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The New Conservatory Theatre Center 2008-2009 PRIDE SEASON August 6, 2008 – July 12, 2009

San Francisco, March 24, 2008—**The New Conservatory Theatre Center** (Ed Decker, Artistic Director and Founder) is delighted to announce the 2008 – 2009 Pride Season. Now in its fourteenth year, NCTC's Pride Season programming produces work by local, national, and international playwrights and is recognized for its top quality, creative productions. All performances take place at The New Conservatory Theatre Center, located at 25 Van Ness Avenue near Market St., in San Francisco, 94102. Subscriptions are available for NCTC returning subscribers on April 16, 2008 and to the general public on June 1, 2008 and range from \$99 - \$280. Additional ticket and subscription information can be found at www.nctcsf.org or by calling the NCTC Box Office at (415) 861-8972.

About the 2008 - 2009 Season

The 2008 – 2009 Pride Season will jumpstart in August with a limited engagement of *2 Boys TV*, a San Francisco premiere direct from Montreal, where the acclaimed Canadian duo engages audiences with their unique repertoire of multimedia performance.

Friends Are Forever, a world premiere comedy by Tom W. Kelly, officially starts the Season with one of three Pride Season 2008 – 2009 productions featuring the work of local playwrights. Additional productions written by local playwrights include NCTC-commissioned writer Harry Cronin's world premiere love story, *Blind Faith* and the gutsy Joe Besecker's fascinating insight into the psyche of famed playwright Tennessee Williams with *Tennessee in the Summer*.

Bay Area premieres include the gender-bending *Act a Lady* by Jordan Harrison, the off-Broadway hit *Zanna, Don't!*, a musical fairytale by Tom Acito, and the Tony Award-Winner for Best Play, *The History Boys* by Alan Bennett—a delightfully witty comedy of eight boisterous school boys hoping to gain admittance to England's most prestigious universities. Making its west coast premiere is *Some Men* by internationally acclaimed playwright, Terrence McNally, and completing the season is the urban drama/comedy *As Bees in Honey Drown* by Douglas Carter Beane.

Six of the eight featured Pride Season productions are new to San Francisco audiences, offering a breadth of entertainment and thoughtful new works—thus promoting NCTC's visionary mission to promote exploration and open dialogue among audiences and developing playwrights in order to celebrate diversity and foster community.

For further information, including detailed calendar information, please contact:

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2008 - 09 Pride Season Calendar & Narratives

**Performances and schedules are subject to change*

2 Boys TV (Special Event)

Direct from Montreal SF Premiere

Decker Theatre

Written, Performed, and Directed by Stephen Lawson and Aaron Pollard

Previews: August 6 – 8, 2008

Runs: August 9 – 31, 2008 • Wed - Sat 8pm; Sun 2pm

This internationally acclaimed duo brings to San Francisco their unique repertoire of epic multimedia performance, which aims to dazzle and provoke with political and poetic vigor. *2 Boys TV* incorporates an inimitable blend of lip-synch, cinematic scores and original video images.

Friends Are Forever

World Premiere

Walker Theatre

By Tom W. Kelly

Previews: August 15 – 27, 2008

Runs: August 16 – September 21, 2008 • Wed - Sat 8pm; Sun 2pm

NCTC is proud to once again feature the work of San Francisco playwright Tom W. Kelly. This rollicking new comedy is a sexy celebration of gay couples where sometimes, there's only one degree of separation.

The History Boys

Bay Area Premiere

Decker Theatre

By Alan Bennett

Previews: September 19 – 26, 2008

Runs: September 20 – October 26, 2008 • Wed - Sat 8pm; Sun 2pm

A delightfully witty comedy of eight boisterous - yet talented - school boys hoping to gain admittance to England's most prestigious universities. This Tony Award-Winner (Best Play, 2006) is a wickedly funny look at history, the pursuit of knowledge, and the utter randomness of life.

As Bees In Honey Drown

Walker Theatre

By Douglas Carter Beane

Previews: November 7 – 14, 2008

Runs: November 7 – December 21, 2008 • Wed - Sat 8pm; Sun 2pm

Evan Wyler is a gay twenty-something New York writer savoring the success of his debut novel. Defined by the media as the "hot, young, thing-of-the-moment," Evan captures the attention of Alexa Vere de Vere, a black-clad woman of mystery who's made the world of celebrity her home. In fact, it's her religion.

Zanna, Don't!

Bay Area Premiere

Decker Theatre

Book, Music, & Lyrics by Tim Acito

Previews: December 5 – 12, 2008

Runs: December 13, 2008 – January 18, 2009 • Wed - Sat 8pm; Sun 2pm

In this musical fairytale set at Heartsville High, the school's magical matchmaker, Zanna is determined as ever to make sure everyone in town, gay and straight, is happily paired up.

**2008 - 09 Pride Season
Calendar & Narratives**
Continued

Tennessee in the Summer

Walker Theatre

By Joe Besecker

Previews: January 23 – 30, 2009

Runs: January 31– March 1, 2009 • Wed - Sat 8pm; Sun 2pm

In this gutsy, powerful, and altogether fascinating probe into the psyche of Tennessee Williams, local playwright Joe Besecker shares a glimpse of the famed dramatist's private persona.

Act A Lady

West Coast Premiere

Decker Theatre

By Jordan Harrison

Previews: March 20 – 27, 2009

Runs: March 28 – April 26, 2009 • Wed - Sat 8pm; Sun 2pm

When the men of a small Prohibition-era town decide to put on a play dressed in "fancy-type, women-type clothes," the whole community is affected: gender lines blur, identities explode, and life and art are forever entangled. This thoughtful and exuberant Midwestern fable uncovers the woman in every man, the man in every woman and the power of theatre to uncover both.

Blind Faith

World Premiere Commissioned by NCTC

Walker Theatre

By Harry Cronin

Previews: March 27 – April 3, 2009

Runs: April 4, – May 3, 2009 • Wed - Sat 8pm; Sun 2pm

Irreversible consequences unfold when two teenage boys fall in love and manage a secret love affair in the neo-conservative community of Colorado Springs.

Some Men

West Coast Premiere

Decker Theatre

By Terrence McNally

Previews: May 29 – June 5, 2009

Runs: June 6 – July 12, 2009 • Wed – Sat 8pm; Sunday 2pm

Beginning at a gay wedding at the Waldorf-Astoria, we embark on a moving and funny march through queer history. A patchwork quilt of male relationships filled with longing, sex, challenges and joy.