

PRESS RELEASE

The Studio Theatre
The Studio Theatre 2ndStage
The Studio Theatre Acting Conservatory
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WASHINGTON, DC 20005

STUDIO THEATRE

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DATE: October 26, 2010

THE STUDIO THEATRE IS THRILLED TO ANNOUNCE DAVID IVES'S *VENUS IN FUR* TO CONCLUDE THE 2010-2011 SEASON!

“A tasty new comedy-drama... 90 minutes of good, kinky fun.” – *The New York Times*

VENUS IN FUR

by **David Ives**

directed by **David Muse**

Opening May 25, 2011

In the Milton Theatre

The Studio Theatre is delighted to announce that **David Ives**'s scintillating *Venus in Fur* will conclude the 2010-2011 season. Inspired by Leopold von Sacher-Masoch's notorious erotic novel (which first shocked readers in 1870), *Venus in Fur* explores the complex relationship between sex and power. Reality and fantasy, strength and weakness, and pleasure and pain all blend together in one of the smartest and funniest plays to emerge in recent years.

When an actress arrives unscheduled for an audition, the playwright-director grudgingly allows her to try out for his new play, an adaptation of Sacher-Masoch's novel. What begins as a normal audition quickly turns into an increasingly seductive battle for power. As the action shifts between the audition and the play-within-a-play, the two engage in a cat and mouse game where the roles of cat and mouse are completely up for grabs.

Venus in Fur will be directed by The Studio Theatre's Artistic Director, **David Muse**.

The inaugural 2010-2011 season of new Artistic Director David Muse is generously underwritten by Jaylee Mead and Robert and Arlene Kogod, with additional underwriting from The Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation, Stanley and Rosemary Marcuss, and Vicki and Roger Sant.

*This production of **Venus in Fur** is generously underwritten by Susan and Dixon Butler, David and Jean Grier, and A. Fenner Milton.*

THE STUDIO THEATRE INFORMATION:

The Studio Theatre is Washington's premiere venue for contemporary theatre, “**where local audiences will find today's edgiest playwrights**” (*Variety*). Its restless, innovative spirit makes it a leader both in Washington DC and in the nation. Artist-founded and artist-driven, The Studio Theatre demands the highest quality production values, bringing audiences provocative writing along with exceptional artistry in performance, directing, and design.

— MORE —

Founded in 1978 by Joy Zinoman, The Studio Theatre is now led by Artistic Director David Muse. He is joined by the leadership team of Keith Alan Baker, Managing Director/Artistic Director, 2ndStage; Serge Seiden, Associate Producing Artistic Director; and Morey B. Epstein, Executive Director of Institutional Development. The Studio Theatre is comprised of a four-theatre complex, a major landmark that anchors the 14th Street Arts District. The Studio Theatre has three distinct programming series – The Studio Theatre Season, Special Events, and The Studio 2ndStage. Special Events produces and presents one-of-a-kind performances that would not otherwise be seen in Washington. The Studio 2ndStage creates edgy, explosive, and electrifying productions. The Studio Theatre also provides opportunities for developing theatre artists as year-long apprentices. The Studio Theatre Acting

Conservatory, now in its 36th year, offers rigorous professional theatre training in close partnership with the working artists at The Studio Theatre. The Conservatory has trained over 10,000 actors and directors, now performing on Broadway, Off Broadway, and in theatre and film across the country. The theatre is deeply invested in the eclectic vitality of its community.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Accessibility: All performances are fully accessible to accommodate patrons with special needs. FM listening assistive system available. Call for schedule of sign-interpreted performances. Accessible seats available by reservation. Call the Box Office at 202-332-3300 or V/TTY 202-667-8436.

Location: 1501 14th Street, NW (Northeast corner of 14th and P Streets).

Parking: Please call the Box Office for parking information.

Metro Stops: Red Line: Dupont Circle, Orange/Blue Lines: McPherson Square, and Green Line: U Street/Cardozo.

Contact Information: Tickets: 202-332-3300 V/TTY: 202-667-8436 Fax: 202-332-1187
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