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Neil LaBute and Some Girls Join The Geffen Playhouse's 07/08 Season

Award-Winning Playwright Directs the West Coast Premiere of *Some Girl(s)* in The Geffen's Audrey Skirball Kenis Theater

LOS ANGELES, September 12, 2007 — Playwright Neil LaBute is a self-confessed perpetual editor who “can’t help tinkering with (his) work.” Perhaps that’s one of the reasons why after his play *Some Girl(s)* opened strong in London (directed by David Grinley) and subsequently had a successful run in New York (directed by Jo Bonney), LaBute is bringing his unapologetic romance to the Geffen Playhouse with himself at the helm. Set to open on February 6, 2008, *Some Girl(s)* is the second production on the Geffen’s Audrey Skirball Kenis Theater in which the playwright is also the director (writer/director Jane Anderson’s *The Quality of Life* opens on October 10).

“I think it will be a treat to spend some more time with *Some Girl(s)*,” said LaBute. “And I actually like these folks – even Guy, who if you’re not careful runs the risk of being pretty unlikable. I’m hoping to get the audience to walk out thinking ‘hey, even self-serving deceitful shiteheads deserve some love too.’”

An apropos choice for the Geffen’s female-focused season, *Some Girl(s)* is the story of a guy (fittingly dubbed Guy) who travels between non-descript hotel rooms meeting with the girls of his past and searching for ... something. Originally, LaBute’s work was set for the mainstage as part of the playhouse’s 08/09 season, but after LaBute’s production of *Fat Pig* appeared in the Audrey last year, the playwright became enamored with the intimacy of the smaller space.

“Neil is the type of artist that we want to have around all the time,” said Geffen Playhouse Producing Director Gil Cates. “He’s a completely participatory, hands-on, feet in the mud kind of guy – he does our Talk Back sessions, he enjoys rewriting his shows even though they’ve already been produced, and actors love to work with him. In artistic programming, there’s always a bit of hesitancy to do works by the same artist so close together, but when the opportunity to have Neil direct come up, we made the decision in a New York minute.”

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SOME GIRL(S) (*West Coast premiere*)

By Neil LaBute

Directed by Neil LaBute

Show runs January 29 through March 9, 2008

Previews: January 29 to February 5

Opening Night: February 6, 2008

ABOUT THE GEFFEN PLAYHOUSE

Awarded the *Preservation Award* by the Los Angeles Conservancy, the *Award of Excellence* from the Society of American Registered Architects, and the *Architectural Award of Excellence* by the Los Angeles Business Council for its acclaimed 2005, \$19 million renovation, the Geffen Playhouse begins its 12th season in 2007/2008, enjoying its stature as a leading West Coast theater company and the crown jewel of Los Angeles theater.

Noted for its intimacy and celebrated for its eclectic mix of classic and contemporary plays, provocative new works and musicals, the Geffen continues to present a body of work that has garnered national recognition.

Named in honor of entertainment mogul and philanthropist David Geffen, who donated one of the largest gifts ever made to an already-constructed theater, the company is headed by Producing Director and President of the Board Gilbert (Gil) Cates, Artistic Director Randall Arney and Managing Director Stephen Eich, and has produced eight world premieres, four Tony, four Pulitzer, and seven Obie-award winning shows in its 12 season history.

Proudly associated with UCLA, the Geffen welcomes an audience of more than 130,000 each year, and maintains an extensive education and outreach program, designed to engage young people and the community at large in the arts. For more information, please visit geffenplayhouse.com.

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