



RENEGADE THEATRE EXPERIMENT

1346 THE ALAMEDA, SUITE 7-265
SAN JOSE, CA 95126

408.351.4440
RTE@RENEGADETHEATRE.COM

WWW.RENEGADETHEATRE.COM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**RENEGADE THEATRE EXPERIMENT presents
the BAY AREA PREMIERE of
Skyscraper by David Auburn**

San José, CA, September 1, 2005 –Renegade Theatre Experiment (RTE) next offers *Skyscraper*, the Bay Area Premiere of a dark comedy by Pulitzer-Prize-winning playwright David Auburn (*Proof*). Opening just after the release of a major motion picture of *Proof* (starring Anthony Hopkins and Gwyneth Paltrow), RTE's production of Auburn's first full-length play will offer evidence of his imaginative versatility.

On a rainy night in Chicago, six strangers collide on the rooftop of an historic building targeted for demolition, allowing Auburn to shed light on architecture, happenstance, memory, and love. "The different elements are tied together against the historical backdrop of the skyscraper," notes director Chris Tann. "As in *Proof*, it is the element of mathematics that is the unifying factor...solid ground on which to display his delightful characters."

The seriocomic story of *Skyscraper* stretches from 1887 to 1997, and includes among its varied cast of characters a 110-year-old man losing his memory and his mind. Prior to Auburn's Pulitzer win, he had only had one full-length play produced, off Broadway, in 1997: *Skyscraper*. Auburn was born in Chicago, where the play is set, and returned to attend the University of Chicago before settling in New York City.

Skyscraper previews on September 15, and runs September 16-18, 22-25, 29-October 1, closing on October 1. Thursday through Saturday performances begin at 8:00pm, and Sunday matinees at 2pm at Hoover Theatre.

Tickets for *Skyscraper* are \$18.00 General Admission (Thursdays and Sundays) and \$20.00 General Admission (Fridays and Saturdays). Students and teachers, seniors, and Theatre Bay Area members qualify for discount tickets (\$13/\$15) with valid ID.

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The Renegade Theatre Experiment (RTE) was founded in 2001 to bring edgy and entertaining new shows to the San José theatre community.

PUBLICITY PHOTOS: <http://www.renegadetheatre.com/press>

CONTACT: Whitney Stebbins

(408) 351-4440

wstebbins@renegadetheatre.com

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AN INVITATION TO THE MEDIA

Renegade Theatre Experiment proudly invites you
to attend our preview performance of
the Bay Area Premiere of *Skyscraper*.

***Skyscraper* by David Auburn**
September 15, 2005

Historic Hoover Theatre
1635 Park Avenue
San Jose, CA 95126

8:00 PM

This is a public preview with a paying audience.



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MEDIA RESPONSE TO RTE, *EAT THE RUNT*, *MACBETH*, and *GONER*

Renegade Theatre Experiment:

"A South Bay company that's already received notice from the press for its bold, unconventional productions."

[Karen McKeivitt, Theatre Bay Area, August 1, 2004]

"These self-professed renegades bring a new toy to town with some very serious talent in the wings."

[W. Fred Crow, *Milpitas Post*, June 4, 2003]

***Lorca in a Green Dress* by Nilo Cruz (Producer: RTE):**

"RTE certainly lives up to its name with "Lorca," making its mark as a little theater company willing to chase the high of new and difficult work."

[Karen D'Souza, San Jose Mercury News, 7/20/2005]

"Thoughtful, moody and beautiful. [*Lorca in a Green Dress*] juggles emotional tones like intensity, playfulness, wonder and absurdity with a constantly shifting equilibrium...This production is beautifully, arrestingly prismatic, not linear. The more open you can keep mind and senses, the more colors, glints and shadows you'll take in. "

[Marianne Messina, *Metro*, 7/27/2005]

***Conserving Melissa* by Tom Jacobson (Producer: RTE):**

"The production is renegade funky....funny and quirky, but never silly..."

