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MEDIA ALERT FOR THEATRE EDITORS AND REVIEWERS
AND CALENDAR LISTINGS

FURIOUS THEATRE COMPANY ANNOUNCES ITS 2007 SEASON!

OVER THE EDGE

*Featuring for the first time from Furious - Two World Premiere Plays!
Late Night Improvisational "imMEDIAtE Theatre" continues as well!*

**ALL PRIOR TO MAJOR RENOVATION OF THE
PASADENA PLAYHOUSE CARRIE HAMILTON THEATRE
BY WORLD RENOWNED ARCHITECT FRANK GEHRY!**

*It's the end of the world as we know it.
Be Fearful. Be Fearless. Be Furious.*

February 20, 2007...Pasadena...Last season, the Furious Theatre Company took you to the edge with two critically-acclaimed smash-hit productions that explored issues ingrained in our national consciousness - this season, Furious is going to take you over the edge! **Furious Theatre Company** is thrilled to announce its **2007** season of shows. In this, its third year as Pasadena Playhouse artists in residence, the maverick theatre company will be presenting for the first time, two world premiere plays which both explore our darkest fears as we ask ourselves the question – is it the end of the world as we know it? **AN IMPENDING RUPTURE OF THE BELLY** by Matt Pelfrey will open on Saturday, April 7 and run for six weeks through Saturday, May 12 (Previews: April 4 - 6) and **CANNED PEACHES IN SYRUP** by Alex Jones will open on Saturday, October 6 and run for six weeks through Saturday, November 10 (Previews: October 3-5). Both plays will be directed by Dámaso Rodriguez. Both plays will perform at the Pasadena Playhouse Carrie Hamilton Theatre, 39 S. El Molino Ave. in Pasadena. Also continuing will be their wildly popular late night performances of **imMEDIAtE Theatre**, a comedy improvisational show ripped from the day's headlines! **imMEDIAtE Theatre** performances begin April 14 and continue every Saturday night through May 5 at 10:15 p.m. at the theatre.

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The 2007 Furious Theatre Company Season:

AN IMPENDING RUPTURE OF THE BELLY

Written by Matt Pelfrey

Directed by Dámaso Rodriguez

Opens Saturday, April 7 and runs through Saturday, May 12, 2007 (Previews April 4-6)
Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 7:30 p.m.

How far would you go to protect your family? **AN IMPENDING RUPTURE OF THE BELLY** concerns Clay Stilts' desire to fortify his house in preparation for both a new baby and the apocalypse he's convinced is just around the corner. Clay worries about so many things, nuclear terrorism, avian bird flu, killer earthquakes, riots, small pox crop dusters flying over Dodger Stadium. His obsessions are sidetracked when a slowly escalating battle with a neighbor who refuses to curb his dog explodes in an impulsive act of violence. In one reckless moment, Clay's world spins out of control, becoming a microcosm for a global struggle against threats to our security, both real and imagined.

CANNED PEACHES IN SYRUP

Written by Alex Jones

Directed by Dámaso Rodriguez

Opens Saturday, October 6 through Saturday, November 10, 2007 (Previews October 3-5)
Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays – 8 p.m., Sundays 7:30 p.m.

Alex Jones' timely and hilarious post-apocalyptic comedy, **CANNED PEACHES IN SYRUP** places us in a seemingly absurd and inconvenient future, where water is scarce, the sun has gone crazy and love still survives. In a post-environmental apocalyptic future, the world is divided into two tribes of nomadic humans: Cannibals and Vegetarians. Can star-crossed lovers Rog and Julie cross tribal lines?! Can Rog's taste for flesh be suppressed?! Can Julie deny her parents' "meat is murder" mantra?! And, who exactly is Blind Bastard? A lone can of peaches in syrup holds their fate...and the fate of all mankind.

LATE NIGHTS ARE FURIOUS!

A barrage of news footage fills the screen. Lights up on stage. The cast tears through the headlines of the day's newspapers skewering the top stories, jumping from the anchor desk to the radio waves and covering the everyday events in your life. This is *imMEDIate Theatre...*

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Furious Theatre Company continues “Furious Late Nights,” with *imMEDIAtE Theatre*, a 60-minute improvised, multimedia comedy show based on the week’s news and pop culture events. The show, which was created and performed by the company and has been presented via word-of-mouth previews since late 2005, continues late night performances Saturday nights April 14 – May 5, 2007 at the Pasadena Playhouse Carrie Hamilton Theatre. Performance time is 10:15 p.m.

imMEDIAtE Theatre is a fully-staged, improvised performance in which a tight ensemble of actors uses the day’s newspapers, combined with audience suggestions and interaction, to create a different show every week.

