

Couples Counseling



A play by
CAREY LOVELACE

COUPLES COUNSELING (“...UNIQUE, THRILLING...”) LAUNCHES EUROPEAN PREMIERE AT LEGENDARY EDINBURGH FESTIVAL FRINGE

VENUE 13, August 8-22 2009

July 29, 2009 - New York, NY—Award-winning playwright **Carey Lovelace**’s hilarious, innovative *Couples Counseling* will play a two-week run this August at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe—the world’s most celebrated theatre event. Produced by New York-based Loose Change Productions, this quirky comedy, with a highly original approach to language, explores psychotherapy, Manhattan-style. Tony Award-winning actress Patricia Elliott has called it “unique, thrilling, wonderful...a dance of interruptions, gestures, helpless lost-and-found...And it is very, very funny.”

Couples Counseling, directed by internationally produced Judith Stevens-Ly, stars renowned Broadway, television and film actor Jack Gilpin. It charts a journey through the tribulations of a love triangle between a psychiatrist and a couple, played by James B. Kennedy and Anna Margaret Hollyman, whose relationship is wildly unraveling. Asking questions about the healing nature of betrayal, it has been compared to the work of Harold Pinter, Samuel Beckett, and David Mamet.

The play, hailed as “magnificent...a combination of Freud, Wycherley, and Mozart,” will be presented daily at 5:45 p.m. starting Saturday, August 8. **Venue 13** is located at the bottom of the Royal Mile in the center of Edinburgh. (No performance Monday, August 17.) It is being co-produced by California Institute of the Arts. Originally developed in New York City at Ensemble Studio Theatre, last fall it played to sold-out houses at the Manhattan Repertory Theatre (New York City).

Carey Lovelace (playwright), based in New York City, has had productions at Ensemble Studio Theatre, the BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theatre Workshop, Bay Street Theatre, Alleyway Theatre, REDCAT Theatre in Los Angeles, and the Samuel French One-Act Festival. She has been a finalist, semi-finalist, and has won honorable mentions in numerous competitions, including the Maxim Mazundar One-Act Play Competition and the Samuel French One-Act Festival. The O’Connor Theatre in Oxford, Mississippi presented an evening of her one-act plays and she was one of 17 playwrights selected for the 2004 Edward Albee Festival in Alaska. She has a degree in music composition from California Institute of the Arts. She is also a journalist who has written about the art world for over a decade and a half.

Australian born **Judith Stevens-Ly** (director), also based in New York City, has nurtured new plays as Artistic Director of the Hysterick Theatre Company in Tokyo; at Ensemble Studio Theatre, Looking Glass Theatre, Manhattan Theatre Club, HERE Arts Center, Manhattan Theatre Source, and Cherry Lane Theatre in New York City; and at the New York and Philadelphia Fringe Festival. She has been honored as an Invited Featured Artist for the Last Frontier Playwright’s Conference in Alaska three years in a row and is currently a member of its National Advisory Board. She works for the New Plays Program the Kennedy Center ACTF and is an invited dramaturge for the New York Musical Festival. In March 2008 she directed the nationally reviewed premiere of *Anton’s Women* by Donna Banicevich Gera at the Maidment Theatre in Auckland, New Zealand.

Loose Change Productions, founded in 2009 and based in New York City, is dedicated to the promotion of challenging, trans-national performance and theatre that explores new creative, moral, ethical, and political territory.

Venue 13, Lochend Close at Canongate, Edinburgh, UK

August 8-22 at 5:45 p.m. (no performance August 17)

Tickets: Venue 13 Box Office (07074) 201313 or www.edfringe.com

For more information, please contact: Michelle Karem, (001) 212-566-2929 or loosechangeproductionsinc@gmail.com

And visit us at: www.loosechangeproductions.org

