

## id's bigger! id's better!

This year we've expanded our usual Seven Devils Playwrights Conference newsletter to include everything "id."

For many years, the Conference was id's sole project, but in the past few years we've initiated new programs expanding our support of playwrights and their plays: Bridgeworks supports writers as they bridge the gap from development to production and our *Sit In!* reading series in New York gives our writers the opportunity to hear and share their work throughout the year.

Check out our newly re-designed website; it also embraces all things

id, and offers pretty much anything you need with a logo on it through CafePress.com.

id is also bigger and better thanks to the many businesses, organizations and individuals who make our work possible; donating everything from housing to props to paper... even a dumpster! (thanks Gail!)

The Alpine Playhouse continues its generous sponsorship of the Playwrights Conference; the Central Idaho Historical Museum, Debra Sievers Art Studio and the Hotel McCall donated much-needed space this year; and we are indebted to Jimmy's #43 in New York City for making our NYC Sit In! reading series something truly special.



Amy Rush & Evan Sesek in *The One True Church* by Robert McAndrew

We've seen numerous Conference plays produced in 2008, and followed our playwrights as they've garnered honors and awards. You'll read more about this, and all of id's exciting projects in this newsletter. We hope you'll join us in celebrating a very productive year of making better theater... one play at a time.



## Seven Devils 2008: More Plays! More Places! More Snow!

You'd think taking on 12 plays in 14 days would be enough of a challenge, but Mother Nature thought otherwise sending 5 inches of snow throughout the day on June 10th! Amazingly, our talented (and very game) company pushed on - huddling around heaters and making snow angels on their breaks - proving that neither snow nor cold nor lack of proper footwear can keep the intrepid artist from his/her appointed rehearsal schedule!

2008 included a mix of familiar faces and exciting new ones. 2001 playwright Mara Lathrop returned with *The Garden of Monsters*, and Greg Paul, who was with us as an actor in 2001, joined us as a playwright this year with *WAIT*.



Greg Paul, Ed Baker, Jeni Mahoney, Peter O'Connor, Mary Portser, Sheila McDevitt, Christopher Curry, Sarah Nina Hayon, Caitlin McDevitt, Fallon Brooking, Elise Forier, Keith Edie & Gen Forier taking a snow-break during rehearsals for *WAIT*. (photo by Simon Brooking)

Bianna Slyvia-Clarno became the first student playwright to return two years in a row with *If Only...*, and Evan Sesek who served as an intern last year, returned as a playwright with *Blackout*.

Christopher Curry, a familiar face at the Conference as an actor, stepped into the role of director this year with Greg Paul's *WAIT*.

With playwrights from Seattle (Mara Lathrop), Boston (James McLindon), Chicago (Andrew Hinderaker), Minneapolis (John Olive), New York (Greg Paul) and Boise (Robert McAndrew and Evan Sesek); and other company members from California, New York, Washington State, Colorado, Kansas, Connecticut and Idaho, the 2008 Seven Devils Playwrights Conference company was truly our most geographically diverse group of artists to date!

## Guest Artist John Olive "Slays" Us!

Award-winning playwright, novelist, screenwriter and teacher, John Olive was an especially meaningful choice as our 2008 Guest Artist because a decade ago, in 1998, id produced his play *The Voice of the Prairie* in both McCall and New York. What a treat to bring this playwright, whose work so exemplifies the id mission of introducing audiences to adventurous new works that reflect, challenge and celebrate them, to McCall.



Lisa Dove and Ian Desmond O'Connell in *A Slaying Song Tonight* by John Olive

In addition to hosting a very lively and engaging playwriting workshop at the Central Idaho Historical Museum, John served as drama-turg for Robert McAndrew's *The One True Church*.

We were particularly thrilled to have the opportunity to work with John on *A Slaying Song Tonight*, a new (and hysterically funny) "musical romance with a holiday theme" that he is writing with Hummie Mann and Sue Ennis. Kudos to the entire team (especially Lisa Dove who sang the one already finished song) for so successfully conveying the spirit of this rollicking, romantic, frightening, holiday musical... without the music!