[Marianne Messina, *San José Metro*; August 4, 2004]

***Goner*, by Brian Parks (Producer: RTE):**

"The Renegade Theatre Experiment hit its stride....Irreverent and impossible, this production, presenting dark, wry, edgy humor, is akin to an over-caffeinated escapee from the local loony bin. This no-intermission offering is satire at its best."

[W. Fred Crow, *Milpitas Post*, June 24, 2004]

***Macbeth* by William Shakespeare (Producer: RTE):**

"[*Macbeth*] offers a rare theatre moment in the form of one hair-raising cross slice that makes you wonder, 'Is he OK?' That's good action"

[Marianne Messina, *San José Metro*, April 28, 2004]



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FACT SHEET

RENEGADE THEATRE EXPERIMENT presents the BAY AREA PREMIERE of *Skyscraper* by David Auburn

San José, CA, September 1, 2005

WHO: Renegade Theatre Experiment - San José-based theatre company with Bay Area cast. Cast: John Baldwin, Sarah Eismann, Julie Fogh, Seth Kane, Jean Naughton, Peter Owen. Directed by Chris Tann.

WHAT: A dark comedy about architecture, happenstance, memory and love.

WHY: Be the first to discover this seriocomic piece from the same playwright that brought you *Proof*.

WHEN: September 15 (Pay-What-You-Can Preview) September 16-18, 22-25, Sept. 29-Oct 1. Thursday thru Saturday performances will begin at 8:00 PM. Sunday matinee performances will begin at 2pm.

WHERE: Historic Hoover Theatre. 1635 Park Avenue, San Jose, CA 95126. General Seating.

PRICE: Ticket Prices:

Thurs & Sun: \$18.00 General Admission

\$13.00 Student/Educator/Senior/TBA Discount Admission

Fri & Sat: \$20.00 General Admission

\$15.00 Student/Educator/Senior/TBA Discount Admission

Tickets available online (www.renegadetheatre.com) and at the door.

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ABOUT RENEGADE THEATRE

Committed to forward-thinking performance, Renegade Theatre Experiment builds creative partnerships with aspiring and established artists to bring unique, outstanding theatre to the Bay Area. Founded in 2001, when a group of alumni from Santa Clara University joined together to develop as actors, RTE continues to explore the human experience through established and fresh performance works which break with convention. RTE's artistic and critical successes have included *Hear me Roar: Women's Images of Self - an exploration of women's body image and self-worth in American culture*, Avery Crozier's *Eat the Runt*, and Brian Parks' *Goner*. Renegade produced the World Premiere of Tom Jacobson's *Conserving Melissa* and the first North American production of the critically acclaimed show, *The Dice House* by Paul Lucas.

RTE continues in its tradition of bringing exceptional, avant-garde productions to the South Bay by kicking off its 2005/2006 season with the California Premiere of Nilo Cruz's poetic and haunting piece, *Lorca in a Green Dress*. A tragic death is only the beginning of the journey for Federico García Lorca. This is followed by the Bay Area Premiere of *Skyscraper* by David Auburn, a seriocomic piece that explores the impact of six strangers colliding on a rainy Chicago night. In November, RTE brings to the stage its very first Renegade family show with Roald Dahl's *The BFG* (Big Friendly Giant), adapted for the stage by David Wood. Late one night, a giant snatches young Sophie from her orphanage, but don't worry, this giant is not like Fleshlumpeater giant or Bonecruncher giant that like to eat human beans. This giant is the Big Friendly Giant and together they start a magical journey that involves snozzcumpers, whizzpopping, and all things that are scumdidlyumptious! The season finishes strongly with the World Premiere of Erica Hemenway's *Waiting to Dance*. Five women are brought to a room and reluctantly begin to share their tales in the hopes of answering the question of why they are there. Things that once seemed fairly clear suddenly become very complicated....

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