

NEWS

RELEASE:

February 14, 2007

Contact: Jeannine Stehlin

310.836.7823 (phone)

310.836.7923 (fax)

jstehlin@circustheatricals.com



CIRCUS THEATRICALS ANNOUNCES "SEDUCED" CAST

Sam Shepard Play About Life, Death, and In Between....Opens Sunday March 4

Los Angeles, CA February 14, 2007 Award-winning and critically acclaimed theatre company Circus Theatricals announces the cast of **Seduced**, **Sam Shepard's** impressionistic study of life, death...and somewhere in between. Directed by Circus Theatricals member **Elise Robertson**, and starring veteran stage actor **Neil Vipond**, *Seduced* opens Sunday, March 4th, and will play Sundays at 7pm through April 1st. Tickets, at \$20, may be purchased by calling 323- 960-1054 or online at CircusTheatricals.com.

In *Seduced*, Henry Hackamore, on his deathbed in a top-secret location somewhere south of the border, invites his former glamorous starlet mistresses to visit him, for mysterious purposes.

CAST & PRODUCTION TEAM

The cast of *Seduced* includes Circus Theatricals members: **Neil Vipond**(Henry Hackamore), **Francesca Ferrara**(Luna), and **Patrick Vest** (Raul) **Emily James** plays "Miami." Production team includes **Derrick McDaniel** (lights), **Dennis Spiller**(costumes), **Kitty Rose**(set/props), and **Gioia Marchese** (choreography). Stage Manager is **Tempany Deckert**. Director is **Elise Robertson** .Producers are **Jack Stehlin** and **Jeannine Stehlin**.

Neil Vipond (Henry Hackamore)

With Circus Theatricals: *Complexity, Richard III, Hamlet* . This is Neil's third foray into Sam Shepard Country. Having played Weston in *Curse of the Starving Class* and *Dodge* in *Buried Child*, and his Fourth production with Circus Theatricals. He began his career in Canada, performing in over 40 plays in two seasons of stock before joining the first company at the Stratford Shakespeare Festival. He was with the festival Theatre for four seasons playing young leading roles under the direction of Tyrone Guthrie and performing with such actors as Alec Guinness, Irene Worth and James Mason. Coming to New York he appeared with Uta Hagen in *The Good Woman of Setzuan* and gave a performance as *Hamlet*, The New York Times called "electrifying." Since that time, he has worked on and off Broadway and with many regional theatres. In New York he played James Joyce in *Mr Joyce is leaving Paris* and *Hamm* in *Endgame*, both productions directed by Jim Sheridan. His last appearance in New York before moving to Los Angeles was a Danforth in the Roundabout Theatre production of *The Crucible*. Last season he returned to New York to appear in David Warren's production of *Rope* and the season before as Grover in Pam Berlin's production of *End Papers*. In Los Angeles, he has received numerous awards for performances in a wide range of parts. His many television and film credits include Guest Star appearances on "Will and Grace," "Cold Case" and "Medium."

Francesca Ferrara (Luna)

Also for Circus Theatricals: *Greensward, The Circle, Sister Cities, and Max* (the latter two plays also directed by Elise Robertson). Other recent theater includes the title role in Mark Troy's *Sister Snell* at the NoHo Arts Festival. Television: "Ugly Betty," "Close to Home", "The West Wing," "Commander in Chief," "The Unit", and "Snoops." Her recent film "Sven Stromson Blue", based on the life and art of

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Yves Klein, was an official selection at the 2006 Los Angeles International Shorts Fest.

