

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THEATRE VERTIGO PRESENTS
A Bright Room Called Day
by Tony Kushner, author of *Angels in America*

*"Some playwrights want to change the world. Some want to revolutionize theater.
Tony Kushner is that rarity of rarities: a writer who has the promise to do both."*
The New York Times

MORE INFORMATION: Melody Bridges- Press Contact
(503) 228-0605, melody@theatrevertigo.com

PLAY: *A Bright Room Called Day*

PLAYWRIGHT: Tony Kushner

DIRECTED BY: Buck Skelton

PRODUCED BY: Theatre Vertigo

SHOW DATES: PREVIEW- Wednesday, November 24, "Pay What You Will"
OPENING NIGHT- Friday, November 26 (Reception to follow)
RUNS- November 10- Jan 1, 2005

DAYS AND TIMES: Thursday, Friday, Saturdays at 8 pm; Sundays at 4 pm

CAST:	Zillah Katz	Camille Cettina
	Agnes Egging	Melody Bridges
	Vealtninc Husz	Todd Van Voris
	Gregor Bazwald	Gary Norman
	Paulinka Erdnuss	Julie Starbird
	Annabella Gotchling	Nanette Pettit
	Traum	Mario Calcagno
	Rosa Malek	Katherine Little
	Die Alte	Skeeter Greene
Herr Swetts	Darius Pierce	

TICKETS: \$15 at the door, \$13 online; Thursdays are "Pay What You Will"
Reservations phone: 503-306-0870
Purchase tickets online at www.theatrevertigo.org

LOCATION: In the Theatre Noir at Theater! Theatre!
3430 SE Belmont, Portland, Oregon

DIRECTIONS: Located on the corner of SE Belmont and SE 34th Avenue

MORE INFORMATION: On the web at <http://www.theatrevertigo.org> or by phone 503-306-0870

LISTING TEXT

Theatre Vertigo presents *A Bright Room Called Day* by Tony Kushner (author of *Angels in America*). A group of artists and political activists struggle to preserve themselves in pre-Nazi Germany as a contemporary American woman sees history repeating itself in the current administration. "I read the histories of Germany... I read the *Times*. I sense parallels. Just call me paranoid." Nov. 26th through Jan. 1st, Thursdays - Saturdays at 8pm, Sundays at 4pm. Tickets: \$15 at the door, \$13 online; Thursdays are "Pay What You Will". Tickets and reservations: 503-306-0870, www.theatrevertigo.org.

DESCRIPTION*

Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Tony Kushner's powerful portrayal of individual resolution, irresolution and dissolution in the face of political catastrophe, *A Bright Room Called Day* follows a group of artists and political activists struggling to preserve themselves in 1930s Berlin as the Weimar Republic surrenders to the seduction of fascism. Often exquisitely lyrical, always exhilaratingly intelligent, the poetic world of the play moves beyond the bounds of historical reality with the morally outraged outpourings of a contemporary expatriot woman living in Berlin. Her fury at the current administration brings into stark relief the discomfiting similarities between then and now, and challenges us to remember that *although evil may seem inevitable, it is never irresistible*. "How come the only people who ever say 'evil' anymore are... a certain failed oilman turned President...? We got no reason to relax... the only people sleeping soundly are the guys who're giving the rest of us bad dreams... Listen to your nightmares."

*Some content courtesy of The Theatre Communications Group

ABOUT THEATRE VERTIGO

Established in 1997, Theatre Vertigo is a not-for-profit, non-equity, ensemble theatre company presenting an annual season at the Theatre Noir in the landmark Theater! Theatre! building. Under the artistic direction of Nanette Pettit, Theatre Vertigo continues to develop a challenging and diverse repertoire with a distinctly Northwest style, performing contemporary and premiere works that illuminate the human experience. Dedicated to attracting a new generation of theatregoers by presenting plays that are both timely and affordable, the Theatre Vertigo has been touted as "Portland's premiere acting ensemble."

