



Big Stories, Up Close

PRESS RELEASE

Chicago, IL, June 24, 2009

Media passes, photographs, videos, interviews and additional materials are available on request.

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Lifeline Theatre Opens 27th Anniversary Season With Robert Louis Stevenson's "Treasure Island"

- Season Passes on Sale; Thursday Shows During Run at 7:30 p.m. -

WHAT:

Lifeline Theatre inaugurates its 27th anniversary MainStage season with the world premiere adaptation of Robert Louis Stevenson's "*Treasure Island*," adapted by Lifeline ensemble member John Hildreth, directed by Lifeline ensemble member Robert Kauzlaric. A treasure map discovered in a dead pirate's sea-chest leads young Jim Hawkins on an expedition across the ocean to recover a fortune in plundered gold. Fair winds and favorable seas soon give way to mutiny, greed and the evil machinations of a one-legged scoundrel named Long John Silver. Join Jim on an unforgettable adventure as he fights for his life - and the lives of his friends - in this legendary tale of piracy and heroism. The show runs approximately two hours with one intermission, is appropriate for ages ten and up, and copies of the book will be on sale in the lobby.

Lifeline is offering season subscriptions to all three 27th anniversary season MainStage shows for \$75 (and all three KidSeries plays for \$27). Being a Lifeline subscriber allows patrons to save up to 25% off regular ticket prices; offers discounts on additional tickets for friends and family; gives first choice of seats with unlimited free ticket exchanges (and includes reminder cards for shows selected, plus a reminder call a few days before the reservation); knocks 25% off party room rental for audience pre- or post-show events; and offers invitations to subscriber events such as sneak peeks of the rehearsal process, book discussions with the creative team, and author events (previous writers have included Ron Hansen, Daniel Mason, Sara Paretsky, and Donald Westlake).

Lifeline has produced five previous world premiere stage adaptations by Hildreth, including "*Around the World in 80 Days*" in 2002 and "*Johnny Tremain*" in 2006, both of which garnered Non-Equity Jeff Awards for New Adaptation. Kauzlaric has acted in eleven MainStage productions, and written four adaptations for Lifeline - including "*The Island of Dr. Moreau*," winner of 2008's Non-Equity Jeff Awards for Production-Play and New Adaptation. "*Treasure Island*" marks Kauzlaric's directorial debut at Lifeline. The violence in "*Treasure Island*" will be choreographed by Geoff Coates, who previously choreographed the fights in Lifeline's productions of "*The Mark of Zorro*" in 2008 (Non-Equity Jeff Award: Fight Choreography; After Dark Award: Outstanding Fight Choreography) and "*The Talisman Ring*" in 2005 (Non-Equity Jeff Award: Fight Design).

WHERE:

Lifeline Theatre, 6912 N. Glenwood Ave., Chicago, IL 60626

Parking available (street and lot - see below); CTA accessible (Red Line Morse stop/buses)

Free designated parking lot west of the theatre at the NE corner of Morse and Ravenswood with free shuttle service before and after the show

Handicapped accessible

WHEN:

Opens on Monday, September 21, 2009, at 7:30 p.m. (media also invited to final preview on Sunday, September 20, at 4 p.m.)

Closes on November 1, 2009

Runs Thursdays and Fridays at 7:30 p.m.; Saturdays at 4 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Sundays at 4 p.m. (*please note that Thursdays are added on this production*)

Previews on Fridays, September 11 and 18, at 7:30 p.m. (no Thursday shows during previews); Saturdays, September 12 and 19, at 8 p.m. (no 4 p.m. Saturday shows during previews); Sundays, September 13 and 20, at 4 p.m.

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**Lifeline Theatre, 6912 N. Glenwood Ave. Chicago, IL 60626
773-761-4477, www.lifelinetheatre.com**

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- TICKETS:** Publish this number – 773-761-4477; HotTix
\$30 for regular single tickets
\$20 for previews
\$25 for seniors (with ID)
\$15 for students (with ID) and rush tickets (half hour before, subject to availability)
\$10 for industry on first preview weekend
Group rates for 12 or more available upon request.
\$75 for all three 27th anniversary season MainStage shows (see *WHAT* above)
Rogers Park Theatre Flex Pass at www.brownpapertickets.com/event/42048
- STAFF:** Ensemble members **Alan Donahue** (Scenic and Props Design), **Kevin D. Gawley** (Lighting Design), **John Hildreth** (Adaptor), **Robert Kauzlaric** (Director), and **Phil Timberlake** (Dialect Coach), with guest artists **Geoff Coates** (Fight Choreography), **Andy Hansen** (Original Music and Sound Design), **Branimira Ivanova** (Costume Design), and **Erica Foster** (Stage Manager).
- CAST:** Ensemble member **Patrick Blashill** (Dr. Livesey), with guest artists **Matt Engle** (Black Dog/Dick Johnson), **John Ferrick** (Squire Trelawney), **Chris Hainsworth** (Israel Hands/Captain Flint), **Robert McLean** (Captain Smollett), **C. Sean Piereman** (Tom Morgan/Job Anderson), **Sean Sinitski** (Long John Silver), **Ezekiel Sulkes** (Ben Gunn), **Christopher M. Walsh** (Billy Bones/George Merry), and **Warren Weber** (Jim Hawkins). With understudies **Jackson Challinor** and **Eduardo Garcia**.
- NEXT:** The 8th Annual Glenwood Avenue Arts Festival will run August 22-23, 2009, and takes place on 6900 – 7000 North Glenwood Avenue (between Farwell and Lunt), and the 1400 block of Morse Avenue, steps from the Morse Ave stop on the CTA Red Line, with free parking nearby. This popular Northside festival features arts and crafts, theater, music, food and drink for the whole family on the brick streets of historic Rogers Park. More details available at 773-761-4477 x701 and www.GlenwoodAve.org

Lifeline MainStage Productions

"Mrs. Caliban," February 5–March 28, 2010 (opens 2/15/10)

"Neverwhere," April 30–June 20, 2010 (opens 5/10/10)

Lifeline KidSeries Productions

"Dooby Dooby Moo," October 17–December 6, 2009 (opens 10/18/09)

"The Last of the Dragons," January 2– February 21, 2010 (opens 1/3/10)

"The Blue Shadow," March 13–May 2, 2010 (opens 3/14/10)

- INFO:** General theatre info, 773-761-4477, www.lifelinetheatre.com
Marketing info, Robert Kauzlaric, Marketing Director, 773-761-4477 x704, rob@lifelinetheatre.com
Lifeline Theatre's programs are partially supported by **The Albert Pick, Jr. Fund; Alphawood Foundation; The Arts Work Fund; Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation; The Chicago Community Trust; CityArts 3 grant from the City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs; Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation; The Richard H. Driehaus Charitable Lead Trust; Lloyd A. Fry Foundation; The Grover Hermann Foundation; Illinois Arts Council, a state agency; Mayer and Morris Kaplan Family Foundation; MacArthur Fund for Arts and Culture at Prince; The Polk Bros. Foundation; S&C Foundation;** and the annual support of **businesses and individuals.**

- MISSION:** Now in its 27th season, Lifeline Theatre is known for specializing in original literary adaptations. Its ensemble of artists uses imaginative, unconventional staging to portray sprawling stories in an intimate space. Lifeline is committed to promoting the arts in its Rogers Park neighborhood and is an anchor of the Glenwood Avenue Arts District. We aspire to create art that is relevant to our culturally diverse, increasingly youthful neighborhood. Lifeline Theatre – Big Stories, Up Close.

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