And of course, a huge thanks to John, for allowing us to work with him - and for providing inspiration, wisdom, humor and a strong artistic anchor for the 2008 Conference.

T-shirts, mugs, bags, buttons, hoodies, hats, thongs & more!  
Buy id, seven devils & bridgeworks merchandise at [www.idtheater.org](http://www.idtheater.org)



Thanks to  
**Sarah Jessup**

for all these fantastic photos!  
(Sarah took all but one of the photos in this newsletter)

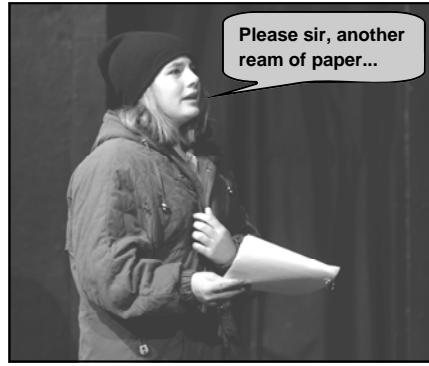
# Your Support: Making a Difference... One Play at a Time

Dear Friends,

Since 2001 we've developed 73 new plays many of which have gone on to win honors and inspire productions around the country and beyond, and we couldn't have done it without your support!

It's difficult to ask for donations when times are tight and things seem uncertain. **But it is precisely in these times that our playwrights need us most. And we need them most: to acknowledge us, challenge us & inspire us.**

The work we are doing - and that you have supported so generously - is making a real difference in the lives of these writers & their plays. As these plays go out into the world



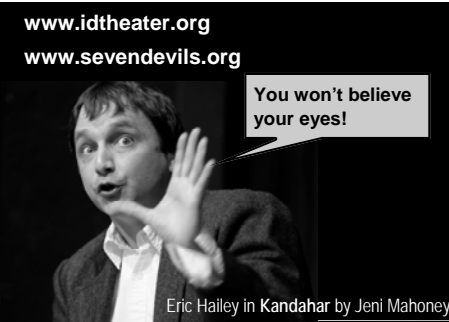
Fallon Brooking in *WAIT* by Greg Paul

they make a difference for audiences and for all of us who believe in the power of theater to move and transform us.

Once again we've come up with a list of things we'll be spending money on, everything from coffee (\$1) to airline tickets (\$500). And if you think we're kidding about the \$1, we're not! Heck, send us that jar of change on your dresser - we'll even count it for you!

Thanks for making it possible! Together we can make better theater for all of us... one play at a time.

Jeni Sheila Paula



Eric Hailey in *Kandahar* by Jeni Mahoney

## Same Address... a Whole New Site!

We're thrilled to invite you to visit our newly designed, and much improved, website - and to thank talented web designer Jim Ford!

With this new site it's easier than ever to find out what we're doing in New York and Idaho. And we'll update you on what is happening with your favorite plays and all the terrific playwrights, directors, actors,

dramaturgs... even the interns, who have helped to bring those plays to life.

The new site loads faster; offers easier access to photos; links to events, submission information and sites that will help you plan your trip to Idaho... you can even purchase that fabulous id Theater thong you've been dreaming of.

## Sit In! Readings: New Plays, New York

Our *Sit In!* Reading Series continues to thrive in the magical and intimate atmosphere of Jimmy's #43 Downstairs where our playwrights are offered the opportunity to hear new work, or revisit the plays they developed in Idaho - and you're invited! 2008 featured some terrific successes and even a few challenges when Jimmy's shut down for a few weeks in May.

Cathy Caplan saved the day by providing a space for our May reading! Jimmy's reopened in July, but with a smaller seating allowance. We can still fit up to thirty people, but we're only allowed sixteen chairs. So we got some comfy picnic blankets for those of you who are game, but frankly, once you've sampled one of Jimmy's delicious locally brewed hand crafted beers and heard what our playwrights are offering, you'll come even if it means standing on your head!

## Plays and Playwrights On the Move

What a year! Jennifer Hailey's *Neighborhood #3: Requisition of Doom* (2007) was featured in the prestigious Humana Festival of New Plays at Actors Theater of Louisville, then went on to the Summer Play Festival at the Public Theater. Sam Hunter's *I Am Montana* (2007) went on to the Ojai Playwrights Conference, the Juilliard New Play Festival, and a November production at Montana Repertory Theater. Sam also received the 2008-2009 PONY Fellowship from the Lark Theater in New York.

