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The Geffen Playhouse Brings Together Seven Award-Winning Playwrights in One Exclusive Evening

*Fundraiser Highlights Artists from the Theater's 07/08 Season:
Jane Anderson, Daniel Beaty, Marcus Hummon, Neil LaBute,
Donald Margulies, Adrian Pasdar and Joan Rivers*

LOS ANGELES, December 20, 2007 — The event may be entitled “We♥Playwrights,” but playwriting skills are just one of many things to “heart” about the artists speaking at the Geffen Playhouse’s upcoming fundraiser. The featured artists have written and directed for both film and television, recorded solo albums, starred on stage as well as both the big and small screens, won Emmys, Obies, Ovation and a Grammy and, most notably, wrote a play that is part of the Geffen Playhouse’s current season. On January 11, 2008, Geffen Playhouse Artistic Director Randall Arney will moderate an audience Q&A with all seven of this season’s provocative playwrights: Jane Anderson (*The Quality of Life*), Daniel Beaty (*Emergency*), Marcus Hummon (*Atlanta*), Neil LaBute (*Some Girl(s)*), Donald Margulies (*The Elephant in the Room*), Adrian Pasdar (*Atlanta*) and Joan Rivers (*Joan Rivers: A Work in Progress By a Life in Progress*).

Following the Q&A portion of the evening, the audience will be invited to continue their conversations in a more intimate fashion during a mix and mingle with the playwrights and Geffen Playhouse artistic staff. Not only does the “We ♥ Playwrights” event provide attendees with rare access to award-winning artists, but the evening also helps raise funds for the Geffen Playhouse’s education and outreach programs. Under the umbrella of “Geffen’s Stage for Any Age,” these programs reached nearly 26,000 students, partners and community members last year, and include :

- CREATE, which provides seniors and low-income community members with access to customized workshops, free performance tickets and post-show discussions
- Encore School Tours, which brings live performances of professional productions to public schools
- Annenberg Student Matinees, which provides free tickets and transportation to special performances of the Playhouse’s mainstage productions to public school students
- Saturday Scene, which introduces local families to reduced-price, family-oriented productions at the Geffen.

- Talk Back Tuesdays, which is a free program that gives theater attendees the opportunity to stay after a performance and participate in a discussion with the actors, director and/or playwright every Tuesday evening during the course of a run

Tickets for this interactive evening, which is sponsored by Audi and Los Angeles Magazine, begin at \$50 and can be purchased through the theater's donor relations department at 310-208-2028.

CALENDAR LISTING:

WE ♥ PLAYWRIGHTS

Friday, January 11, 2008

8pm – 9pm Interactive Q&A

9pm – 10pm Mix & Mingle

Moderated by: Randall Arney
Featuring:** Jane Anderson
Daniel Beaty
Marcus Hummon
Neil LaBute
Donald Margulies
Adrian Pasdar
Joan Rivers

***Please note: The artistic line-up is subject to change*

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.

EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:

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