

For Immediate Release:

Press Contact: Shirley Herz / Daniel Demello (212) 221-8466

## Quo Vadimus Arts

Presents

# ID AMERICA FESTIVAL

24 Short Plays About American Identity

Written by Playwrights from around the Nation

Performed In New York City, November 9-21, 2007

**Quo Vadimus Arts** will kick-off the **ID America Festival** showcasing 30 plays from 15 different states. Playwrights from around the nation convene in New York City November 10 – 20 at the **Clemente Soto Velez Center** (107 Suffolk St.)

Our American identity is formed by the blending of many different peoples from around the world into something new. It's cellphones, cowboys, American Idol and bar fights. It's something reshaped in the forges of September 11<sup>th</sup> and the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. Playwrights from coast to coast examine our cultural differences and search for commonality.

The highly anticipated ID America Festival was inspired by **Quo Vadimus Arts'** growing concern over the polarization of media in America. News organizations are increasingly biased towards the left or right, and it is rare to find an open forum where differing points of view are given equal weight. QVA searched the country for playwrights to help create a festival that questions, explores, challenges and celebrates what it means to be living in America today.

Plays will be divided into three evenings, **American Psyche**, **American Cultures** and **American Dreams**. Each evening contains eight plays and will perform several times throughout the festival.

QVA put out the call for submissions, looking for playwrights of all ages, of all levels of experience, from all over the country. They received 332 submissions, from 219 playwrights, ages 17 - 83, from 33 states and 6 different countries, including Canada, England, Ireland, Scotland and Nigeria. Visit **www.idafestival.org** or **www.qvarts.org** to learn more about the festival, the plays and playwrights. All submissions were considered anonymously and selected by committee.

Tickets are \$15 and can be ordered through TheaterMania at 212.352.3110, or on ID America's website, **www.idafestival.org**. Detailed information regarding the plays and schedules is below:

### **American Dreams** Directed by: Josh Gelb

An evening of 8 short plays from playwrights around the nation

The American dream means something different for everyone. From the nightmare of the notorious Sacco & Vanzetti to the aspirations of an Upper East Side cocker spaniel with eating issues, the dreams we explore in this evening are singularly American. In the course of an evening Irish immigrants, fallen soldiers and heiresses will chase their American dreams.

### **Showtimes:**

Sat, Nov 10th at 4:00PM; Sun, Nov 11th at 3:00PM; Mon, Nov 12th at 9:00PM  
Wed, Nov 14th at 7:00PM; Thurs, Nov 15th at 9:00PM; Sat, Nov 17th at 8:00PM

#### **Alarm**

by Paul Moulton, **Chicago, Illinois**

#### **Appetite**

by Caren Skibell, **Dallas, Texas**

#### **Night Before Last**

by Doug Reed, **Richmond, Virginia**

#### **Normal Is A Country**

by Steven Schutzman, **San Francisco, California**

#### **Onus On Us**

by Cheryl Games, **Youngstown, Ohio**

#### **Peace Talk**

by James McLindon, **Schenectady, New York**

#### **Prospect Park**

by Brendan O'Brien, **Raynham, Massachusetts**

#### **Upgrade**

by Albert Pergande, **Milwaukee, Wisconsin**

## **American Culture** Directed by: Kerry Whigham

An evening of 8 short plays from playwrights around the nation

American culture is the blending of many different peoples from around the world into something new. It is cell phones, cowboys, American Idol and bar fights. It is something reshaped and altered in the forges of September 11th and the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. Playwrights from coast to coast examine our cultural differences and search for commonality.

### **Showtimes:**

Sat, Nov 10th at 2:00PM; Sun, Nov 11th at 7:30PM; Tues, Nov 13th at 7:00PM; Wed, Nov 14th at 9:00PM; Fri, Nov 16th at 7:00PM; Sat, Nov 17th at 6:00PM

#### **Asparagus**

by Schatzie Schaefer, **Anchorage, Alaska**

#### **Bobby Hebert**

by Samuel Brett Williams, **Hot Springs, Arkansas**

#### **Close Encounter**

by Amy Tofte, **Brookings, South Dakota**

#### **Human Resources**

by Mike Folie, **Belford, New Jersey**

#### **Interpreting a Dream**

by Judy Klass, **New York, New York**

#### **The New Sign**

by K. Biadaszkiewicz, **Wyandotte, Michigan**

#### **Please Pass the Salt**

by Debbie Wiess, **Lexington, Massachusetts**

#### **Shift: A Political Allegory**

by Jordan Smedberg, **Minocqua, Wisconsin**

# **American Psyche** Directed by: Deena Selenow

An evening of 8 short plays from playwrights around the nation

A look into the minds of various Americans reveals a young woman's fear of attack, a couple's voyeuristic tendencies and a teenage girl's medicated struggle with sanity. Some journeys inward reveal inner superheroes while others reveal helplessness and paranoia. Our playwrights reach into their own psyches and present us with uniquely American frames of mind.

## **Showtimes:**

Sat, Nov 10th at 8:00PM; Mon, Nov 12th at 7:00PM; Tues, Nov 13th at 9:00PM; Thurs, Nov 15th at 7:00PM; Fri, Nov 16th at 9:00PM; Sat, Nov 17th at 2:00PM

## **Followed**

by Edith Weiss, **Mittelschefflenz, Germany**

## **Here To Serve You**

by Barbara Lindsay, **Santa Monica, California**

## **Moment**

by Matt Haldeman, **Abington, Pennsylvania**

## **Run of the River**

by William Kovacsik, **Massapequa, New York**

## **Simultaneity**

by Melanie Wallner, **New York, New York**

## **Soapbox**

by Carl Brandt Long, **Cleveland, Ohio**

## **Superhero**

by Mark Harvey Levine, **Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania**

## **To Darfur**

by Erik Christian Hanson, **Monroe, Connecticut**