



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**THEATER GROTTESCO PREMIERS SHORTS V:
A NEW COLLECTION OF SHORT WORKS**

SANTA FE, N.M.— Theater Grottesco's fifth collection of short works, *SHORTS V*, premieres in Santa Fe, Friday, August 27, 2010, 7 p.m.

SHORTS V, featuring a set made of 35 antique doors, is a production of original plays created by company members, each work a complete story and world unto itself. Theater-goers will see angels dropping from the heavens, lost whales, forlorn astronauts, murderer Gary Gilmore's last days, the largest storm in modern history and maybe even a surprise visit from God.



Grottesco's 12th Night pictured above, began as a short work in 2003

Performing in a uniquely transformed retail space at the Fashion Outlets of Santa Fe mall, Theater Grottesco had been previously using the mall only for storage and rehearsal space for the last three years. Grottesco will also be using the Fashion Outlets of Santa Fe courtyard for pre and post-show festivities. There will be refreshments and screenings of films by - and showcasing - Grottesco artists.

Using a remarkable range of styles, *SHORTS V* is the theatrical equivalent of a collection of short stories, arias, or an animation festival. It allows this award-winning company to work more intimately than on their usual large scale, exploring characters and styles in a tremendously exciting format.

WHAT: Theater Grottesco's *SHORTS V*
WHERE: Fashion Outlets of Santa Fe, 8380 Cerrillos Road, Santa Fe, NM 87507
WHEN: Thursdays – Sundays, August 27 – September 26, 2010, 7 p.m.
Opening Night Gala: Friday, August 27, 7 p.m.,
Catered champagne reception before and after the show
TICKETS: katekita@theatergrottesco.org, 505-474-8400
All Thursday Performances: Pay What You Wish

Founded in 1983 in Paris, France, Theater Grottesco creates a new kind of performance that is visual, explosive and full of surprise. This highly trained ensemble of artists rekindles interest in live performance by juxtaposing classical theatrical styles with a daring, poetic research of culture and imagination, taking audiences to the brink of emotional wonder and soulful reflection.

Theater Grottesco is funded by New Mexico Arts: a division of the Department of Cultural Affairs; the City of Santa Fe Arts Commission and the 1% Lodger's Tax; and the New Mexico Tourism Department. Theater Grottesco is also a participant in the *A-ha! Program*, funded by MetLife and administered by Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national organization for American theatre; and the *New Generations Program*, funded by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and TCG.

Sponsors:

The Fashion Outlets of Santa Fe, managed by the Talisman Corporation;
The Santa Fe New Mexican

INTERVIEWS AND ADDITIONAL IMAGES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

www.theatergrottesco.org

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Theater Grottesco unveiled two collections of *Shorts* during the 1990's (20 pieces total) featuring two short works that later became critically acclaimed full length productions, *The Angels' Cradle*, seen Off-Broadway in 1999 and *This is Life as We Know It...*, which premiered in 2001. Those collections of *Shorts* received the following notices:

"pure joy...Theater Grottesco left viewers wishing for more"

The Tennessean, Nashville

"genuinely refreshing...outrageous moments of theatricality...ridiculous and sublime"

The Oakland Press

"wildly inventive...considerable charms"

The Kansas City Star

"In a time when theater is increasingly synonymous with overproduced and overdesigned extravaganzas, we tend to forget that the essence of true stagecraft is, simply, actors and space. No ensemble embraces that ideal more passionately or produces more indelible results than Theater Grottesco."

The Detroit News

"captivating, scintillating and exhilarating...the U.S.'s most promising theatrical troupe"

The Iowa State Daily

In 2000, The company premiered its third collection of short works, receiving the following notices:

"Theater Grottesco walks on water"

The Santa Fe Reporter

"remarkable...sends a universal shiver down our spines...flawless...inspiring...creates lasting beauty...entire landscapes....wondrous"

THE Magazine

"Theater Grottesco brings us home to a state of grace"

The Albuquerque Journal

In Grottesco's fourth collection (*Keyholes – 2003*), two pieces eventually became full length plays: *Bolt Upright*, 2004, an Irish Ghost Story by Seamus Deane, adapted by Acushla Bastible and Charles Gamble, told by a band of buffoons; and *Grottesco's 12th Night*, 2008, a retelling of Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* adapted by John Flax and told from the servant's perspective. *Keyholes* also included Elizabeth Wiseman's first full choreography: *River Rock Lullaby*; Rod Harrison's *I am Born to Preach the Gospel*, based on the character Hazel Motes from Flannery O'Conner's *Wise Blood*; *The Anniversary* by Anton Chekhov, directed by Kent Kirkpatrick; and Todd Anderson's "*Don of Ceremonies*." Performed in Santa Fe's CCA Warehouse, a spectacular venue renovated by the company for this production, *Keyholes* received the following notices:

"ingenious...riveting...astonishing"

The Santa Fe Reporter

"A must see event"

The Santa Fe New Mexican

"jaw-dropping"

The Fringe Magazine