

DEMAND PR

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MEDIA ALERT FOR THEATRE EDITORS AND REVIEWERS
AND CALENDAR LISTINGS

THE ANTAEUS COMPANY

PRESENTS NINE ONE-ACT PLAYS...

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN LOS ANGELES SINCE 1940 - THE COMPLETE

TONIGHT AT EIGHT-THIRTY

Written by Noël Coward

Directed by Brendon Fox, Robert Goldsby,
William Ludel, Michael Murray, Stefan Novinski,
and Stephanie Shroyer

with John Apicella and Jeanie Hackett, Co-Artistic Directors

**OPENS SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27
AT ANTAEUS' NEW INTERIM HOME...
DEAF WEST THEATRE IN NORTH HOLLYWOOD**

August 24, 2006...North Hollywood... L.A.'s Classical Theater Ensemble, presents a major event: For the first time in Los Angeles since 1940, all nine published one-acts of Noël Coward's, TONIGHT AT EIGHT-THIRTY, plus a "missing" tenth play never produced before on the west coast! This event will be performed in two parts – Part One – TONIGHT AT EIGHT-THIRTY: IF LOVE WERE ALL will begin previews on Thursday, October 18 at 8:00pm and will open on Friday, October 27 and Saturday, October 28 and Part Two – TONIGHT AT EIGHT-THIRTY: COME THE WILD will begin previews on Monday, November 5 and will open on Saturday, November 10 and Sunday, November 11. All parts will run through Sunday, December 23 at Antaeus' new interim home, Deaf West Theatre, 5112 Lankershim Blvd. in North Hollywood. Each evening is comprised of four one-acts. The two remaining plays will be presented separately during the run as special events.

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ABOUT TONIGHT AT EIGHT THIRTY

Sophistication, wit, music and elegance, champagne and dancing...everything you'd expect from Noël Coward - as well as a dark underbelly quite unexpected -- TONIGHT AT EIGHT-THIRTY is Noël Coward's dazzling array of one-acts, not professionally produced in their entirety in Los Angeles since 1940. Antaeus proudly announces that Coward's tour de force will be the company's first production at the Deaf West Theater – its new interim home. Over the course of the run, Antaeus will present all nine plays in the collection (as well as a tenth, “Star Chamber,” pulled by Coward after one performance and not published until recently) with six different directors and a cast of 40 Antaeus actors!

Though many of the short plays are very much in the realm of what the average theatergoer expects of a Noël Coward play, others are surprising in their form and content, drawing as much on the playwright's humble origins in a middle-class Middlesex family as on his later self-creation as the quintessential London sophisticate. When first produced in 1936, TONIGHT AT EIGHT-THIRTY was an innovative, groundbreaking project, with Noël Coward and Gertrude Lawrence playing the leads in each of the nine plays. Each night a lottery would choose the shows to be performed that evening.

This production, by contrast, will feature a diverse ensemble of actors – each playing large and small roles throughout the evening. The one-acts will be double-cast, with an ensemble that includes: Rhonda Aldrich, John Apicella, Gigi Bermingham, Brooke Bloom, Steven Brand, Bill Brochtrup, Michael Riley Burke, Anne Gee Byrd, Emily Chase, Josh Clark, JD Cullum, Ramon DeOcampo, Nike Doukas, Emily Eiden, Angela Goethals, Faye Grant, Jeanie Hackett, Shannon Holt, Micheal McShane, Adam Meyer, Lynn Milgrim, Angela Paton, Melinda Peterson, Christina Pickles, Robert Pine, Ray Porter, Kirsten Potter, Lawrence Pressman, Philip Proctor, John Prosky, Ned Schmidtke, Armin Shimerman, Devon Sorvari, Susan Sullivan, Kitty Swink, Geoffrey Wade, Laura Wernette, Amelia White, Bernard White, Mirron Willis, and Alicia Wollerton.

Brendon Fox, Robert Goldsby, William Ludel, Michael Murray, Stefan Novinski, and Stephanie Shroyer will direct the various plays.

TONIGHT AT EIGHT-THIRTY has assembled an award-winning design team. The scenic design by John Iacovelli. The costume design by A. Jeffrey Schoenberg. The lighting design by Leigh Allen. Sound design by John Zalewski. Choreography by Kay Cole. Musical Direction by Matt Goldsby. Stage management by Young Ji with the assistance of Rita Cofield. Produced by Laura Hill.

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TONIGHT AT EIGHT-THIRTY: IF LOVE WERE ALL will begin previews on Thursday, October 18 at 8:00pm and opens with

two separate casts on Saturday, October 27 and Sunday, October 28. Part Two – TONIGHT AT EIGHT-THIRTY: COME THE WILD begins previews on Monday, November 5 and opens on Saturday, November 10 and Sunday, November 11 and all parts will run through Sunday, December 23 at Deaf West Theatre, 5112 Lankershim Blvd. in North Hollywood. Performances are Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings at 8:00pm; Sundays at 3:00pm and 7:30pm. Tickets are \$15 for Previews – \$30 for all other performances. And join us in the VIP library lounge before the show for champagne and hors d'oeuvres for a premium ticket price of \$40. (\$10 of which will be a tax deductible contribution to The Antaeus Company). Patrons can also purchase a ticket good for both parts for \$50 – a \$10 discount. Tickets will be on sale beginning September 3 and are available through Theatermania.com or by calling 1-866-811-4111 or visit www.antaeus.org.

Part I – If Love Were All Opens October 27 and 28

featuring Star Chamber, We Were Dancing, Astonished Heart & Hands Across The Sea

Previews October 18 – 21 and October 23 – 26

Opening Oct 27 and Oct 28

Regular Performances Nov 1 – Dec 23

Part II – Come The Wild Opens November 10 and 11

featuring Red Peppers, Fumed Oak, Family Album & Still Life

Previews November 5 - 9

Opening November 10 and November 11

Regular Performances November 15 – Dec 23

Regular Performances Days & Times --- Wednesday - Saturday at 8PM, and Sundays 3PM and 7:30PM

For press interviews, photos or comps, please contact David Elzer/DEMAND PR at 818-508-1754 or at ElzerD@aol.com or visit www.demandpr.com.

The Antaeus Company, L.A.'s Classical Theater Ensemble, has a 15 year history of providing quality classical theater in Los Angeles. Through productions, readings and workshops; educational outreach to the community and acting training programs for young professionals, the Antaeus mission remains steadfast and simple: To keep classical theater alive in ourselves and in our community.

With a broad range of age and ethnicity, Antaeus members and board includes over 100 professional actors, composers, designers, translators, playwrights, and directors, including Oscar and Tony award nominated and winning actors, as well as countless L.A. Weekly, L.A. and NYC Drama Critics Circle, Ovation, and Backstage Garland award recipients.