The cast of *imMEDIAtE Theatre* is comprised of trained theatre actors with a wealth of improvisation experience having studied or performed with some of the world’s best at venues such as Chicago’s legendary *Second City*, both the Chicago and Los Angeles *ImprovOlympic* theatres, Los Angeles’ *Upright Citizens Brigade* and L.A.’s own *Groundlings* theatre. The cast includes Nick Cernoch, Doug Newell, Eric Pargac, Vonessa Martin, Katie Davies, Troy Metcalf and Jeff Gilmore. The show will be directed by Chris Blake.

The show starts at 10:15 p.m., but the lobby bar will open at 9:30 p.m. and pre-show entertainment will be presented on the theatre’s projection screen. Additionally, the lobby bar will remain open post-show allowing audiences to interact with one another and the cast.

DÁMASO RODRIGUEZ (Director) is the resident director for the Furious Theatre Company and also an NAACP Award winner for best directing. Recent Furious directing credits include: *Grace* (Los Angeles Premiere, 3 LA Drama Critics Circle Nominations), *Back of the Throat* (Los Angeles Premiere), *The Fair Maid of the West Parts I & II* (World Premiere Adaptation), *The God Botherers* (West Coast Premiere), *The Shape of Things* (Los Angeles Premiere), *Scenes from the Big Picture* (U.S. Premiere), *Chimps* (U.S. Premiere), *Saturday Night at the Palace* (U.S. Premiere, NAACP Award Winner), *The Playboy of the Western World*, *imMEDIAtE Theatre*. With Pasadena Playhouse: *Private Lives* (assistant director), *Star Quality* (assistant director), *Festen* (staged reading), *Another Part of the Forest* (staged reading). With other theatres: *Hay Fever* (assistant director/dramaturg), *Pericles* (assistant director/dramaturg) at A Noise Within; *Daedalus* (staged reading, assistant director) at South Coast Repertory; *Ramblers* (Chicago & Los Angeles Premieres), *Freudian Slip Improvisational Comedy* (co-founder/director).

Pasadena Playhouse will begin renovation of the current Carrie Hamilton Theatre in late 2007 designed by Frank Gehry. The renovation plans provide much needed audience accessibility improvements and technology upgrades to the space which is scheduled to re-open in 2008. The space is named for Carol Burnett’s late daughter. Furious Theatre Company will continue its partnership with the Pasadena Playhouse as the primary producer and resident artist in the space after the renovations are complete.

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Tickets are now on sale and can be purchased online at www.furioustheatre.org or www.tix.com or by calling the 24-hour ticket line at 1-800-595-4849. Single ticket prices are \$15 - \$25; Students \$5 rush; Previews are \$12. *imMEDIATE Theatre* tickets are \$10 (\$5 for students).

Should you have any questions or need additional press information, please contact David Elzer at 818/508-1754 or by e-mail at ELZERD@aol.com or visit www.demandpr.com.

*The critically-acclaimed Furious Theatre Company are artists in residence at the Pasadena Playhouse committed to edgy, innovative and original works. The company debuted in April 2002 after they were generously granted the use of a 9,000 square foot section of Armory Northwest, a former plastics factory. The company converted the raw warehouse into an alternative performance space. Risers were constructed, the lighting grid hung, and stage curtains built, all by the ensemble. In that converted warehouse, they rapidly produced five plays in 12 months. These productions earned 6 NAACP Theatre Award nominations, two LA Weekly Award nominations, and numerous critics' picks from the Los Angeles media. The company also received the Pasadena Arts Council's Gold Crown Award and The Debut Award from Back Stage West. In September 2003, the City of Pasadena reclaimed the Armory Northwest and Furious needed to move. After a 13-month search, the Pasadena Playhouse granted Furious a 4-year residency at its Balcony Theatre (recently renamed the Carrie Hamilton Theatre), the Playhouse's 99-seat second stage. In two seasons at the Playhouse, Furious Theatre Company has produced seven premieres, including the Los Angeles Premieres of Neil Labute's *The Shape of Things*, Yussef El Guindi's *Back of the Throat* (LA Weekly Award nominee: Best Playwright) and Craig Wright's *Grace* (Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award nominee: Best Production, Best Director, Best Playwright). Furious Theatre Company is led by co-founders and Artistic Council members: Sara Hennessy, Shawn Lee, Vonessa Martin, Eric Pargac, Brad Price and Dámaso Rodriguez. For more info visit www.furioustheatre.org or call 818-679-8854.*