

PRESS RELEASE

AT&T
PERFORMING
ARTS
CENTER

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**AT&T PERFORMING ARTS CENTER ANNOUNCES
NEW COLLABORATION WITH
DALLAS PERFORMING ARTS COMMUNITY**

The ELEVATOR PROJECT

Including

African American Repertory Theater
Cara Mía Theatre Co.
Dallas Actor's Lab
DGDG: The Danielle Georgiou Dance Group
Second Thought Theatre
Upstart Productions

DALLAS– The nonprofit AT&T Performing Arts Center is pleased to announce the **ELEVATOR PROJECT**, an exciting new arts collaboration in its black box spaces. The **Elevator Project** will feature productions from six Dallas-based performing arts companies in the smaller performance spaces on the 6th and 9th floors of the Dee and Charles Wyly Theatre.

“One of the biggest challenges for many performing arts groups in Dallas is the limited availability of small venues to present their work, especially in the thriving downtown Dallas Arts District,” said Doug Curtis, the AT&T Performing Arts Center’s president and CEO. “The Center’s nonprofit mission is focused around creativity and the performing arts, so we are thrilled to be able to provide much needed performance spaces this year for these exciting local groups.”

The **Elevator Project** will feature multi-week engagements from six of Dallas’ smaller and emerging companies beginning with *Year of the Rooster* presented by **Upstart Productions** from August 22 through September 7, 2014. The **Elevator Project** continues in November with **DGDG: The Danielle Georgiou Dance Group** followed in 2015 by **Dallas Actor’s Lab** and **Second Thought Theatre** in February and **Cara Mía Theatre Co.** in April. The final production, from the **African American Repertory Theater**, runs May 21 through June 7, 2015.

Five of the productions will be staged in the Studio Theatre located on the 6th floor of the Wyly Theatre and one production will be staged on the 9th floor of the theatre. All shows are general admission.

Individual tickets for each production will be available beginning Friday, August 1 at 10 a.m. All six productions can also be purchased as a six-show sampler package, priced at \$100. Tickets will be available online at www.TicketDFW.com, by telephone at 214-871-5000 or in person at the AT&T Performing Arts Center Information Center at 2353 Flora Street (Monday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. – 9 p.m.; Sunday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.).

Subscribers to the six-show sampler package receive a discounted ticket price and a discounted parking option.

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ELEVATOR PROJECT – 2014/2015

Upstart Productions

Year of the Rooster by Eric Dufault (15 performances)

Synopsis:

Gil Pepper has been stepped on by everyone around him. Abused by his ailing mother, emasculated by his McDonald's co-workers and taunted by his wealthy rivals...but he's finally got an ace in the hole – Odysseus Rex – a rooster he's been training since birth to be a fearsome killing machine. Now, for the first time in Gil's life, he's experiencing things he's never had – hope, victory, and revenge.
Contains strong language

Performance Schedule:

Friday, August 22, 2014; 8 p.m.
Saturday, August 23, 2014; 2 p.m. & 8 p.m.
Sunday, August 24, 2014; 3 p.m.
Monday, August 25, 2014; 8 p.m.
Thursday, August 28, 2014; 8 p.m.
Friday, August 29, 2014; 8 p.m.
Saturday, August 30, 2014; 2 p.m. & 8 p.m.
Sunday, August 31, 2014; 3 p.m.
Wednesday, September 3, 2014; 8 p.m.
Thursday, September 4, 2014; 8 p.m.
Friday, September 5, 2014; 8:30 p.m.
Saturday, September 6, 2014; 2 p.m. & 8:30 p.m.

DGDG: The Danielle Georgiou Dance Group

NICE (nine performances)

Synopsis:

Physicalizing the boundaries and testing the consequences of social mores, *NICE*, is the fall premiere from Dallas-based dance theatre company DGDG: the Danielle Georgiou Dance Group. Building on a body of meta-theatrical work dealing with femininity and pop-culture, DGDG launches into this new production that experiments with the social expectation of being “nice.” Through highly aggressive and emotive dance, *NICE* breaks down the dangerous art of hiding our true feelings and motives. Taking liberties with the audience/performer relationship, and demonstrating the real risks of performance, DGDG will entertain the *NICE* out of you.

Performance Schedule:

Thursday, November 13 – Saturday, November 22, 2014; 8 p.m.

Sunday, November 16 & Sunday, November 23, 2014; 2 p.m.

Monday, November 17, 2014; 8 p.m.

Dallas Actor’s Lab

Title TBA (thirteen performances)

Performance Schedule:

Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays; February 5 – February 21, 2015; 8 p.m.

Sundays; February 8 – February 22, 2015; 2 p.m.

Monday, February 9, 2015; 8 p.m.

Second Thought Theatre

Bull by Mike Bartlett (12 performances)

Synopsis:

A savage, acid-tongued new play by Mike Bartlett, one of the UK's most exciting and inventive young writers, and the author of STT's smash hit *Cock*. Razor sharp and blackly comic, *Bull* is a savage and insightful play about office politics or playground bullying, depending which side you're on. Genuinely thrilling, daring and inventive, acclaimed playwright Bartlett probes the dark side of the modern workplace.

Performance Schedule:

Thursdays and Fridays – February 26 – March 13, 2015; 8 p.m.

Saturdays – February 28 – March 14, 2015; 8 p.m.

Monday, March 2, 2015 and Monday, March 9, 2015; 8 p.m.

Cara Mía Theatre Co.

