

# The Lab at Burning Coal



## 2009/2010 Season of Experiments

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**Mission:** The Lab will support and generate new and original works by developing artists in our community through non-traditional play development. The goal is to provide a forum for new possibilities and growth as a way to develop literate, visceral, affecting theater that is experienced not simply seen. The Lab functions as an opportunity for writers, directors, and actors to develop new work, and provide a supportive workshop as "creators" of new works-in-progress through different and innovative processes. The Lab will cultivate a whole community of artists as we develop as artists through continued group-sustained training.



## Artists Come Together

In general, there are bi-monthly meetings that congregate from 7pm-10pm at Meymandi Theatre at the Murphey School, home of Burning Coal Theatre Company.

The Lab at Burning Coal is an idea generator for all artists to ask good questions and explore all its theatrical possibilities.

The Lab has generated experiments to prompt artists to expand their boundaries and push the limits beyond traditional play development.

# A Season of Experiments



**9/14**—Experiments with Object: The Lab is our playground for theatrical experiments that tell a story, develop character, and create action using various objects.

**9/28**—Creator/Playwrights are given a challenge based on an Object Experiment to present. Actors and directors will be available.

**10/14**—Experiments in Solo Performance: This month our experiments will lead us to questions and discoveries in Solo Performance. Any playwright or performer interested in this genre is encouraged to attend.

**11/2**—Experiments with Verse: In what ways can we use verse in performance? How many different ways can we generate verse?

**11/16**—Four or so Creator/Playwrights invited to prepare Verse Challenge. Actors and directors available.

## **BREAK FOR HOLIDAYS**

**1/5**—Experiments with the work of Augusto Boal: Boal created a system of games and exercises for exploring theater from social, political, and therapeutic lenses. What can these ideas bring in to our own work? What new ideas can come about?

**1/19**—Three to five Creator/Playwrights will be challenged to create a 5-10 minute piece based on these experiments. Actors and directors are available.

**2/16**—Experiments in multi-media and ensembles: We will explore various types of media and discover new ways for it to infuse our work and how it can be generated through an ensemble of artists.

**3/16**—Experiments with the work of Jacques LeCoq: LeCoq innovated theater with his work using the moving body. We will use his techniques, which include elements of mask, commedia, clowns, and acrobatics to create new work.

**4/20**—Four or so Creator/Playwrights will be chosen to develop material for presentation. Actors and directors are available.

**4/27**—Check-in with all Lab members' works-in-progress; Check-in with PlayNAKED! Material

**5/5**—Begin developing best pieces from the season in preparation for *Best of the Lab Festival*.

**6/14**—Group rehearsal for *Best of the Lab Festival*.

**7/19**—Group rehearsal for *Best of the Lab Festival*.

**8/16**— Group rehearsal for Best of the Lab Festival.

**8/22**—Best of the Lab Festival performance, 7pm



## PlayNAKED! Series

Occasionally, work that is ready for further development will be presented as a fully staged, workshop production "without decor" on Sunday evenings.

Please check-in at [www.burningcoal.org](http://www.burningcoal.org) for more information about The Lab and the PlayNAKED! series.

**BURNING  
C O A L  
THEATRE  
COMPANY**

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