



PRESS RELEASE
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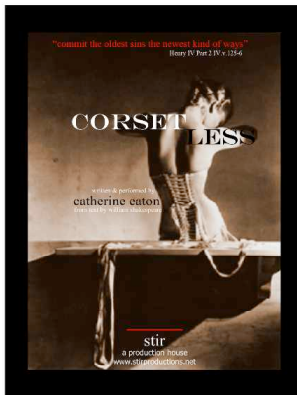
For Immediate Release
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A NEW SHAKESPEAREAN PLAY PRESENTED IN A GROUNDBREAKING VENUE

CORSETLESS

at The LAB Gallery October 12th – 16th at 6pm

September 22, 2009 – New York City – **The LAB (for installation and performance art)** presents, in association with **Stir – A Production House**, the New York Premiere of Catherine Eaton's powerful one woman show **CORSETLESS**. In this innovative drama, Ms. Eaton weaves together Shakespearean text from across the entire canon to create a new contemporary narrative. She tells the story of Olivia, a brilliant young woman struggling for her freedom in a mental hospital who communicates exclusively through the words of William Shakespeare. The action of the play takes place in the observation room of the sanitarium where Olivia is held in isolation. In a perfect marriage of subject matter and venue, this production takes full advantage of the unique character of the LAB Gallery space, raising the concept of 'street theatre' to a whole new level. A glassed-in observation gallery visible to the street on the corner of 47th Street and Lexington Avenue, the LAB is the ideal site-specific setting in which to watch Olivia, stripped of her privacy, savagely defend her sanity using only the torn text of perhaps the greatest playwright of all time. Audiences will view Olivia as her doctors would, through the glass from a safe vantage point outside, privy to her private thoughts and behaviors through a state-of-the-art sound system. There is no charge for this event and "admission" is as unlimited as the sidewalks, though reserved spaces window-side are few.



Featuring an original score composed by award-winning concert pianist Elaine Kwon, **CORSETLESS** had a successful staged reading at New York's Lincoln Center with the help of Tony-nominated director Ethan McSweeney and celebrated actor Austin Pendleton. It enjoyed a development run at Irish Classical Theatre in Buffalo directed by Derek Campbell and was described by critics as "a most rare vision, full of raw passion, tragic humor and unfiltered humanity" (Buffalo News), which "ekes delightful, unexpected moments of humor from Shakespeare's most famous lines." (Artvoice). Excerpts from the play were presented to a sold

out crowd at Carnegie Hall as part of a benefit for Best Buddies, and Eaton toured Ireland with the show earlier this year.

This production is directed by Derek Campbell with the Voice of the Doctor recorded by Tom MacVittie, Set Design by Lynne Koscielniak, Original Sound Design by Tom Makar, and Original Costume Design by Susan Drozd.

Performances will take place October 12th – 16th at 6pm at The LAB Gallery (47th Street and Lexington). The running time is one hour fifteen minutes. For more information and ring-side reservations please email rogersmitharts@rogersmith.com or call 212.339.2092.

To schedule an interview with Catherine Eaton, please contact Danika Druttman at 212.339.2092.

Stir – A Production House is an internationally celebrated multi-disciplinary production company. Challenging award-winning artists to work beyond the limits of their primary disciplines, Stir is creating a new and distinct voice in arts production. Founding partners of Stir are Catherine Eaton, Jana Siclair and Carol Todd. www.stirproductions.net

The LAB (for installation + performance art) is a New York based, converted storefront turned fishbowl producing 30+ fast paced performance art and installation exhibitions annually. Aimed at furious midtown foot traffic, The LAB's programming is designed to confront modern relationships between art and audience and seeks to force interaction between high energy, "outrospective" exhibitions and nearly 25,000 daily passersby. THE LAB's is located on the North East corner of 47th and Lex and is a Roger Smith Collaboration in Art. www.thelabgallery.com

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