



## **New City Stage Company**

2031 Locust Street, Suite 702  
Philadelphia, PA 19103  
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[www.NewCityStage.org](http://www.NewCityStage.org)

### ***PRESS RELEASE***

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
Wednesday, April 18, 2012

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New City Stage remounts Sam Shepard monologue hits *Savage/Love & Tongues*

**PHILADELPHIA** – New City Stage Company is thrilled to announce the return of their 2011 Philadelphia Fringe Festival hits *Savage/Love* and *Tongues*, written and conceived by Sam Shepard and Joseph Chaikin. These companion one-act poetry plays will run for 5 performances from May 26 to June at the Adrienne Theater Second Stage at 2030 Sansom Street in downtown Philadelphia. The show is being performed in reparatory with *Asymmetric* (see the end of this release for more information). Tickets are only \$10, and include 1 complimentary drink. Ticket information is available at [www.NewCityStage.org](http://www.NewCityStage.org) and by calling 215-563-7500.

In a season entitled *The Terror Within*, New City began with a unique modern interpretation of the two one-act monologues from 1978 written by Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Sam Shepard in conjunction with distinguished actor/director Joseph Chaikin. *Savage/Love* and *Tongues* are two of the best known Avant garde performances pieces in the English language. Besides the beats and depths of a poetry reading, they incorporate a battery of percussive instruments to highlight and underscore the emotional journey of the protagonist. *Savage/Love* is a propulsive quest of a lonely man looking for love and a prelude to *Tongues*, a passionate fever dream in which a dying man delivers his last rites. These stream of consciousness confessionals are written to be performed with live percussion accompaniment.

New City's Co-Artistic Director **Russ Widdall** reprises his role as the Poet, working with the original text but taking the opportunity to fine tune some of the choreography and moments. Originally performed with a just a DJ, this newer realization of the rarely down monologues will utilize the a DJ/sound designer as well as fully trained musician. **Josh Fox**, a multi-instrumentalist who plays over a dozen instruments, will not only reprise the use of handmade percussive instruments but also add in live drumming. Fox was born and raised in Wasila, Alaska, he now owns and operates his own home studio in the Art Museum area of Philadelphia. He plays in numerous bands in the tri-state area, including 2 Years Apart and Gray Fox, whose recordings he produces (tracks are available on iTunes).

Also, with the assistance of sound designer **Ren Manley**, Fox will be able take the already existing soundscape created by the first production. Manley, who is currently designing the world premiere of *Asymmetric*, received great praise for her sound design work for New City's March production *Terrorism*, a show where "the production values are impressively high" according to the Philadelphia Inquirer. Additionally, the rest of the production staff has been brought back to remount this production.

During the 2011 Philadelphia Fringe Festival, the City Paper described the dual poetic pieces as "seamless bond of words, motion, and sound" and hailed the production as "a soaring soul plunge" and noting that "Russ Widdall performs both [monologues] with intensity and humor." Stage Magazine called Russ Widdall's performance as "tour-de-force portrayal of a tormented soul at two stages of life" in "this first-rate production."

The show runs less than an hour with one intermission. Each ticket includes a complimentary beer, glass of wine or other beverage. Additional drinks can be purchased at the theatre. All of the proceeds from this remounted production go to support the inception of New City's reading series, *Voices for a New City*, which will start in the fall of the 2012-13 season. The reading series will feature young new playwrights' works and be artistically directed and administered by recent college graduates to give them a forum to develop their voices as artists.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR PRESS TICKETS: Contact publicist Ginger Dayle at [Publicity@NewCityStage.org](mailto:Publicity@NewCityStage.org). You can also visit the production page for photos and media related to the show at <http://www.newcitystage.org/1112-savagelove-about.html>.

***All complimentary press tickets should be requested at least 24 hours in advance.***

ABOUT THE SHOW:

***SAVAGE/LOVE*** and ***TONGUES***

Written & Conceived by Sam Shepard & Joseph Chaikin

Performed by Russ Widdall\* and Josh Fox

\*Denotes member of Actors' Equity Association.

5 performances only:

Saturday	May 26 at 11 PM	<b><i>Opening Night</i></b>
Sunday	May 27 at 6 PM	
Monday	May 28 at 8 PM	
Saturday	June 2 at 11 PM	
Sunday	June 3 at 1 PM	

Adrienne Theatre Second Stage  
2030 Sansom Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Production staff:

Stage Manager                      Janelle Caso \*

Scenic Design                      S. Cory Palmer  
Sound Design                      Ren Manley  
Lighting Design                  Matt Sharp  
Costume & Properties Design   Amy Chmielewski  
Production Management & PR   Ginger Dayle

About New City Stage Company:

New City Stage Company, founded in 2006, is dedicated to presenting high quality professional theatre that engages audiences on a variety of levels; not only entertaining them but also encouraging awareness of issues relevant to the community. We draw our season from contemporary and classical works, with a special focus on including Philadelphia premiers from playwrights whose work and stories are not normally found in the region.

Also being performed by New City Stage Company at the Adrienne Theatre Second Stage:

***ASYMMETRIC***

A world premiere by Mac Rogers  
Directed by Russ Widdall  
May 17 to June 10, 2012  
Opening Night: Saturday, May 19, 2012 at 8 PM

Starring Kevin Bergen\*, Ross Beschler\*, Kim Carson\* and Eric Rolland\*.

\*Denotes member of Actors' Equity Association.

There is a mole on the Fifth Floor. Sometimes finding a mole is the easy part. To exterminate a mole takes guts...it takes guile...it takes extreme prejudice. And the only way to come out on top is to be...asymmetric.

New City is thrilled to close our sixth season with our very first commissioned play – a gut-wrenching espionage thriller from New York City scribe Mac Rogers.

Asymmetric takes a long dark look at the chilling outcome of a life in black ops. Josh was the top interrogator on the Fifth Floor, an elite anti-terrorist intelligence wing of the CIA. At least he was until it all fell apart and he burned out and landed in a bottle. But now he has one more chance to redeem himself, to put his life and his career back on track, but to do so could mean destroying the only person who ever really mattered to him.

More information about this production, including photos and media, can be found here:

<http://www.newcitystage.org/1112-asymmetric-about.html>

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