

For Immediate Release

Dated: 5.5.2009

Event Listing for June:

June 5th, 12th, 19th and 226th:

NO SHAME THEATRE @ Studio Roanoke

30 Campbell Ave

11PM \$5 at the door

The long running venue for short original pieces finds a new home on the Studio Roanoke stage starting May 3rd. Every Friday night at 11PM, admission is \$5 at the door. There are only three rules: pieces must be original, they must be 5 minutes long or less, and you can't break anything—including laws. Beyond that, anything can happen and usually does. Sign up at 10PM if you want to be part of the show, but we like people who just want to watch, too. Come see what your neighbors have been up to while you were going to bed early! Visit www.studioroanoke.org, email us at info@studioroanoke.org, or call **Todd Ristau at 540-556-5396** for more information.

June 7th and 21st

POET'S FIRE POETRY SLAM @ Studio Roanoke

30 Campbell Ave

8PM \$5 at the door

Local poets have organized a return to official slam poetry in Roanoke! Twice monthly, local poets will compete for a cash prize. For official rules and background information on poetry slams, visit <http://www.slampapi.com>. Visit www.studioroanoke.org, email us at info@studioroanoke.org, or call **Todd Ristau at 540-556-5396** for more information on the bi-monthly Poet's Fire slams hosted by Studio Roanoke.

June 2nd:

POETRY LOUNGE @ Studio Roanoke

30 Campbell Ave

8PM \$5 at the door

Each month, we bring you a non-competitive environment for poets to come together and share their work. The event will be hosted by T.J. Anderson III, professor of English at Hollins University. At each Lounge, Anderson will have a featured poet who will read 5 of their own poems, followed by up to 15 other poets who can sign up in a round robin fashion to each read a single poem of their own. After the readings, poets and audience are encouraged to mingle and enjoy sharing thoughts and comments about poetry in our community. Visit www.studioroanoke.org, email us at info@studioroanoke.org, or call **Todd Ristau at 540-556-5396** for more information.

June 9th:

COMEDY LOUNGE @ Studio Roanoke

30 Campbell Ave

8PM \$5 at the door

Each month, local comedians and improv actors are invited to come together for a kind of open mic night for comedy only. These hilarious and madcap evenings will be structured something like No Shame, but focus only on stand-up routines and improv comedy. Participants sign up for 5 minute slots at the top of the show, with up to 15 slots available each month. Whether you are a seasoned comedy veteran or standing up in front of an audience for the first time, this is your chance to hone your act and meet other comedians and their fans. Visit www.studioroanoke.org, email us at info@studioroanoke.org, or call **Todd Ristau at 540-556-5396** for more information.

June 10th:

LUNCHBOX FREE READING SERIES

30 Campbell Ave

12:15 PM free

Each month, in the interest of developing both new plays and new audiences for them, Studio Roanoke will host a free lunchtime reading of new work in our space. Bring a bag lunch and enjoy the entertainment and



30 Campbell Ave.
in downtown Roanoke

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Artistic Director
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Building a home for new plays and the people who create them

give us your feedback following the 45 minute program. This month featuring *The Way to a Man's Heart*, by April Drummond and directed by Kenley Smith. This play a smart and extremely funny look at gossip and man catching. April is a Horizon student at Hollins University. Visit www.studioanoke.org, email us at info@studioanoke.org, or call **Todd Ristau at 540-556-5396** for more information.

June 16:

ACOUSTIC LOUNGE @ Studio Roanoke

30 Campbell Ave

8PM \$5 at the door

Each month, local musicians and songwriters are invited to come together for a musical round table. Four local singer/songwriters who will each have a 15 minute set, followed by a brief intermission, and then a round robin sign up for 10 audience members to perform a single song each. After that, we'll leave the space open for a kind of free form jam session and mixer with the audience. Visit www.studioanoke.org, email us at info@studioanoke.org, or call **Todd Ristau at 540-556-5396** for more information.

June 23rd through 28th

Rosalee Was Here, by Maura Campbell

Directed by Cheryl Snodgrass

30 Campbell Ave

8PM sharp, plus two additional matinees at 2PM on Saturday and Sunday

Rosalee Was Here is the true story of a young Hispanic girl convicted of sexual crimes and is placed on 24/7 surveillance, provided by Molly, a teacher's aide with her own family problems. Within the confines imposed by Ms. Holiday, the middle school Principal who is compelled to enforce the harsh rules and restrictions imposed by the educational and juvenile justice systems, Molly attempts to help Rosalee struggle with issues of personal identity and freedom. Maura Campbell has crafted a moving, often funny commentary on the insanity of any system that does not account for its own flows and imperfections. Visit

www.studioanoke.org, email us at info@studioanoke.org, or call **Todd Ristau at 540-556-5396** for more information.

Maura Campbell is a graduate student in the Playwright's Lab at Hollins University. She has been called the "Shakespeare of Vermont" and has written more than twenty-five plays produced at the community, semi-professional and professional levels across the United States. **Cheryl Snodgrass** is a director from Chicago, Illinois, who has directed new works in theatres around the country, including plays by Todd Ristau, Jeff Goode, and Rebecca Gilman.

June 29th

Hollins Playwright's Lab Guest Speaker Series: Erin Courtney, Playwright

Free to the Public

7:30 PM Sharp

Each summer, the Graduate Program in Playwriting at Hollins University brings to Roanoke some of the most important names in new play development and professional theatre. In an effort to educate and inform not only the playwriting students but also local artists and audiences, the talks given by these guests are free and open to the public. Studio Roanoke will be hosting those talks in their space at 30 Campbell Avenue. Each speaker begins their remarks at 7:30PM. Talks generally focus on the speaker's life in the arts, and last approximately 30-45 minutes with a Q&A session to follow, moderated by Artistic Director (and MFA Program Director) Todd Ristau.

Erin Courtney is a playwright whose plays have been produced or developed by Clubbed Thumb, The Public Theater, Birmingham Repertory, The Vineyard, The Flea, and The Actors Theater of Louisville, the Soho Rep writers/directors lab, New York Stage Film. Currently, Ms. Courtney is collaborating with Elizabeth Swados on a musical, *Kaspar Hauser*, which will be produced by the Flea Theater in February 2009. She has been a fellow at the MacDowell colony, a recipient of a NYSCA grant and a MAP Fund grant from the Rockefeller Foundation. Her play *Owls* is published by Smith and Kraus in *Humana Festival 2001: The Complete Plays* and *Demon Baby* is published in two anthologies *New Downtown Now* and *Funny, Strange, Provocative: Seven Plays from Clubbed Thumb*. As an undergraduate, Ms. Courtney studied with Paula Vogel at Brown University and as a graduate student she studied with Mac Wellman at Brooklyn College. She currently teaches playwriting at Brooklyn College and is an affiliated artist with Clubbed Thumb. She is also a member of 13P, as well as the co-founder of the Brooklyn Writer's Space and Room 58.

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