking available, CTA accessible - Blue line Western/
#49 Western, #73 Armitage and #56 Milwaukee busses
Handicapped accessible

WHEN: October 3-5, and October 10-12, 2008
Runs Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., and Sundays at 7 p.m.

Also, on September 20, 2 p.m., there will be a *free* special event including an excerpt from the show, and a discussion with the cast, Adler, Amanda Healy Collins (co-adaptor) Priscilla Perkins (Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, and Associate Professor of English, Roosevelt University), and Regina Buccola (Associate Professor, English, Department of Literature and Language, Core Faculty, Women's and Gender Studies, Roosevelt University), about women's literature and art, and how performances like this can be turned into both a greater awareness of early women's work and a spur for modern-day activism. Those attending will receive a 2-for-1 ticket to see the full show in October.

TICKETS: Publish this number: 773-598-4549
\$15 general admission
\$10 students (with ID) and industry (with resume/headshot/card)
Group discounts for 8 or more - call 773-486-8261
Also ask about book club discounts, plus book discussions with the artists

ARTISTS: Ensemble members **Ellyzabeth Adler** (Director and Adaptor), **Joe Griffin** (Sound Design), **Beth Czechanski** (The Woman), **Morgan Christiansen** (Sister Jeanine), **Denise Parkhurst** (Wallpaper ensemble). With guest artists **Tim Hort** (Original Music), **Braham Fetter** (Original Music), **Lisa Tiess** (Lighting Design and Stage Manager), **Steven Fedoruk** (Text Director), **Amanda Healy Collins** (Adaptor), **David Goodloe** (John), **Amanda Eaton**, **Cynthia Chambers**, **Jacquelyn Guerrero** (Wallpaper ensemble).

NEXT: Full Circle Danztheatre Festival on March 5-6, and March 12-13, 2009. Complete next season to be announced around October 2008.

FUNDERS: Chicago Danztheatre Ensemble is partially supported by **Gaylord & Dorothy Donnelly Foundation**, **Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation**, **Latitude Investments**, **Illinois Arts Council**, a state agency, **CityArts Program grant from the City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs**, and the support of many individuals.

MISSION: Chicago Danztheatre Ensemble is a non-profit multi-disciplinary arts organization, which was founded in 2001 as Adler Danztheatre Project. Inspired by the German Expressionist movement, *Tanztheater*, Chicago Danztheatre Ensemble is a collaborative performance company that strives to create socially conscious works by fusing elements of world literature and traditional western theatre with physical theatre, contemporary dance, visual art and multimedia. Using the written word as the structure and body movement as the primary storytelling tool, Chicago Danztheatre Ensemble creates original and compelling narratives that inspire new awareness and are accessible to wide-ranging audiences.

INFO: Theatre Phone: 773-598-4549
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