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LINCOLN CENTER THEATER  
ANNOUNCES NEW PROGRAM DEVOTED TO WORK  
BY EMERGING PLAYWRIGHTS, DIRECTORS AND DESIGNERS

**LCT3**

TO BE INAUGURATED WITH TWO PRODUCTIONS NEXT SEASON  
AT THE DUKE ON 42<sup>ND</sup> STREET<sup>SM</sup>

This fall, Lincoln Center Theater (under the direction of Andre Bishop, Artistic Director, and Bernard Gersten, Executive Producer) will begin a new programming initiative – **LCT3** – which will be devoted to producing the work of emerging playwrights, directors and designers. **LCT3** will begin during the 2008/2009 season with two productions at The Duke on 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, a New 42<sup>nd</sup> Street<sup>®</sup> Project, (229 W. 42 Street). The first, **CLAY**, a one-man hip-hop musical written and performed by Matt Sax and directed by Eric Rosen, will begin a five week engagement in October at The Duke. The second production will follow in early 2009.

Citing the need to develop strong relationships with a new generation of artists, and recognizing the frustrations that young playwrights have with the current system of readings and workshops, **LCT3** will offer its artists fully staged, modestly budgeted productions. All tickets to **LCT3** productions will be priced at an affordable \$20.00.

“Opportunities create artists,” commented Andre Bishop. “And it is essential that institutional theaters provide as many intelligent opportunities as possible because that is how theater artists grow – in production.”

Lincoln Center Theater’s long term plans for **LCT3** call for the creation of a permanent venue to present the work of these artists; to that end a 99-seat theater will be built in or near Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts. For the first three years, until its new theater is ready, **LCT3** will present its productions each year at an off-site theater.

Paige Evans, former Associate Artistic Director/Programming at the Manhattan Theatre Club, has joined Lincoln Center Theater’s Artistic Staff as Director of **LCT3**. She will work with LCT Artistic Director Bishop in producing the new program.

**CLAY** tells the coming-of-age story of Clifford, a suburban boy who escapes his fractured family and finds a mentor in Sir John, a master of the spoken word. Clifford becomes hip-hop star Clay, but he discovers that he can't escape his past. The U.S. Premiere of CLAY was produced in 2006 by About Face Theatre and Lookingglass Theatre Company, Chicago, Illinois.

For additional information and details on **LCT3** and its first production **Clay**, visit [www.lct.org](http://www.lct.org).

This spring Lincoln Center Theater is currently producing *Rodgers & Hammerstein's South Pacific*, directed by Bartlett Sher at the Vivian Beaumont Theater and Paul Rudnick's *The New Century*, directed by Nicholas Martin in the Mitzi E. Newhouse Theater.

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### **About the organization: The New 42<sup>nd</sup> Street®**

Founded in 1990, **The New 42<sup>nd</sup> Street** is an independent, nonprofit organization charged with long-term responsibility for seven historic theaters on 42<sup>nd</sup> Street between Seventh and Eighth Avenues. In addition to running **The New Victory®**, **The New 42<sup>nd</sup> Street** built and operates the **New 42<sup>nd</sup> Street Studios** - a ten-story building of rehearsal studios, offices and a 199-seat theater named **The Duke on 42<sup>nd</sup> Street<sup>SM</sup>** - for national and international performing arts companies. Since its opening on June 21, 2000, the **New 42<sup>nd</sup> Street Studios** has been fully occupied by both nonprofit and commercial theater, dance and opera companies. With these institutions and the other properties under its guardianship, **The New 42<sup>nd</sup> Street** plays a pivotal role in fostering the continued revival of this famous street at the Crossroads of the World.

### **About New 42<sup>nd</sup> Street Studios**

Designed by Charles Platt and Ray Dovell of Platt Byard Dovell Architects, the **New 42<sup>nd</sup> Street Studios** opened on June 21, 2000. This 84,000 square foot building consists of five floors of rehearsal studios, three floors of office space for nonprofit performing arts companies; and a 199-seat theater appreciatively named **The Duke on 42<sup>nd</sup> Street<sup>SM</sup>** in recognition of a generous grant from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. The largely glass building was conceived as a "structure of light" in collaboration with lighting designer Anne Militello. An innovative system of multicolored lights play across the façade of the building, with a translucent "light screen" encasing the space for **The Duke on 42<sup>nd</sup> Street** and a 175-foot wand of light soaring skyward at the west end of the building. By day, the building stands as a work of post-modern architecture; by night, it is a fantasy of light and motion, hinting at the creative processes transpiring within.