

Lifeline Theatre Announces Three New Ensemble Members

Lifeline Theatre announces three new ensemble members - **Paul S. Holmquist**, **Katie McLean** and **Phil Timberlake**.

The Lifeline Theatre Artistic Ensemble has been developing new works for the stage for most of its 24 years. Lifeline produces literary adaptations and the occasional new play, most of which are written and directed by members of their Artistic Ensemble. Founded by five Northwestern graduates in 1982, the theater now employs over 150 artists per year. Currently an active group of 20, the ensemble determines Lifeline's artistic programming and provides leadership, support and counsel in the development process.

In addition to the three new members listed above, Lifeline's Artistic Ensemble is led by artistic director Dorothy Milne and consists of Patrick Blashill, Christina Calvit, Victoria Delorio, Alan Donahue, Kevin D. Gawley, Peter Greenberg, James E. Grote, John Hildreth, Elise Kauzlaric, Robert Kauzlaric, Frances Limoncelli, Shole Milos, Sandy Snyder Pietz, Suzanne Plunkett, Elizabeth Powell Shaffer, and Jenifer Tyler.

Paul S. Holmquist has appeared on the Lifeline stage in *Strong Poison* and *The Talisman Ring* (2005), and directed the KidSeries production of *Rikki-Tikki-Tavi and Other 'Just So' Stories*. Other area acting credits include *The General from America*, *The Seagull* and *No End of Blame* with TimeLine; T.S. Eliot's *The Cocktail Party* with Caffeine Theatre; *Toast of the Town* with Factory Theatre, and *The Batting Cage* with Shattered Globe. He is also a Griffin Theatre company member where he has acted in *Ella Enchanted*, *All the Way Home*, *A Night In Mantua* and as the bad kitty Angus in Christina Calvit's award winning adaptation of *Angus, Thongs and Full Frontal Snogging* (Jeff Citation for Ensemble). He has worked as a movement consultant on Lifeline's *A Room with a View* and on Griffin's production of *Stardust*, directed by Dorothy Milne. Holmquist holds a BFA in Acting from The Theatre School at DePaul University, and a Graduate Laban Certificate in Movement Analysis from Columbia College Chicago.

Katie McLean has been involved with many Lifeline productions over the last several years. She directed *Johnny Tremain* for the 2005-2006 Mainstage season and *The Cricket in Times Square* for Lifeline's KidSeries in 2003. As an actor, she has appeared in *Gaudy Night*, *Trust Me On This*, *Far From the Madding Crowd*, *Whose Body?*, *Cooking With Lard*, and *Bongo Larry and Two Bad Bears*. She also assistant directed Lifeline's multiple-award-winning *Around the World in 80 Days*. A native of upstate New York, she has been in Chicago since 1993 and worked on productions with The Hypocrites, Bailiwick Repertory (including *now then again*, a Jeff Citation winner for Best New Play in 2000), Greasy Joan & Co., Shakespeare's Motley Crew, Who Threw That Ham?, and Zebra Crossing. In her spare time, she is writing her first full-length novel.

Phil Timberlake appeared on the Lifeline stage in *Queen Lucia* (Jeff Citation Nomination, Best Supporting Actor - Musical) and *The Two Towers*. He also coached dialects for *Strong Poison*, *Gaudy Night*, and *A Room With a View*. Other Chicago acting credits include First Folio Shakespeare (*The Tempest*), Apple Tree (*Violet*), Powertap (*The Beaux' Stratagem*), ShawChicago (*Misalliance*), City Lit (*Playboy Stories*), and Shakespeare's Motley Crew (*Twelfth Night*, *Midsummer Night's Dream*, *King Lear*). He has also coached dialects at Stage Left (*Fellow Travellers*), Signal Ensemble (*Closer*, *She Stoops to Conquer*), and New World Repertory (*A Streetcar Named Desire*). He is the resident Voice and Dialect Coach at First Folio Shakespeare, and is an Assistant Professor of Voice and Speech at The Theatre School, DePaul University.

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MISSION: Now in its 24th season, Lifeline Theatre and its artistic ensemble of writers, directors, designers and performers collaboratively develop literary adaptations and original theater. Lifeline's innovative artistic and education programs for adults, children and families bring engaging and reflective stories to life.

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Lifeline Theatre
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