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**ASOLO REPERTORY THEATRE ANNOUNCES DETAILS ABOUT**

**4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL UNPLUGGED NEW PLAY FESTIVAL**

**Descriptions of New Plays, Cast Lists, and Interviews with Playwrights Are Available**

**Special Event with John Guare Planned Around World Premiere of *Eddie in the Andes*  
in Conjunction with Greenfield Prize Annual Awards Weekend**

**(SARASOTA, April 5, 2013)** — Asolo Repertory Theatre’s annual play festival will showcase four world premiere plays, including a Greenfield Prize-winning piece by noted playwright John Guare (*House of Blue Leaves, Six Degrees of Separation*), *Eddie in the Andes*. Showcasing the freshest talents writing for the theatre today, the fourth edition of *Unplugged* will also present readings of new theatrical works by Deborah Zoe Laufer, *Informed Consent*; Rogelio Martinez, *When Tang Met Laika*; and Steven Drukman, *Marquis Aurelius*. The staged readings will be the first time these new works-in-progress are read aloud publicly, and each reading will be followed by a conversation between the playwright and the audience. “A unique aspect of *Unplugged* is the opportunity for the audience to help shape the work of art from the ground up,” said Greg Leaming, Director of The FSU/Asolo Conservatory for Actor Training, Associate Artistic Director for Asolo Rep, and curator for the *Unplugged* New Play Festival. “Some playwrights choose to use the feedback they receive during these post-reading conversations to hone the work before they consider it finished.”

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***Informed Consent***  
by Deborah Zoe Laufer  
directed by Sean Daniels

When genetic anthropologist Gillian Elliott embarks on the project that will make or break her career, she ends up learning more about herself than she ever thought possible. This touching play explores how we define ourselves, our past, and our future.

**Presented Saturday, April 6 at 8 p.m. in the Asolo Repertory Theatre Rehearsal Hall**

Cast:

*Ken/Lawyer* --- David S. Howard

*Gillian* --- Elizabeth King-Hall

*Dean Hagan/Mother/Grandmother* --- Peggy Roeder

*Graham/Edward* --- Francisco Rodriguez

*Natalie/Arella* --- Gail Rastorfer

*Stage Directions* --- Joseph McGranaghan

***When Tang Met Laika***  
by Rogelio Martinez  
directed by Brendon Fox

An unlikely relationship blooms aboard the International Space Station between astronaut Patrick and cosmonaut Elena. When they return to earth, they still long for the stars, and nothing will ever be the same. A haunting play about love, loss, and the search for something more.

**Presented Friday, April 12 at 8 p.m. in the Asolo Repertory Theatre Rehearsal Hall**

Cast:

*Patrick* --- Joseph McGranaghan

*Elena* --- Brittany Proia

*Samantha* --- Erin Whitney

*Foma/NASA Officials/J.C.* --- Bryan Torfeh

*Boris/Bob/NASA Official* --- Eric Hissom

*Mark Pavelich/Willie McCool/James/Unknown Voice* --- Brendan Ragan

*Yuri Gagarin/Jack/Leroy Cain/Russian Voice* --- Zak Wilson

*Stage Directions* --- Lindsay Tornquist

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***Eddie In The Andes***

by John Guare

directed by Michael Donald Edwards

A new work in progress.

**Presented Thursday, April 18 at 8 p.m. and Friday, April 19 at 2 p.m. in the Historic Asolo Theater**

***Marquis Aurelius***

by Steven Drukman

directed by Greg Leaming

When the football program at a successful university gets cut without warning, it sets off a chain of events that could uncover a series of devastating secrets, including exactly what the university has been hiding and why. In the process, the star football player, the local drug dealer and a very attractive courier get to know each other in very surprising ways.

**Presented Saturday, April 27 at 8 p.m. in the Asolo Repertory Theatre Rehearsal Hall**

Cast:

*Maureen* --- Kelly Campbell

*Arthur* --- Brendan Ragan

*Marquis* --- Christopher Wynn

*Stage Directions* --- Lindsay Tornquist

**John Guare Special Event**

John Guare is the featured guest for "My Life-My Work," one of four *Creative Conversations* presented at the Ringling Museum as part of the Greenfield Prize Annual Awards Weekend. Guare will respond to questions about his work and life in the theater posed by Michael Donald Edwards, Producing Director for Asolo Repertory Theatre, and Bruce Rodgers, Executive Director of the Hermitage Artist Retreat. The event will take place April 19 in the Education Center at the Ringling Museum from 11 a.m. to 12 noon. There is no charge for attending "My Life - My Work" with John Guare, but reservations are requested and can be made by calling 941.360.7399. The two readings of John Guare's *Eddie in the Andes* and "My Life - My Work" are presented as part of the Greenfield Prize Annual Awards Weekend in partnership with the Hermitage Artist Retreat, The Greenfield Foundation, The John & Mable Ringling Museum of Art, Mandell L. and Madeleine H. Berman Foundation, and Gulf Coast Community Foundation.

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### **TICKETS**

Ticket prices for the individual *Unplugged* readings are \$7 and a festival pass for all four is \$21. Tickets can be purchased at the Asolo Rep Box Office in person or by calling 800.361.8388/941.351.8000 or online at [www.asolorep.org](http://www.asolorep.org). The Asolo Repertory Theatre and Box Office are located in The FSU Performing Arts Center adjacent to the Ringling Museum of Art.

### **SPONSORS**

Asolo Repertory Theatre is able to bring our productions to the stage because of the generosity of our corporate sponsors and individual supporters. *Unplugged* is sponsored by the Herald Tribune Media Group, Holiday Inn, and Gordon's Gourmet. Season sponsors are Florida State University, Gulf Coast Community Foundation, Comcast, Designing Women Boutique, Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation, The Shubert Foundation, and The Woman's Exchange, Inc. Paid for in part by Sarasota County Tourist Development Tax revenues. Sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Council on Arts and Culture.

### **INTERVIEW REQUESTS**

Interviews with the *Unplugged* playwrights, directors, and cast for the readings are available by contacting Susan Yannetti, Asolo Repertory Theatre Public Relations Manager at 941.351.9010 ext. 4800 or [susan\\_yannetti@asolo.org](mailto:susan_yannetti@asolo.org).

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