

February 7, 2003

Wings Flies Again

Quest is holding auditions for performers interested in joining the cast of *Wings*. We are preparing the show for its European premier in Vienna, Austria. The show will later travel to the Fringe Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland. The audition announcement is posted on our website at <http://www.quest4arts.org/productions/wings/auditions.htm>.

The water falls. at Olney

Quest's production of Willy Conley's play, *The water falls.* will run from March 6 – 15 at Olney Theatre's Multz-Gudelsky Theatre Lab. We are excited to be at Olney. Their staff has been very supportive. Olney is one of two state theaters of Maryland, OTC is situated on 14 acres in the heart of the beautiful Washington-Baltimore-Frederick "triangle," within easy access of all three cities. For more information about Olney Theatre and for directions, visit their website at www.olneytheatre.org.

Directed by the National Theatre of the Deaf's Artistic Director, Mike Lamitola, *The water falls.* features a marvelous cast with Andres Otorola as a young deaf man tormented by the loss of his grandfather played by Mike Deninger. Mike Harper plays the father and Donna Eads Salamoff is the mother.

The water falls. reflects Quest's commitment to creating, producing, and presenting theatre that comes from a visual base as well as Quest's commitment to supporting the work of deaf and hard of hearing playwrights. As with all Quest productions, we are continuing to explore and experiment with various production elements. We'll be updating you with journal entries to give you insight into our progress. Hey, you don't learn if you don't take risks.

For more about *The water falls.* and ticket information, check out the website at <http://www.quest4arts.org/productions/currentshow.htm>.

Playwrights' Retreat

Dates have been set for the Quest Playwrights' Retreat (May 18 – May 31). We will be selecting three deaf or hard of hearing playwrights who will work with a team of instructors and an ensemble of actors to develop new works from a visual base. Willy Conley directs the project which is conducted in cooperation with the Gallaudet University Theatre Arts Department. More information about the retreat will be available shortly.

Lamitola Residency Begins

Mike Lamitola began teaching classes this week at Eleanor Roosevelt High School in Greenbelt, Maryland. Sign Language teacher Elaine Aiello writes, "I just LOVE having Mike for my classes. He's a hit and the kids are looking forward to having him on Tuesday. I also asked him if he could come to my UMD class and again the students had plenty of laughs." Elaine's students are planning to attend a performance of *The water falls*.

Liz's Journal

Liz Hill, chairperson for the Quest Community Outreach Committee, is writing a weekly journal about *The water falls*. production process. You can read her journal entries on our website. We thought it would be fun to give you some insight to how the show comes together. Mind you, I said some insight. You probably don't want all of the gory details. Nevertheless, you are important to us and we want you to feel a part of what we are doing. Speaking of being of part of Quest, Liz is looking for volunteers for a variety of tasks. You can contact her at volunteer@quest4arts.org

Fringe Factor

I'll be heading to Edinburgh in a little over week to attend the Fringe Factor Conference. The conference is designed for first timers to the Fringe Festival. While there, I'll also be meeting with representatives from the deaf community and Donaldson's College (school for the deaf). I also will be meeting with the inimitable Richard Demarco, one of the leading producers at the Fringe. Richard's Demarco European Arts Foundation is partnering with Quest to present performing artists from the Deaf Way II International Arts Festival at the Fringe next summer.

That's it for now. Be sure to plan on coming to see *The water falls*.

Tim