

**For Immediate Release**

**Stage Left Theatre Company** • 3408 N. Sheffield, Chicago, IL 60657  
773.883.8830 phone • 773.472.1336 fax • [www.stagelefttheatre.com](http://www.stagelefttheatre.com)  
**Press Contact: Laura Blegen, 312.371.6471, [laura@stagelefttheatre.com](mailto:laura@stagelefttheatre.com)**



**Stage Left Theatre presents the World Premiere of**  
***The Day of Knowledge***  
**by David Alan Moore**  
February 24 – March 28, 2008

*Chicago, December 12, 2008* – Stage Left Theatre continues its 27<sup>th</sup> season with the World Premiere of ***The Day of Knowledge*** by ensemble playwright David Alan Moore, directed by ensemble director Drew Martin (Moore and Martin are currently also serving as interim co-artistic directors). Written in response to the 2004 school standoff in Russia which claimed the lives of over 340 people (including more than 100 children), ***The Day of Knowledge*** springs out of tragedy into a fantastical meditation on grief, hope and renewal. ***The Day of Knowledge*** opens Tuesday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM, and runs through March 28<sup>th</sup>.

**THE PLAY**

Forty days after an unimaginable trauma, survivors and families are still haunted by volatile memories of the three-day standoff. As they struggle to mourn the loved ones they've lost and to rebuild their shattered lives, their paths collide in a single night. An act of charity threatens to divide a husband and wife; a single mother searches obsessively for her lost daughter; and a woman from the provinces claims an as-yet unidentified child who hasn't spoken since the explosive end of the hostage crisis. Above and around them all, something is... watching. ***The Day of Knowledge*** explores the human spirit's capacity for healing and hope in the face of overwhelming tragedy.

An exciting new voice in Chicago theatre, playwright David Alan Moore received a Jeff Award for Outstanding New Work for Stage Left's 2006 production of *In Times of War*. Director Drew Martin has also received numerous Jeff nominations and awards, including one for Director - Play for *Leander Stillwell* at Stage Left.

**TICKETS, DATES & INFORMATION**

***The Day of Knowledge*** runs Thursdays through Saturdays at 8:00 PM, Sundays at 3:00 PM from 2/26/09 through 3/28/09. Tickets are \$20 on Thursdays, \$22 on Fridays and Sundays, and \$25 on Saturdays. Opening Night is Tuesday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM and tickets are \$25. Previews are 2/14, 2/19, 2/20, 2/21 and 2/23 at 8:00 PM; and 2/15 at 3 PM. Preview tickets are \$10. Running time is approximately two hours including one intermission. Student Rush tickets are 50% off any remaining tickets ten minutes before show (if available), and senior and group discounts are also available. \$5 tickets for industry professionals are available on the first two Thursdays of the run, 2/26 & 3/5. Tickets may be purchased by calling the box office at 773.883.8830 or online at [www.stagelefttheatre.com](http://www.stagelefttheatre.com). Stage Left

**3408 North Sheffield • Chicago, IL 60657 • 773.883.8830**

[laura@stagelefttheatre.com](mailto:laura@stagelefttheatre.com)

[www.stagelefttheatre.com](http://www.stagelefttheatre.com)

Theatre is located at 3408 N. Sheffield Ave. in Chicago. Street, metered and paid lot parking is available. The theatre is handicapped and CTA accessible via the Belmont El (Red & Brown) & Addison El (Red) stops.

Media comps, photos, videos and interviews are available by contacting Laura Blegen at 773.883.8830 ext. 2 (office), 312.371.6471 (cell) or [laura@stagelefttheatre.com](mailto:laura@stagelefttheatre.com). Hi-res photos, this release and archived releases and photos will be available at [www.stagelefttheatre.com/press.html](http://www.stagelefttheatre.com/press.html).

### **SPECIAL EVENTS**

Stage Left continues its popular **Sunday Symposium** program. Every Sunday matinee is followed immediately by a discussion with the artists about the issues raised in the production. The program furthers Stage Left's mission of producing plays that raise debate and challenge perspectives on political and social issues. Sunday Symposia are free to the public and, when possible, feature the actors, director and playwright of the production, as well as other invited guests and experts, engaging in lively discussion with audience members.

