

LAWRENCE HELMAN *PUBLIC RELATIONS* – E MAIL - [lhelman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lhelman@sbcglobal.net)

Tel. 415 /661- 1260 / Cell. 415/ 336- 8220 (DO NOT PUBLISH THIS #)

PRESS CONTACT – JOHN FISHER – 415-552-4100

[jofish94117@yahoo.com](mailto:jofish94117@yahoo.com)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Dec. 10, 2015

For press materials and hi-res color press photos, visit:

<http://www.therhino.org/press.htm>

*Theatre Rhinoceros presents...*

**Noël Coward's *A Song at Twilight***

**Part 1 of our Coward Celebration\***

**Jan. 20 – 31, 2016**

**- Limited Engagement - 12 Performances Only!**

**Z below – 470 Florida St. (at Mariposa) in SF (Potrero Hill)**

[www.TheRhino.org](http://www.TheRhino.org)

Wed. – Thur. - 8:00 pm / Fri. - Sat. - 8:00 pm / Sat. Matinees - 3:00 pm/

Tues., Jan. 26 – 7:00pm / Sun., Jan. 31 – 300pm

Open Dress Rehearsal: Wed. – Jan. 20 - 8:00 pm

Previews: Thurs., Jan. 21 - 8:00pm, Fri., Jan. 22 - 8:00pm, Sat., Jan. 23 - 3:00pm

Special Added Shows: Tues., Jan. 26 – 7:00pm, Sun., Jan. 31 – 300pm

*(No Press at Previews Please)*

**Opening Night - Sat. Jan. 23, 2016 - 8:00 pm**

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1067112176666199/>

"Coward at his zenith." - *London Daily Express*

"Noël Coward's *A Song at Twilight* is an overlooked gem. Old-fashioned grace and signature wit embellish a drama that grapples candidly with the costs of repression."

- *Los Angeles Times*

Noël Coward's *A Song at Twilight* - Part 1 of our Coward Celebration\* will have its Theatre Rhinoceros premiere in this exclusive San Francisco production for a limited engagement – 12 performances only! The show plays Jan. 20 – 31, 2016 / Wed. - Thur. - 8:00 pm / Fri. - Sat. - 8:00 pm / Sat. Matinees - 3:00 pm.

Special Added Shows: Tues., Jan. 26 – 7:00pm / Sun., Jan. 31 – 300pm

Open Dress Rehearsal: Wed. - Jan. 20 - 8:00 pm

Previews: Thurs., Jan. 21 - 8:00 pm, Fri., Jan. 22 - 8:00 pm, Sat., Jan. 23 - 3:00 pm

*(No Press at Previews Please)*

**Opening Night - Sat. Jan. 23, 2016 - 8:00 pm**

*Individual performance dates are:*

Wed. Jan. 20, 2016 8:00 pm [Open Dress Rehearsal]

Thurs. Jan. 21, 2016 8:00 pm [Preview]

Fri. Jan. 22, 2016 8:00 pm [Preview]

Sat. Jan. 23, 2016            3:00 pm matinee (Preview)  
Sat. Jan. 23, 2016            8:00 pm (Opening night)  
Jan. 26, 27, 28, 29, 30    (Tues. - 7:00 pm/Wed., Thurs., - 8:00 pm / Fri., Sat - 8:00 pm)  
Sat. Jan. 30, 2016            3:00 pm - matinee  
Sun. Jan 31, 2016            3:00 pm - matinee

Shows are at **Z below – 470 Florida St.** (at Mariposa) in **SF**, (Potrero Hill).  
(Muni Bus Lines: 9, 22, 33; BART: 16<sup>th</sup> Street)

Tickets are \$15 - \$35 and are available at <http://www.therhino.org/buy.htm> or  
**1-800- 838-3006**. (All Previews are pay-what-you-wish at the door.) Open Dress \$10.

**Noël Coward's *A Song at Twilight* - features Bay Area actors: Tamar Cohn (Hilde), John Fisher (Director/Hugo), Sylvia Kratins (Carlotta)**

**Tech Credits:**

**Gilbert Johnson** (Sets); **Sean Keehan** (Lights); **Scarlett Kellum** (Costumes); **Kirsten Peacock** (Assistant Director), **David Wilson** (Graphics/Photography).

