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CONTACT: David Hyry (415) 864-3547 dahon@aol.com

THE THEATRE RHINOCEROS AND WORD FOR WORD PRODUCTION OF

Three On a Party

By Gertrude Stein, Tennessee Williams and Armistead Maupin

Directed by Delia MacDougall and John Fisher

EXTENDED TO JUNE 21

(originally scheduled to close June 7 2009)

Theatre Rhinoceros, Mainstage
2926 16th Street (16 St. BART)
San Francisco, CA 94103

THEATRE RHINOCEROS and WORD FOR WORD'S production THREE ON A PARTY, has been extended through June 21 (originally scheduled to close June 7) due to popular demand. THREE ON A PARTY features three stories, Miss Furr and Miss Skeene by Gertrude Stein, Two On a Party by Tennessee Williams, and Suddenly Home by the Bay Area author Armistead Maupin.

THREE ON A PARTY was described at its opening as "Thrilling," "Warm and funny " "Magical...good times three and then some" by Bay Area media. From the "giddy... wild word play" of Stein's Dadaesque tale of two women in 1910, to Williams' "touching" richly written fantasy of unbridled sex in the straight laced fifties, to the "affecting slice of life" and hilarious shenanigans of

Maupin's very San Francisco extended family in the 1980s, THREE ON A PARTY takes a theatrical journey across time and genre as it amuses, titillates and lays bare the passions that make us human. Directed by Delia MacDougall (Miss

Furr and Miss Skeene) and John Fisher (Two on a Party and Suddenly Home) the Three On a Party cast includes Brendan Godfrey,* and Ryan Tasker; with Sheila Balter*, and JoAnne Winter*. (*member of Actors Equity Association).

THREE ON A PARTY (originally scheduled to close June 7) continues its run Thursdays-Sundays, through June 21 at Theatre Rhinoceros, Mainstage in San Francisco. Performances are 8 PM Thurs.-Sat., with 3 PM matinees on Sundays, Thurs. pay what you can; Fri. and Sun \$30; Sat \$35; Student/Senior \$5 discount.

For information and reservations visit Theatre Rhinoceros at www.TheRhino.org

Word for Word at www.zspace.org or call (415) 861-5079.

Photo Editors: photos for download are at www.zspace.org

Gertrude Stein's "Miss Furr and Miss Skeene" is set in 1910 America and Paris. Stein's subtle, experimental word portrait is the saga of two women's lives, exploring their entry into the Bohemian world and the change between them as lovers and as devotees of life outside artistic and sexual convention. In Tennessee Williams' short story "Two on a Party" a very unlikely couple takes a sexual road trip in this startling picture of the sexual mores of the 1950's.

When Cora meets Billy they are just a couple of hungry predators on a couple of New York bar stools. But soon, they find a bond in their ravenous lust for men. A heartbreaking tale of companionship, and certainly one of the funniest and fun filled stories Williams ever set to paper, conveying all the heat, whimsy and aching desire of the Master's great plays, *The Glass Menagerie* and *A Streetcar Named Desire*.

In the wake of Harvey Milk and liberation comes a story of responsibility and commitment, Armistead Maupin's "Suddenly Home" which tells the story of Tess, a woman doubting her romantic relationship. She looks for guidance from her brother and his boyfriend and sees in their relationship the true meaning of love. America's master narrator of "the gay life" turns his pen to a tale of same-sex marriage. Laced with all his familiar wit, compassion and love of San Francisco, Maupin's tale captures Baghdad by the Bay at a time of dramatic change, the late 1980's. Maupin's little family struggles to find answers to life's confusing propositions.

Director Delia MacDougall (*Miss Furr and Miss Skeene*) is an actor and director working mainly in San Francisco for the past twenty years. Delia is a founding member of three San Francisco theater companies. Delia has been a part of the Intersection's resident theater company, Campo Santo, since its beginnings directing their second production, the world premiere of Erin Cressida Wilson's *Hurricane*. Most recently she directed the world premiere of Denis Johnson's *Purvis* at the Intersection for the Arts.. Other world premieres with Campo Santo include Naomi Iizuka's *17 Reasons (Why)* and *The Language of Angels*, (nomination: Critics Circle Award best production). She also directed the West Coast premiere of Naomi's *Polaroid Stories* (Winner: Backstage West: Best Director/Ensemble) and for the Harbor Theater the west coast premiere of Jose Rivera's *Sonnets for and Old Century*. Delia has directed over ten productions for Word for Word and the Z Space studio since 1996. Original Word for Word productions with premieres at the Magic Theater in San Francisco include: *Immortal Heart*, (Winner: Critics Circle Award: Production/ Director /Ensemble) *Oil! The Ride*, *Winesburgh Ohio*, (Winner: Critics Circle Award: Production /Director) *Mrs. Dalloway's Party* and *The Confessions of Madame Psyche*.

Director John Fisher (“Two on a Party” and “Suddenly Home”) is now in his seventh year as the Executive Director of The GLAAD Media Award Winning Theatre Rhinoceros. He is also a nationally produced playwright and director. His plays include *The Joy of Gay Sex*, which was performed in New York City, and *Medea: The Musical* which was produced on HBO. Recent projects include *Ishi: The Last of the Yahi* at Theatre Rhino and *Red Scare on Sunset* at ACT. John is the only two-time winner of the Will Glickman Playwright Award, and a recipient of the NEA Grant, a GLAAD Media Award, two L.A. Weekly Awards, a Garland Award, two Cable Car Awards, a San Francisco Bay Guardian Goldie Award, and ten Bay Area Theatre Critics’ Circle Awards. John holds a Ph.D. in Dramatic Art from the University of California, Berkeley, but you don’t have to call him Doctor, and he has taught at UC Berkeley, UC Santa Cruz and, for the past two years, at the Yale School of Drama. He makes his home in the Haight-Ashbury District with his life-partner Michael. He met Michael in his college dorm in 1982.

Theatre Rhinoceros (John Fisher, Artistic Director), America’s longest running (29 years) professional queer theatre, remains committed to founder Allan Estes’ original vision of developing and producing works of theatre that enlighten, enrich, and explore both the ordinary and extraordinary aspects of our queer community.

Word for Word Performing Arts Company is an ensemble whose mission is to tell great stories with elegant theatricality, staging performances of classic and contemporary fiction. Founded in 1993 by Susan Harloe and JoAnne Winter, Word for Word believes in the power of the short story to provide solace, compassion, and insight into our daily lives. We bring stories from diverse cultures to our diverse communities, and develop future audiences' love for the printed and spoken word. Word for Word is a program of the Z Space Studio.

Z SPACE STUDIO strives to fuel the development of American theater on a national level by nurturing new voices, new works, and new opportunities in the San Francisco Bay Area. We fulfill the function by supporting a culturally and aesthetically diverse community of theater artists working together to develop Bay Area Theater and theater audiences. Led by Executive Director Lisa Steindler, the Z Space Studio has become one of the nation's leading laboratories for the development of new voices, new works and new directions in American theater. The Z Space Studio employs hundreds of artists each year in the process of developing new works through its three principle programs: Word for Word, Z Plays, and Youth Arts. Since the founding of the Z Space Studio in 1993, the Studio and the Bay Area artists served have racked up an impressive list of awards and other notable achievements, including the Helen Hayes Award, the Kesselring Prize, the Mac Arthur Award, and two Pulitzer nominations. In 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2005, and 2008, Z-produced projects have landed in the San Francisco Chronicle's "10 Best Theater Events of the Year" list.