Lydia by Octavio Solis (11 performances)

Synopsis:

Set in the 1970s on the Texas border separating the United States and Mexico, *Lydia* is an intense, lyrical, and magical new play. The Flores family welcomes Lydia, an undocumented maid, into their El Paso home to care for their daughter Ceci, who was tragically disabled in a car accident on the eve of her quinceañera, her fifteenth birthday. Lydia's immediate and seemingly miraculous bond with the girl sets the entire family on a mysterious and shocking journey of discovery. *Lydia* is an unflinching and deeply emotional portrait of a Mexican immigrant family caught in a web of dark secrets. Contains strong language and nudity.

Performance Schedule: (10 performances)

Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays; April 2 – April 18; 8:15 p.m.

Sundays; April 5 – April 19; 2:30 p.m.

No performance Friday, April 10, 2015

African American Repertory Theater

Radio Golf (15 performances)

Synopsis:

African American Repertory Theater (AART) presents regional premiere of August Wilson's last work, *Radio Golf*. Harmond Wilks, an Ivy League-educated lawyer with an educated and ambitious wife, plans to redevelop a poverty-stricken section of Pittsburgh with his business partner and friend, Roosevelt Hicks while preparing for his candidacy to become Pittsburgh's first black mayor. Plans change when the owner of an old property in the middle of the redevelopment area refuses to give up his home which has a more significant past than Harmond or Roosevelt could have ever imagined, prompting Harmon to confront the past.

Performance Schedule:

Thursdays and Fridays; May 21 – June 5, 2015; 7:30 p.m.

Saturdays; May 23 – June 6, 2015; 2:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

Sundays; May 24 – June 7, 2015; 2:30 p.m.

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ABOUT THE AT&T PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

The **AT&T Performing Arts Center** is a nonprofit foundation that operates and programs three premier performance venues and a 10-acre park for music, opera, theatre and dance in the heart of downtown Dallas. Opened in October 2009, the Center helped complete the 30-year vision of the Dallas Arts District.

Audiences enjoy the best and most recent from Broadway; the finest in world dance and music co-presented with TITAS; top concerts, lectures and performers with Center Presents; and a five-year undertaking to present The Complete Works of William Shakespeare. The Center also presents a wide range of free programming for audiences from every part of Dallas, including Patio Sessions concerts, Sunset Screenings, Local Motion fitness programs and an annual outdoor holiday event. The Center makes performance art accessible to thousands of local students through its education program, Open Stages. Through a variety of special programs and benefits, the Center's members and volunteers are able to become involved and engaged in the arts.

The Center's five resident companies are among the city's finest arts institutions: Anita N. Martinez Ballet Folklorico, Dallas Black Dance Theatre, The Dallas Opera, Dallas Theater Center and Texas Ballet Theater.

The Center's Margot and Bill Winspear Opera House, Dee and Charles Wyly Theatre, Elaine D. and Charles A. Sammons Park, and Annette Strauss Square are some of the finest venues for performances in the world, designed by internationally acclaimed architectural firms.

The Center's mission is to provide a public gathering place that strengthens community and fosters creativity through the presentation of performing arts and arts education programs. For more information on the AT&T Performing Arts Center, to become a member, or to make a donation, visit www.attpac.org.

About Upstart Productions

Upstart Productions was formed to usher in the next generation of local artists by providing them with the opportunity to showcase their talents and develop their craft on and off stage. Founded in 2008, Upstart is dedicated to contributing to the local community by giving these artists an avenue for the production of exceptional contemporary, classical, and original works. Upstart believes that theater should foster growth for artist and audience alike and should be accessible to individuals from all walks of life.

About DGDG: The Danielle Georgiou Dance Group

DGDG: the Danielle Georgiou Dance Group was founded by Danielle Georgiou in

2011. DGDG is a performance art dance group that works within ideas of German expressionism and Tanztheater (dance theatre). The productions work toward creating compelling images of a “new female.” Whether collaborating or defining her own work, Georgiou looks for dancers that are constantly striving to transform themselves, either in image or skill. Technique is your foundation—not your identity.

About Dallas Actor’s Lab

Founded in 2011, the vision of the award-winning Dallas Actor’s Lab is to produce plays that reflect the fractured and complicated nature of the contemporary American experience. Dallas Actor’s Lab is committed to producing challenging and provocative theatre that explores the full range of human experience. The Lab seeks to create a powerful and unique audience experience by presenting intentionally intimate productions that place primacy on the actor and the text.

About Second Thought Theatre

Second Thought Theatre seeks to capture the moment of creation between artist and audience. Dedicated to ensemble productions that explore challenging and dramatic works from the canon of theatrical literature, STT strives to enlighten and entertain its audience by pushing the boundaries of human thought and emotion. Old works done in new ways, new works done in old ways. *Everything is possible when you take a second thought.*

About Cara Mía Theatre Co.

Founded in 1996, Cara Mía Theatre Co. is a non-profit theater company whose mission is to broaden appreciation and understanding of Chicano and Latino culture through theater, literature and educational programs.

In 1996, Cara Mía Theatre Co. filled a void in the Dallas arts community by becoming the first Dallas theater to focus on the Mexican-American experience. Cara Mía assured Mexican-American audiences that their bilingual and bicultural experiences were represented regularly on Dallas stages.

Cara Mía has become a cultural resource in Dallas and North Texas, producing world premieres of major Mexican-American writers such as Sandra Cisneros, Jimmy Santiago Baca, and Cherrie Morraga. Cara Mía has also produced original

plays written collectively by the artistic ensemble and by local Dallas writers that have received critical acclaim from Dallas-Fort Worth media.

About African American Repertory Theater

African American Repertory Theater is committed to producing engaging culturally diverse theater from an African American perspective while educating our community on African American history and the arts.