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Contact:

Ray Paolantonio
Communications Director
ray@sonofsemele.org
(310) 927-9523

SON OF SEMELE ENSEMBLE PRESENTS
THE WORLD PREMIERE OF
“KING CAT CALICO FINALLY FLIES FREE!”
OPENING AT SON OF SEMELE FRIDAY, JUNE 23

“KING CAT CALICO FINALLY FLIES FREE!”, by Aaron Henne, receives its world premiere production at Son of Semele Ensemble (SOSE). This twisted, dark comedy focuses on Heidi K. Hendrickson and her needy plight for recognition. She has an obsession, a compulsion really – she has 150 cats in her eleven hundred square foot apartment, including sixty dead ones in the Frigidaire. Heidi has an especially intimate relationship with the alpha cat, one King Cat Calico who keeps trying to escape this hellish tuna filled, feces stained prison, to no avail. “KING CAT” will run from June 23 through July 16, 2006, at Son of Semele in Silver Lake.

Directed by Ovation Award-winning director Edgar Landa, “KING CAT” promises to be a fun-filled exploration of loneliness, obsession, possession and the need to claim one’s place in this uncertain world. Featuring a character cameo by Rush Limbaugh, literally singing the praises of Oxy-contin, or what he lovingly refers to as his “little blues”.

Written by resident playwright Aaron Henne, SOSE presented the original workshop of “KING CAT” in April 2004 as part of its RAPID reading series (Readings As Projects In Development). SOSE has also presented readings of Henne’s “BARE” and “STRUT”. Henne has served in various dramaturgical and script development capacities for the Mark Taper Forum, the Theatre at Boston Court and the Colony Theatre. Currently, Henne is the Educational Programs Director for We Tell Stories.

The cast includes Don Boughton, Kristen Brennan, Christina Byron, Laura Carson, Elizabeth Clemmons, Chris Cole, Sharyn-genel Gabriel, Daniel Getzoff, Charls Sedgwick Hall, Michael Kass, Kristyn Palmer, Ray Paolantonio, Karalyn Shima, Lauren Elizabeth Wells, Mark McClain Wilson, Kari Zander and Sylvia Zabransky.

The production is stage managed by Christopher Rivera, casting by Dawn Hillman, scenic design by Maureen Weiss, light design by Marie Yokoyama, sound design by Cricket Myers, costume design by Reagan and puppet design by Sean T. Cawelti (2005 LA Weekly Award Nominee – Mask & Puppet Design).

Hailed as one of the “hippest, hottest, most innovative theatre troupes in the U.S.”, by American Theatre Magazine, SOSE is a collective of theatre professionals that recognizes emerging cultural questions through the production of new or under-exposed plays. The ensemble company of 30, composed primarily of actors and directors, was featured on the cover of the December 2004 issue of American Theatre Magazine. SOSE was also profiled in the Winter/Spring 2005 issue of TheatreForum Magazine for its production of Carlos Murillo’s “A Human Interest Story.” In November 2002, SOSE was honored with seven Ovation Award nominations for its production of “Animal Farm,” winning for Best Musical Production (intimate venue) and Best Director of a Musical (Edgar Landa). In February 2005, SOSE was recognized with an NAACP Theatre Award for Best Choreography for its 2004 production of “The Tower”, which received a total of four nominations including Best Ensemble Cast. Last year SOSE presented the U.S. premiere of “The Mysteries”, adapted by Edward Kemp and the World Premiere “Preludes & Fugues” by John Glore. For additional information on SOSE, rehearsal blogs and photos, visit www.sonofsemele.org.

Performances of “KING CAT CALICO FINALLY FLIES FREE!” are Thursday through Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 7 p.m., with an additional performance on Monday, July 10 at 8 p.m.

On Fridays and Saturdays (following performances of “KING CAT”) SOSE hosts Elke Luyten performing her corporeal mime solo performance piece “HERE IS SOMEONE”. Richly detailed movement scores, text from Antonin Artaud and music from Charles Ives are interwoven by Ms. Luyten to create a compelling companion piece. “HERE IS SOMEONE” begins at 10 p.m. and admission is \$5.00. Patrons attending “KING CAT” are invited to enjoy “HERE IS SOMEONE” free of charge. Running time is 20 minutes.

Admission to “KING CAT” is \$15.00. Tickets are available exclusively at www.sonofsemele.org or at the box office one half hour prior to show time. For more information, call 1-800-838-3006 or visit www.sonofsemele.org. Son of Semele is located in Silver Lake, one mile west of Alvarado, at 3301 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90004.

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