For more information on Theatre Vertigo, please call 503-306-0870, or visit <http://www.theatrevertigo.org>. **Members of the media are encouraged to phone 503-228-0605 for additional information.**

ABOUT TONY KUSHNER*

Tony Kushner intends his plays to be part of a greater political movement; his work is concerned with moral responsibility during politically repressive times. Kushner has a way of bringing the lofty into the sphere of the approachable by creating everyday characters who collide both comically and tragically on stage. The gay, Jewish socialist raised in Louisiana and educated at Columbia and NYU most enjoys addressing audiences that are receptive to ideas for change and progress. In his speaking engagements and lectures, Kushner talks about weighty philosophical and political topics—without being didactic or patronizing. And because he genuinely respects the intelligence of both his students and his audience, it's truly rousing to hear Tony Kushner speak about timeless matters such as faith, death, and life.



mailing address 2727 nw raleigh portland, or 97210
phone and reservations 503.306.0870
website www.theatrevertigo.org
venue Theater!Theatre! 2420 se belmont portland,or

Tony Kushner's seven-hour, two-part, Broadway production of *Angels in America: A Gay Fantasia on National Themes* is a masterful epic- it has received a Pulitzer Prize, two Tony Awards, two Drama Desk Awards, the Evening Standard Award, two Olivier Award Nominations, the New York Critics Circle Award, the Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award, and the LAMBDA Literary Award for Drama. In 1998, London's National Theatre selected *Angels in America* as one of the ten best plays of the 20th century. About *Angels in America*, Newsweek magazine wrote, "The entire work is the broadest, deepest, most searching American play of our time." The 2003 HBO television version of this play was directed by Mike Nichols and featured actors Al Pacino, Meryl Streep, and Emma Thompson.

Tony Kushner's other plays include *Hydrotaphia*, *A Bright Room Called Day*, *Slavs!: Thinking About the Longstanding Problems of Virtue and Happiness*, and adaptations of Goethe's *Stella*, Brecht's *The Good Person of Setzuan*, Ansky's *The Dybbuk*, and Corneille's *The Illusion*. In addition, Kushner has received grants from the New York State Council on the Arts, the NEA, the Whiting Foundation, and the American Academy of Arts and Letters; he has also received a Lila Wallace/Reader's Digest Fellowship, and a medal for Cultural Achievement from the National Foundation for Jewish Culture. Tony Kushner's recent projects include the play *Henry Box Brown or the Mirror of Slavery*; two musical plays, *St. Cecilia or The Power of Music* and *Caroline or Change*; and the incredibly prescient *Homebody/Kabul*. In late 2003, Kushner published a picture book entitled *Brundibar*, based on the American version of the opera of the same name which he crafted with author and illustrator Maurice Sendak. He also wrote the text for a new survey book of Sendak's illustrations and stage designs entitled [The Art of Maurice Sendak: 1980 to the Present](#). Addressing current political topics in his two most recent works, Tony Kushner edited [Wrestling with Zion: Progressive Jewish-American Responses to the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict](#), and wrote [Save Your Democratic Soul!: Rants, Screeds, and Other Public Utterances](#).

*Courtesy of The Steven Barclay Agency, <http://www.barclayagency.com/kushner.html>

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

Thursday	November 25	8pm	Preview- Pay What You Will
Friday	November 26	8pm	Opening Night- Reception following performance
Saturday	November 27	8pm	
Sunday	November 28	7pm	
Thursday	December 2	8pm	Pay What You Will
Friday	December 3	8pm	
Saturday	December 4	8pm	
Sunday	December 5	7pm	
Thursday	December 9	8pm	Pay What You Will
Friday	December 10	8pm	
Saturday	December 11	8pm	
Sunday	December 12	7pm	
Thursday	December 16	8pm	Pay What You Will
Friday	December 17	8pm	
Saturday	December 18	8pm	
Sunday	December 19	7pm	
Thursday	December 23	8pm	Pay What You Will
Friday	December 24	8pm	
Saturday	December 25	8pm	
Sunday	December 26	7pm	
Thursday	December 30	8 pm	Pay What You Will
Friday	December 31	8 pm	
Saturday	January 1, '05	8pm	Closing Night

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