**Noël Coward's *A Song at Twilight***, is directed by the Glickman and Critics' Circle Award-winning **John Fisher**.

**To arrange an interview with director John Fisher, or any of the actors or for additional info, contact JOHN FISHER – 415-552-4100 [jofish94117@yahoo.com](mailto:jofish94117@yahoo.com).**

**Noël Coward's *A Song at Twilight*** – Is a bittersweet comedy. It is the story of a cosmopolitan author caught in his declining years between two women, one being his wife of convenience for twenty years, the other, one of his former lovers. When this former lover threatens to reveal secrets of his past, secrets about his sexuality, he is terrified into action. A battle of wills ensues in which a man fights for his reputation, which might or might not be jeopardized by the revelations, and his freedom which, in 1966, might very well be compromised if it comes out that he might be gay. A witty, penetrating play by The Master on a par with *Private Lives* and *Blithe Spirit*, *A Song at Twilight* has the distinction of being his most autobiographical in its frank discussion of Coward's own personal life. Never frank about his homosexuality Coward decided to bare it all, through a pseudonym, in this his last play. Coward said, "*Song* was about Somerset Maugham" but many have read it as Coward's public "coming out." Whatever the back story, its dialogue and confrontations make it a fast moving quip-filled detective story in the great Coward tradition.

**BIOS:**

**Sir Noël Peirce Coward** (Dec. 16, 1899 – March 26 1973) was an English playwright, composer, director, actor and singer, known for his wit, flamboyance, and what *Time* magazine called "a sense of personal style, a combination of cheek and chic, pose and poise". Born in Teddington, southwest London, Coward attended a dance academy in London as a child, making his professional stage début at the age of eleven. As a teenager he was introduced into the high society in which most of his plays would be set. Coward achieved enduring success as a playwright, publishing more than 50 plays from his teens onwards. Many of his works, such as *Hay Fever*, *Private Lives*, *Design for Living*, *Present Laughter* and *Blithe Spirit*, have remained in the regular theatre repertoire. He composed hundreds of songs, in addition

to well over a dozen musical theatre works (including the operetta *Bitter Sweet* and comic revues), poetry, several volumes of short stories, the novel *Pomp and Circumstance*, and a three-volume autobiography. Coward's stage and film acting and directing career spanned six decades, during which he starred in many of his own works. At the outbreak of the Second World War Coward volunteered for war work, running the British propaganda office in Paris. He also worked with the Secret Service, seeking to use his influence to persuade the American public and government to help Britain. Coward won an Academy Honorary Award in 1943 for his naval film drama, *In Which We Serve*, and was knighted in 1969. In the 1950s he achieved fresh success as a cabaret performer, performing his own songs, such as "Mad Dogs and Englishmen", "London Pride" and "I Went to a Marvellous Party". His plays and songs achieved new popularity in the 1960s and 1970s, and his work and style continue to influence popular culture. Coward did not publicly acknowledge his homosexuality, but it was discussed candidly after his death by biographers including Graham Payn, his long-time partner, and in Coward's diaries and letters, published posthumously. The former Albery Theatre (originally the New Theatre) in London was renamed the Noël Coward Theatre in his honor in 2006.

**Tamar Cohn** (Hilde Latymer) returns to Theatre Rhinoceros after last year's *The Anarchist* and previous appearances in *The Habit of Art*, *100 Saints You Should Know* and *A Necessary Evil*, all directed by John Fisher. Other companies include: TheatreFirst, Central Works, Cutting Ball, Ross Valley Players, Brava Theater, Center REP, California Conservatory Theatre, S.F. Playwrights' Foundation, A Traveling Jewish Theatre, AlterTheater, 6th St. Playhouse, Pacific Alliance Stage Co., and Woman's Will. Tamar lives in San Rafael.

**John Fisher** (Director/Hugo) John Fisher's play *To Seep and Dream* won the 2014 Bay Area Critics Circle Award for Best Original Script and his 2014 production of Alan Bennett's *The Habit of Art* was nominated for three TBA Awards including Best Production of a Play. John's other plays include *The Joy of Gay Sex*, which was produced Off-Broadway, and *Medea: The Musical*, which was produced in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle and as part of the HBO Comedy Arts Festival. John is a two-time winner of the Will Glickman Playwright Award, a GLAAD Media Award, two *L.A. Weekly* Awards, a Garland Award, two Cable Car Awards, a *San Francisco Bay Guardian* Goldie Award, and five Bay Area Theatre Critics' Circle Awards. John has taught theatre at Yale, ACT, UC Berkeley and UC Santa Cruz and has been Executive Artistic Director at Theatre Rhinoceros since 2002. John is thrilled to be reunited with Tamar on another project and with Sylvia, with whom he last acted in 1990.