A number of Seven Devils alumni showed up at the Lark this year: James McLindon's *Faith* (2008) and Dano Madden's *In the Sawtooths* (2005) were featured in their 2008 Playwrights Week; and Francesca Saunder's *I Become a Guitar* (2004), which opens at the Kitchen Theatre in Ithaca in January and was named a Finalist for The 2008 Oregon Book Award,

had a roundtable reading at the Lark in September.

Elsewhere, summer brought the world premiere of *A View Of the Harbor* by 2007 Guest Playwright Richard Dresser at Contemporary American Theatre Festival; *In Spite of the Devil* (formerly *Spuytten Duyvil*) by Andy Bragen (2004) at Trinity Rep; and a reading of Andrew Hinderaker's *Suicide, Incorporated* (2008) at Chicago's Steppenwolf Theater.

Look for upcoming workshops of *A Slaying Song Tonight*, by 2008 Guest Playwright John Olive in Minneapolis (at the Playwrights Center) and Seattle.

On "the other side of the pond," Richard Brockman's *Informed Consent* (2006) received a production at London's Jermyn Street Theatre; and *The Monkey's Paw* (2003) by Kevin Crowley and *The Feast of the Flying Cow... and Other Stories*

### Don't Miss Another Reading!

We *Sit In!* the 3rd Monday of every month\*

Jimmy's #43 Downstairs

43 East 7th Street

6pm

The cost? Just buy a drink!

(\*no reading in June or December)



2008 *Sit In!* Readings: **Broad Channel** by James Bosley, **The Last of the Texas Dollies** by Dan Moyer, **Ees Story Uff Poor Sea Village Gerl** by Mara Lathrop, **I Am Montana** by Samuel D. Hunter, **The End of the Road** by Robert Kerr, **If Only...** by Brianna Sylvia-Clarno, **Imagining Shadows** by Juliann France, **Home-spun** by Mary Portser, **MOTHERLAND** by Greg Paul



Director Christy Montour-Larson, Playwright Andrew Hinderaker and actor Matthew Cameron Clark in rehearsal for *Suicide, Incorporated*

*of War* (2005) by Jeni Mahoney were featured in Grey Light Production's *American Voices Series* at London's Greenwich Theater.

And trust us when we tell you that those are just the highlights! For even more exciting updates - including Terry Curran's stint as a roadie, Denis Butkus' Viennese premiere and Patch Darragh's ice cream adventures - visit us on the web at: [www.idtheater.org](http://www.idtheater.org).



# I want to nurture talented playwrights & make better theater... today!

Clip and mail this form today to make your **tax-deductible donation** of money, materials or expertise - remember, every little bit does help.

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(housing, food, bike, space, paper, etc...)

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343 East 30th Street, #19J  
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or donate online now at:  
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## Seven Devils Playwrights Conference: June 9 - 23, 2008

### Staged Readings

**WAIT** by Greg Paul - Journey through an America that has yet to be, where current trends are followed to their funny and often grim conclusions: from urban breadlines to microchips to civilian relocation camps – how does one maintain one's humanity in a foreign country that was once called home?

**Faith** by James McLindon - All that young Simon wants for Christmas is to receive the stigmata and become God's prophet, and if religious fervor has anything to do with it, he's a shoe-in. So when the mysterious Harbinger appears to him in the Walmart parking lot, Simon knows she is God's angel, the answer to his prayers ... or is she?

**Suicide, Incorporated** by Andrew Hinderaker - It's been a tough week at work. Revenues are down, lawsuits are up, and protesters picket outside your door. Worst of all, your boss has begun to suspect that you're trying to keep your clients alive.

**The Garden of Monsters** by Mara Lathrop - Follow the last shred of hope in the world on its perilous journey from the liberation of Dachau, to a wine bar in present-day London, to the year 2045, where a new plague threatens everyone. In a world full of fear, remorse, and a mysterious two-headed clown, can hope -- and humanity -- survive?