Patrick Vest (Raul)

Circus Theatricals credits include: *The Misanthrope*, *Macbeth*, *The Circle* and *All My Sons* ("Great Scenes from Classic American Plays"). Patrick has performed in over 100 theatrical productions. Among his favorite roles are Macbeth, Mercutio, Prince Hal, and Petruchio. He also wrote and performed a one man show about Henry David Thoreau. Member: Circus Theatricals Studio Ensemble

Emily James (Miami)

Emily James is a graduate of the prestigious Neighborhood Playhouse in NYC. She is a founding member of the Bridge Theatre Company and has appeared in over a dozen productions in New York. Her theater credits include: *Ratface* (2005 Fringe Festival), *The Lonely Way* (Off-Broadway), *Women of Manhattan*, *Rosemary with Ginger*, and *Blue Window*. This is her Los Angeles stage debut. In addition to her work in the theater, Emily had a recurring role in "STARVED" on FX and had a recent role in "STANDOFF" on FOX.

Elise Robertson (Director)

Member: Circus Theatricals Studio Ensemble. Recently directed *Sister Cities* for Circus Theatricals. A Cine Golden Eagle and Emmy award-winning TV and film director, Elise's writer/director credits include: Ralph Ellison's "King of the Bingo Game," and F. Scott Fitzgerald's "The Sensible Thing" for PBS. Additional directing credits: 2 seasons on "Adventures with Kanga Roddy," and scenes from Ralph Ellison's "Invisible Man" for American Masters, both on PBS. Stage directing: What Went Wrong With the King and Queen of America, Ellipses and Max for Circus Theatricals. Also an actress, she has appeared onstage in numerous Circus Productions, including *Three Sisters*, *The Seagull*, and *The Circle*, as well as starring in *Ourselves Alone* and *Oleanna* with the Crash Box Players. Recent TV/Film includes: "Grey's Anatomy", "Six Feet Under," "Gilmore Girls", "The Good- Humor Man."

Sam Shepard (Playwright)

Playwright/screenwriter/director/ musician/actor **Sam Shepard** has written over 45 plays since 1966. He has received many awards and accolades for his writing, including a Pulitzer Prize in 1979 for "Buried Child," 11 Obie Awards, and two Tony Award nominations. A partial list of his plays include "True West", "Buried Child," "Cowboy Mouth," and "True West." "Seduced" was first produced in 1978.

PRODUCTION INFO & VENUE

Seduced plays Sundays at 7pm. Opening night is Sunday March 4, closing Saturday April 1. **The Circus Theatricals Studio Theatre at The Hayworth** is located at 2511 Wilshire Blvd, just East of Hoover . The theatre, located in the historic Wilshire District, is just off the 10 and 110 freeways, and is located near a subway stop. The theatre entrance is at 643 Carondelet. The Circus Theatricals Studio theatre is on the second floor. There is ample street parking, as well as a low-priced parking lot adjacent to the West side of the building on Wilshire.

Tickets for all Circus Theatricals productions can be purchased by phoning 323-960-1054 or online: www.circustheatricals.com/tickets.html

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“SEDUCED” CALENDAR LISTING

Play name: SEDUCED

Playwright: Sam Shepard

Synopsis: Henry Hackamore, on his deathbed in a top-secret location somewhere south of the border, invites his former glamorous starlet mistresses to visit him, for mysterious purposes. **Sam Shepard's** impressionistic study of life, death...and somewhere in between.

Director: Elise Robertson

Cast: Francesca Ferrara, Emily James, Patrick Vest, Neil Vipond

Produced by: Jack Stehlin and Jeannine W. Stehlin

Opening night: Sunday, March 4, 2007 7pm

Running Dates: Sundays at 7pm March 4 – April 1, 2007

Theatre Address: Circus Theatricals Studio Theatre at the Hayworth
2511 Wilshire Blvd., WLA, CA 90057
(East of Hoover on the corner of Wilshire and Carondelet)
Entrance at 643 on Carondelet. Theatre is on the second floor.

Parking: Street parking, or parking lot adjacent to the West side of the building on Wilshire.

Pre/post show: Circus Theatricals' Carondelet lobby has concessions.

Reservations: **323.960.1054** or **www.CircusTheatricals.com**
Visa, Mastercard and American Express welcome.
There is no wheelchair access.

Tickets: \$20.00 Students, Seniors and group discounts available.

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