**Sylvia Kratins** (Carlotta Gray) has been acting since she was a child. She has worked as an actress, director, stage manager, company manager and producer in a wide range of theatrical environments. She is a company member of Off Broadway West Theatre Company and sings with Conspiracy of Venus vocal ensemble. She is exceptionally glad to have the opportunity to work again with John Fisher even if it took 25 years!

**Theatre Rhinoceros**, America's longest running and most adventurous queer theatre, develops and produces professional works of theatre that enlighten, enrich, and explore both the ordinary and the extraordinary aspects of our queer community.

**\* Part 2 of our Coward Celebration will be his comic masterpiece about theatre *Present Laughter*. May 21 - June 19, 2016 at The Eureka Theatre, 215 Jackson St. SF 94111**

**And Don't Miss Our 2015 New Year's Eve Spectacular!!!**

**Morris Bobrow's Are We Almost There? The Travel Musical. One Performance Only –  
12/31/15 at 8:00 PM - The Eureka Theatre, 215 Jackson St., SF CA 94111.**

**TIX: [www.TheRhino.org/](http://www.TheRhino.org/) 1-800-838-3006**

## **Calendar Editors:**

PRESS INFO: For press materials and hi-res color press photos, visit:  
<http://www.therhino.org/press.htm>

WHAT: Noël Coward's *A Song at Twilight*  
Part 1 of our Coward Celebration\*

WHEN: Jan. 20 – 31, 2016

- Limited Engagement - 12 Performances Only!

The show plays Jan. 20 – 31, 2016 / Wed. - Thur. - 8:00 pm / Fri. - Sat. - 8:00 pm / Sat. Matinees - 3:00 pm / Tues., Jan. 26 – 7:00pm / Sun., Jan. 31 – 300pm

Open Dress Rehearsal: Wed. - Jan. 20 - 8:00 pm

Previews: Thurs., Jan. 21 - 8:00 pm, Fri., Jan. 22 - 8:00 pm, Sat., Jan. 23 - 3:00 pm  
(No Press at Previews Please)

Opening Night - Sat. Jan. 23, 2016 - 8:00 pm

### **Individual performance dates are:**

Wed. Jan. 20, 2016 8:00 pm [Open Dress Rehearsal]

Thurs. Jan. 21, 2016 8:00 pm [Preview]

Fri. Jan. 22, 2016 8:00 pm [Preview]

Sat. Jan. 23, 2016 3:00 pm matinee (Preview)

Sat. Jan. 23, 2016 8:00 pm (Opening night)

Jan. 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 (Tues., - 7:00 pm/Wed., Thurs., - 8:00 pm / Fri., Sat - 8:00 pm)

Sat. Jan. 30, 2016 3:00 pm - matinee

Sun. Jan 31, 2016 3:00 pm - matinee

TIX: Tickets are \$15 - \$35 and are available at <http://www.therhino.org/buy.htm>  
or 1-800- 838-3006. (All Previews are pay-what-you-wish at the door.)  
Open Dress \$10.

WHERE: **Z below – 470 Florida St.** (at Mariposa) **in SF**, (Potrero Hill).  
(Muni Bus Lines: 9, 22, 33; BART: 16<sup>th</sup> Street)  
<http://zspace.org/visit/directions>

WEB PAGE: [www.TheRhino.org](http://www.TheRhino.org)

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1067112176666199/>

###

Public Service Announcements for  
Noël Coward's *A Song at Twilight*  
A Theatre Rhinoceros production at Z Below: January 20-31, 2016

**15 seconds:**

Theatre Rhinoceros invites you to party with the master of wit Noël Coward. Coward's scintillating comedy *A Song at Twilight* plays January 20 -31, two weeks only, at Z Below Theatre in San Francisco. Call (800) 838-3006 or visit [TheRhino.org](http://TheRhino.org) for more information.

**30 seconds:**

Theatre Rhinoceros invites you to party with the master of wit Noël Coward. Coward's scintillating comedy *A Song at Twilight* plays January 20 -31, two weeks only, at Z Below Theatre in San Francisco. You won't want to miss this hysterical production of Coward's final masterpiece. Call (800) 838-3006 or visit [TheRhino.org](http://TheRhino.org) for more information.

**1 minute:**

Theatre Rhinoceros invites you to party with the master of wit Noël Coward. Coward's scintillating comedy *A Song at Twilight* is a bittersweet comedy of mature love and a passion that never dies. *A Song at Twilight* plays January 20 -31, two weeks only, at Z Below Theatre in San Francisco. You won't want to miss this hysterical production of Coward's final masterpiece. Call (800) 838-3006 or visit [TheRhino.org](http://TheRhino.org) for more information.

###