



## **News Release**

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### **QuestFest, the Extraordinary Two-Week Visual Theatre Festival, Returns to Baltimore/Washington Venues March 1-14**

BALTIMORE/WASHINGTON, D.C., Jan. 5, 2010 – QuestFest 2010, an international visual theatre festival produced by Quest in partnership with Gallaudet University in Washington and the Theatre Project and Creative Alliance in Baltimore, will return to the Baltimore/Washington area March 1-14, 2010, with a two-week long festival of performances and workshops in venues and schools throughout the area.

The festival will feature an international roster of deaf and hearing artists in an array of family-friendly, cutting-edge work that welcomes all people to the fascinating world of visual theatre.

“QuestFest 2010 has attracted a full schedule of exceptional visual theatre artists from around the world. Their work represents cutting edge performances that audiences have described as ‘breathtaking,’ ‘inspiring,’ and ‘profound.’” says QuestFest producer, Tim McCarty. “It is a remarkable thing at QuestFest to see the diversity and richness of visual theatre created by artists from around the world. With QuestFest, cultural and language divides evaporate and for that time we all share together in the theatre, we are all simply human.”

The festival will feature five world premieres, four American premieres, two Washington premieres, and one Maryland premiere. Shows include: “Gin and Tonic” and “Passing Trains” by Ramesh Meyyappan from Singapore; “Paraffin” by Naoko Naeshiba from Japan and Kibism from the U.S.; “QUACK!” by From the Hip from South Africa; and “Simorgh & Zaal” by Mehr-Ayeen from Iran.

American artists will include David Gaines who will present “7 (x1) Samurai,” Kicking Pig which will present “Agon for Egon,” Sandglass Theater which will present “All Weather Ballads,” The Nana Project which will present “Alonzo’s Lullaby,” 500 Clowns which will present “Macbeth,” and White Box Theatre which will present “Sea of Birds.” Quest will present premieres of “Nano,” “E(motion)s” and “Love Currents.”

Performance venues will include theatres at Gallaudet University, the Baltimore Theatre Project and the Creative Alliance at the Patterson.

For further information about the performances, visit:

<http://www.questfest.org/performances.htm> .

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In addition to the performances, QuestFest 2010 will offer master classes, workshops, panel discussions and post-show discussions. Also included in the pre-festival schedule is a two-week run of Sebastiene Mundheim's "Sea of Birds" at the Theatre Project in Baltimore, with opening night on Jan. 28. For complete details about these activities, visit [www.questfest.org](http://www.questfest.org).

QuestFest 2010 is the fourth QuestFest. It is produced by Quest: arts for everyone, a Maryland – based award-winning organization that is internationally recognized for its innovative work in visual theatre and its leadership in welcoming people of diverse backgrounds to the world of theatre. Quest is winner of the 2010 Arts Presenters/ MetLife Arts Access Award.

QuestFest 2010 is presented with the support of the Maryland State Arts Council, Pennsylvania Performing Arts on Tour, the U.S. Department of State, Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation, Ronald McDonald House Charities – Baltimore, William G Baker, Jr. Memorial Fund, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Tickets for QuestFest 2010 performances will go on sale in early 2010. People are advised to check back with [www.questfest.org](http://www.questfest.org) periodically to get information about tickets and updates on the performance schedule. People can also join Callboard, Quest's online newsletter, which provides monthly updates on QuestFest 2010 and other Quest productions. To subscribe, visit [www.quest4arts.org](http://www.quest4arts.org) and click on "The Callboard."

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