

SNOWLION

repertory
company



Newsletter

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People Profile



Carolyn Gage is now a veteran of Snowlion Rep's PLAYLAB, having had 2 of her pieces performed in the past year (see more on "Little Sister" in this newsletter). Besides being a playwright, Carolyn is a performer, director, and activist. The author of nine books on lesbian theatre and sixty-five plays, musicals, and one-woman shows, she specializes in non-traditional roles for women, especially those reclaiming famous lesbians whose stories have been distorted or erased from history. She won the 2011 Maine Literary Award in Drama, and in 2009, her collection of plays *The Second Coming of Joan of Arc and Selected Plays* won the Lambda Literary Award in Drama, the top LGBT book award in the US. She has been named "One of the Ten Most Intriguing People in Maine" by Portland Magazine. All of her books and plays are available online at www.carolyngage.com

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Greetings!

We have so much to give thanks for at this time, not the least of which is being part of a close-knit, supportive community of theater professionals. This was made clear at the recent all-hands meeting of theater folk generously hosted by Portland Stage Company to discuss the urgent theater business of the day, such as the space crunch, the need to pool marketing resources, and audience development. Special thanks go to Anita Stewart and Megan Doane for starting a fruitful dialogue and bringing us all together! And a happy Thanksgiving to all!

Sincerely,

Al D'Andrea, Artistic Director
Margit Ahlin, Producing Director
Snowlion Repertory Company



Carolyn Gage's *LITTLE SISTER* at Snowlion Rep's PLAYLAB features outstanding script and performances!



Snowlion Rep's PLAYLAB is just that - a laboratory where playwrights can experiment, test material, and yes, even fail, all outside the scrutiny of the public and with the warm support and generosity of fellow members. But our November presentation, Carolyn Gage's *Little Sister*, felt remarkably like a public performance. First, our dance studio rehearsal space had been hung with performing curtains and had a small audience area set with rows of chairs. Then, the actors themselves dressed appropriately for their roles as modern-day residents of an Arizona reservation. Finally, a native drummer, Patricia Otanah, was present to punctuate certain parts of the script, acting as a fifth character in the play, helping to give atmosphere to the storytelling. The result was magical, reminding us that ultimately, theater is about the actors, the audience, and the story.

Little Sister tells a tale of abuse on a reservation, and the characters' salvation comes from connection to the myths of their tribe, whether that tribe is N'Dee (apache) or butch lesbian. The actors, Linda Shary, Stephanie Ross, Laura Graham, and Angela Moline, threw themselves into their roles, bringing great depth and color to their characters after only 1 rehearsal with director Al D'Andrea. The feedback afterwards was lively and intelligent, and Carolyn was inspired and grateful, stating later on her Facebook page: "It was a playwright's dream come true in terms of casting, staging, and a very, very helpful post-show, moderated feedback session. I can't thank them enough." At Snowlion Rep, we also want to thank the actors, the director, the drummer, and especially Carolyn, for such a thought-provoking and moving piece of theater.



Linda Shary, Angela Moline (top) and Laura Graham (bottom) in "Little Sister."
Photos by Ann Tracy

About Us

Snowlion Rep is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit corporation that relies on your tax-deductible donations to exist. Theater feeds the soul, so "eat local" and support local theater!

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