### The Playwrights Intensive

**Kandahar** by Jeni Mahoney - Against a suburban backdrop of suicide, lawn darts and affairs of the heart, Ginger and Freddie discover that the most dangerous game is indeed life, and the most lethal opponent... one's own heart.

**Blackout** by Evan Seseek - Doug can't wait to welcome his son home from Iraq, but why does younger brother Jared seem less than enthused?

**The One True Church** by Robert McAndrew - From the moment he was born, Ben was expected to have visions and become the Prophet of The One True Church. Ben isn't interested in being a Prophet but his sister is. Her only obstacles: church doctrine, an all-male hierarchy & *The One True Book*.

**A Slaying Song Tonight** by John Olive - A musical romance with a holiday theme... and an axe. Christmas music will never be the same.

### The Student Plays

**Living by Learning** by Logan Linton - When Drew's plan to impress Alexandra by acting more like his "cool" friend Blake backfires, he discovers that maybe all that coolness is just a cover. But can he figure out how to be himself before he loses Alexandra completely?

**Untitled** by Samantha Houston - Troy has a decision to make: go along with the affair proposed by his teacher or be another ordinary boy in High School. Which will truly make him a man?

**Freedom** by Michael McMahon - When the only voice you have is text can anyone really hear you? One young woman yearns to be heard, but her friends can't read the pain.

**If Only...** by Brianna Sylvia-Clarno - A bus stop. A guy with a paper. And Larry. A recipe for epiphany... or insanity?

Photos (top-to-bottom): Sarah Nina Hayon & Keith Edie in **The Garden of Monsters** by Mara Lathrop; Douglas Paulson, Amy Rush & Eric Hailey in **Faith** by James McLindon; Peter O'Connor & Matthew Cameron Clark in **Suicide, Incorporated** by Andrew Hinderaker; Greg Paul & Lisa Dove in **The One True Church** by Robert McAndrew; Sara Walker & Ben Verschoor in **If Only...** by Brianna Sylvia-Clarno; Logan Linton, Andrew Hinderaker & Danette Baker rehearse **Learning by Living**.



*We couldn't have done it all without...* Judy Anderson, Sarah Jessup, Kathy Troutner & Earnie Johnson, Christopher & Angela Combest, Justin Ball, Jonathan Bank, Thea Belec, Lee Blessing & Melanie Marlich, Marianne Bower, Richard Brockman, Simon Brooking & Beam Global Spirits, Bernadine Cockey, Brave New World Repertory Company, Clear Day Design & Richard Kotivski!, Helen Cook, Jeanne De Chiaro, Martin & Rochelle Denton, John DesRoches, Richard Dresser, John Duffy-LMT, John B. Duffy, William Fagerbakke, Melissa Garno, Diane Jorgensen, Jenny Keiser-Ruemmele, Rick Knight, Tina Lear, Jes Levine, Rick Long, Jim & Ginny Mahoney, Mary F. McCabe, McCall Arts & Humanities Council, McCall Donnelly High School, Chuck & Ginny McDavit, Mint Theater Experience Publishing, New York Theater Company, Leith Talamo, Theaterworks USA, Carol Tiffany, Trader Joe's, Roger Truesdell, Kit Worthington & Bistro 45, Gail Verschoor, Julianne Zaleta, Carmen and Stobhan at Jimmy's, Bonnie Bertram and The Pan-cake and Christmas House, The McCall Store, Jennifer's Internet Cafe, Chad & The Lakeside Grille, Moun-tain Java, McCall Coffee Roasters, Claire Remsburg, Holly Thrash

**Thanks to those who opened their homes to us:** Sandra and Jordan Laby, Vivian and Donald Driscoll, Pete and Arlene Davidson, Molly Eldridge, Thea Belec, Susan Bechdel, Jim and Berni Cockey, Sylvia Clark, Connie Davis, Fred & Judy Drake, Lincoln Hart, Jim & Pam Pace, Jim & Mary Lou Rush, Ben Sahl, George & George Seeds, Cutler and Nancy Umbach, Liz Warner, Mike Weiss

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Debra Sievers

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**Coming Soon:** Information about our fantastic March 2009 Benefit Party in New York City!