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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **LEAGUE OF CHICAGO THEATRES ANNOUNCES JUNE LINE-UP OF THEATER THURSDAYS EVENTS**

**CHICAGO (May 28, 2008)** – The League of Chicago Theatres is pleased to announce the June line-up of *Theater Thursdays* events. *Theater Thursdays* events combine a new show every week, with a pre or post show reception including food and drinks, and exclusive access to artists from each production, all for one special ticket price by mentioning “*Theater Thursdays*” when making a reservation at each box office.

This June, patrons of *Theater Thursdays* can participate in a variety of exciting events. Enjoy appetizers and drinks at Landmark Grill and Lounge with actor Mark Nadler following his performance of *Russian on the Side*, or partake of a hearty meal with wine at Bittersweet prior to the performance of *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* at Bailiwick Repertory. Audiences also can feast on delicious summer dishes at a beach party before seeing James Sherman’s new play *Relatively Close* at the Victory Gardens Biograph Theater. As the weather heats up, so does Theater Thursdays!

Launched in January of 2005, *Theater Thursdays* provides a great opportunity to venture out after work, entertain clients, socialize with friends or make new ones. Explore foreign cultures, sample bites from the city’s best restaurants and take in Chicago’s exceptional theater scene with a new show every week.

93.1 FM WXRT, the *Chicago Reader*, and [Yelp.com](http://Yelp.com) are media partners for *Theater Thursdays*.

For a description and pricing of each show, please see the features listed below.

#### **Thursday, June 5**

*Russian on the Side*

Royal George Theatre Mainstage  
1641 N. Halsted St., Chicago

Catch a performance of the one-man comedy-in-music adventure, *Russian on the Side*, before it heads to Broadway. The multi-talented Mark Nadler will take the audience on a zany 90-minute journey filled with song and dance from Stravinsky to Sondheim and spill scintillating gossip about the world’s greatest composers. Following the performance, Theater Thursday ticket holders can join Mark for complimentary appetizers and pizza courtesy of the **Landmark Grill and**

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**Lounge**, conveniently located next door to the Royal George Theatre. Mark will be ready to answer questions about the show and share his super secret recipe for his Mad Russian Martini.

Event begins at 7:30 P.M.

Post-Show Q&A and Reception immediately following the performance at Landmark Grill and Lounge, 1633 N. Halsted St.

Tickets: \$29.50

For reservations call 312-988-9000 and mention "Theater Thursdays."

Visit [www.russianonthesideonline.com](http://www.russianonthesideonline.com) for tickets or more information.

### **Thursday, June 12**

*The Hunchback of Notre Dame*

Bailiwick Repertory Theater

1229 W. Belmont, Chicago

In keeping with the spirit of Victor Hugo's classic novel, Theater Thursday patrons will enjoy dinner at **Bittersweet** (1033 W. Belmont) which consists of two hearty courses, including soup and bread, fruit and cheese, wine and old-fashioned dessert (cobbler or bread pudding).

Event begins at 5:30 p.m.

Show begins at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets: \$30

For reservations call 773-883-1090 and mention "Theater Thursdays."

Show Press Contact: David Zak, [dgzak1@gmail.com](mailto:dgzak1@gmail.com)

### **Thursday, June 19**

*Bloody Bess: A Tale of Piracy and Revenge*

conceived by Stuart Gordon, written by William J. Norris and John Ostrander

BackStage Theatre Company at The Storefront Theatre

66 E. Randolph Street

Enjoy an evening of swashbuckling, sword-play-filled pirate fun with BackStage Theatre Company and *Bloody-Bess*. A wine and hors d'oeuvres reception provided by **Kitsch'n on Roscoe** precedes the evening's performance. Theater Thursdays patrons will be treated after the show to a talk-back, tour, and stage combat demonstration with the cast and award-winning fight director, Geoff Coates. In *Bloody Bess*, upper-class governor's daughter, Elizabeth is kidnapped and held for ransom. Upon her return, Elizabeth finds her father murdered and is betrayed by her intended. Elizabeth turns to the violent pirate life she encountered in capture and becomes Bloody Bess, determined to exact her revenge.

Reception begins at 6:45 p.m.

Show begins at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets: \$30

For reservations, call 312-742-TIXS (8497)

For more information visit [www.backstagetheatrecompany.org](http://www.backstagetheatrecompany.org)

Show Press Contact: Vallea Woodbury, [vallea@BackStagetheatrecompany.org](mailto:vallea@BackStagetheatrecompany.org)

### **Thursday, June 26**

*Relatively Close* by James Sherman

Victory Gardens Biograph Theater

2433 N. Lincoln Ave, Chicago

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Kick off summer at Victory Gardens' pre-show beach party potluck in the Biograph rehearsal room. Feast on delicious summer dishes, prepared by the cast and crew of *Relatively Close* and Victory Gardens staff. Cool summer cocktails and beach music will complete the lawn party atmosphere. Then enjoy James Sherman's new summer comedy about three sisters who return to their childhood vacation home on the shores of Lake Michigan. One wants to keep it. One wants to sell it. The other just wants everyone to get along. With their respective spouses and one teenager in tow, will they even make it to the end of the week? Not likely!

Potluck reception begins at 6 p.m.

Show begins at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets: \$35

For reservations call 773-871-3000 and use promo code "THURSDAY"

Or purchase online at [www.VictoryGardens.org/RelativelyClose](http://www.VictoryGardens.org/RelativelyClose)

Show Press Contact: Jay Kelly, 773.549.5788 x 2136

## THE LEAGUE OF CHICAGO THEATRES

Theater Thursdays are organized by The League of Chicago Theatres. Founded in 1979, the League is an alliance of theaters that leverages its collective strength to promote, support and advocate for Chicago's theater industry locally, nationally and internationally. Currently, the League serves a diverse membership of more than 190 theaters and theater companies, ranging from small storefront, non-union companies to major cultural centers with multi-million dollar facilities and productions.

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The League of Chicago Theatres gratefully acknowledges the 2008 general operating support of The Alphawood Foundation, The Boeing Company, CityArts Program IV, Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs, Chicago Community Trust, the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency, the John D. & Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, Illinois Mile After Magnificent Mile in corporation with the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity/Bureau of Tourism and The Shubert Foundation. For complete information about the League of Chicago Theatres, visit [chicagoplays.com](http://chicagoplays.com).

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