

PRESS RELEASE
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For Immediate Release

Contact: Jenny Juhl
Sonoma State University
School of Performing Arts
(707) 664-2325
jenny.juhl@sonoma.edu

Sonoma State University's
Department of Theatre Arts and Dance presents

Urgent Fury

By Allison Moore
Directed by Tori Truss

Have you ever wanted to save your family from *destruction*?

What: Welcome to Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Army wives Mary and Brett try to maintain normalcy as their high-powered officer husbands Stan and Mike deploy during the 1983 U.S. invasion of the tiny island of Grenada. But their kids are hard at work on their own top secret projects which could bring the base to its knees. This dark comedy by one of the country's hottest young playwrights takes no prisoners in its depiction of family psychology, covert operations, and how one Texas Army base desperately tries to avoid going up in flames. In light of the recent shootings at Fort Hood, *Urgent Fury* is uncannily contemporary.

When: *October 15-23, 2010*

Fri, Oct. 15 @ 7:30
Sat, Oct 16 @ 7:30
Sun, Oct. 17 @ 2:00 Post Show Discussion
Tue, Oct 19 @ 7:30
Thu, Oct 21 @ 6:30 *Faculty/Staff Night
Fri, Oct 22 @ 7:30
Sat, Oct 23 @ 7:30

Where: Evert B. Person Theatre is located on campus at Sonoma State University.
1801 E. Cotati Ave, Rohnert Park, CA 94928

How: For tickets or more information visit www.sonoma.edu/tix or call 707-664-2353.
Directions: www.sonoma.edu/performingarts/perf/venues_dir.shtml
General Admission \$16, \$14 FANS (Faculty, Alumni, Seniors), \$9 Students,
SSU Students are Free with a valid student I.D. Group and Family rates available. Contact us!

Points of Interest:

SSU Department of Theatre and Dance is pleased to be a part of the development process for this important new work. SSU presents the first fully-mounted production of *Urgent Fury* which began in a playwriting workshop at the renowned Cherry Lane Theater in New York.

Biographies:

Allison Moore, Playwright:

Allison Moore is a displaced Texan living in Minneapolis. Her play, *Slasher*, was developed with the support of a 2007 Bush Artists Fellowship and a 2008 McKnight Advancement Grant. *Slasher* premiered at the 2009 Humana Festival at the Actors Theatre of Louisville, and is slated for productions in LA, San Francisco, Dallas, Philadelphia, Atlanta, San Antonio, Seattle and St. Louis in the coming year. Allison's most recent play, *Collapse*, was included in Aurora Theater's (Berkeley) 2010 Global Age Project staged reading series. The play will be developed at the 2010 New Harmony project. She is the recipient of two Playwrights' Center Jerome Fellowships, two McKnight Advancement Grants, a Bush Fellowship and the Iowa Arts Fellowship. Allison holds a BFA in Theatre from Southern Methodist University, and an MFA from the University of Iowa Playwrights Workshop.

Urgent Fury, though written prior to the recent shooting tragedies at Fort Hood, uncannily anticipates the tension of a Texas Army base during war, and how it can reach a boiling point.

Playwright Allison Moore's most recent play *Slasher*, a brilliant riff on the horror film genre, was the hit of the 2009 Humana Play Festival at the Actors Theatre of Louisville, the nation's foremost new play festival. *Slasher*'s success has established Moore as a key emerging voice in the American theater.

Director Tori Truss sees this play as neither pro- nor anti- military, but as a way of creating a discussion about "collateral damage" on the home front, both for those who do and for those who don't support American troops abroad.

Urgent Fury will speak to many audiences in its depiction of issues facing military families: fear of losing loved ones, poor government support, separation and frequent transfers, and the challenge of growing roots and finding lasting friendships.

* 5pm Pre-show event with guest speakers and audience Q&A. A light meal, wine and soft drinks will be available for purchase. Early curtain at 6:30pm.

Tori Truss, Director: Before SSU, Tori was involved in educational youth theatre, where she developed curriculum and outreach shows which toured several states. She directed productions with internationally acclaimed Antenna Theater, including *Appearance of Civilization* selected for the SF Chronicle's annual "Top 10" List. She was a founding member of Bloomsburg Theater Ensemble, Pennsylvania. At SSU she directed *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, *Curse of the Starving Class*, and *Fefu and Her Friends*. This summer Tori completed principal roles in two independent features. Her acting teachers include Frank Galati, Alvina Krause, Alice Spivak, and Bud Beyer. Her favorite acting roles include Maggie in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, Lesbia in Shaw's *Getting Married*, Sabina in *Skin of Our Teeth* and most recently Ruella in *Communicating Doors*.

ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE ARTS AND DANCE

In the Department of Theatre Arts and Dance we are committed to creating, teaching, and learning about theatre that enlightens as well as entertains, that explores the values and ideas of many cultures and times, and that contributes to the artistic and personal growth of both participants and audience.

The Theatre Arts program is closely associated with SSU's Music Department, especially in the area of voice and music theatre. The Department of Theatre Arts and Dance and the Music Department together form the School of Performing Arts, which offers over 200 student performances of theatre, dance, and music each year.