### **THE PEOPLE**

**David Alan Moore** (playwright) is a Chicago-based playwright, freelance writer, Interim Co-Artistic Director of Stage Left Theatre, and a Resident Playwright at Chicago Dramatists. His play, ***The Day Of Knowledge***, was named a Semi-Finalist for the 2008 National Playwrights Conference at the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center. David's full-length drama, *In Times Of War*, received its world premiere in October 2006 at Stage Left Theatre (directed by Ann Filmer), and was a recipient of the 2007 Joseph Jefferson Non-Equity Award for Outstanding New Work. *In Times Of War* was also named a Semi-Finalist for the 2006 National Playwrights Conference, a Finalist in the Reva Shiner Full-Length Play Contest at the Bloomington Playwrights Project, and won First Prize in the 2005 Arch and Bruce Brown Foundation Playwriting Contest. His short play, *Cinderella Checks Her Watch*, was a finalist for the 2008 Heideman Award sponsored by the Actors Theatre of Louisville. Along with the short plays *Dinner Redux* and *These Things*, *Cinderella Checks Her Watch* has been published in the literary journal, *Crawdad*. Looking ahead, David's one-act play, *Unnamed Time Play*, will be included in an upcoming production of short plays in Chicago, and his full-length play, *Safe*, will be featured in Stage Left's LeapFest 6 in May 2009.

**Drew Martin** (director) is happy to be working once again with frequent collaborator, David Alan Moore. Drew has worked for over 20 years in Chicago theatre as a director, producer, finance manager, designer, technician and educator. He was Artistic Director of Stage Left in the 1990's and was recently again named Interim Co-Artistic Director with Mr. Moore. Among the many shows Drew has directed in Chicago, ten have been nominated by the Joseph Jefferson Awards Committee and have won six Jeff Awards in all. Drew himself earned a Jeff Award for Outstanding Director for Stage Left's production of *Leander Stillwell* and was nominated in the same category for *Police Deaf Near Far*. His passion for new work is reflected in World Premiere productions of *One Fine Day*, *Prairie Lights*, *Police Deaf Near Far*, *Sing For Your Supper*, *Watchdog*, *Tasters Choice*, *Dapples and Grays*, *Rage of the Ages*, *Arthur's Dream* and *Maxwell Street*. Other directing work includes, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Twelfth Night*, *Julius Caesar*, *Out Of Spite: Tales of Survival in Sarajevo*, *Escape From Happiness*, *In White America*, *Theatre II*, *Bocon*, *We The*

**3408 North Sheffield • Chicago, IL 60657 • 773.883.8830**

[laura@stagelefttheatre.com](mailto:laura@stagelefttheatre.com)

[www.stagelefttheatre.com](http://www.stagelefttheatre.com)

*People* and *Kid Dinosaur*. He has also managed finances for several commercial and non-profit producers, including Court Theatre, Performing Arts Chicago and Perkins Productions/Royal George Theatre (including the Broadway production of *I Hate Hamlet*). Drew produced two episodes of Magic Door Television Theatre and has taught theatre at several high schools and colleges. He is a graduate of Dartmouth College and also studied in London with the Royal Shakespeare Company.

The **cast** includes SLT ensemble members Cat Dean (Serafima), Cory Krebsbach (Alexei), and Erin Myers (Marina), as well as Julie Cowden (Anna), Lauren Ashley Fisher (the Seraph), Amy Harmon (Irina), and Mark Pracht (Borik).

The **staff** includes SLT ensemble members John Kohn III (lighting design), Ashley Nelson (stage management), Brian Plocharczyk (assistant direction) and Zev Valancy (dramaturgy), with guest artists Cecil Averett (sound design), Tramon Crofford (properties design), Kimberly Morris (costume design), Andrei Onegin (scenic design), and Robin Zelinski (production management).

### **ABOUT STAGE LEFT**

Founded in 1982, Stage Left Theatre is committed to nurturing voices for the American theatre by developing and producing plays that raise debate and challenge perspectives on political and social issues. Through a full subscription season and Downstage Left, one of Chicago's most prolific new play development programs, Stage Left strives to bring high-quality new work and world premieres to the Chicago stage. Over the last seven years, the Joseph Jefferson Committee has honored Stage Left world premieres with six nominations and three awards for Best New Work.

### **UPCOMING**

- ◆ **LeapFest 6** – See what's next in Chicago theatre  
LeapFest's first five years have so far graduated ten plays to world premiere productions in Chicago and beyond, with three of these receiving the Jeff Award for Best New Work. Join us for the sixth smash year and see what's next in Chicago Theatre. Five new politically minded plays will "take the leap" towards production in the three week event. Each play will be presented in rotating repertory, and performances are followed by a discussion with the playwright and director.

**Runs: May 12 – May 30, 2009**

**First Night: Tuesday, May 12 at 7:30 PM**

#####

**3408 North Sheffield • Chicago, IL 60657 • 773.883.8830**

[laura@stagelefttheatre.com](mailto:laura@stagelefttheatre.com)

[www.stagelefttheatre.com](http://www.stagelefttheatre.com)