

'Angels in America' Opens CSUEB Theatre Season

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Angels in America, winner of two Tony Awards and the 1991 Pulitzer Prize, will launch the 2006-07 theatre season on the Hayward campus of California State University, East Bay on Friday, Nov. 3. All performances will take place in the Studio Theatre, 25800 Carlos Bee Blvd., Hayward.

Angels in America will have performances on Fridays and Saturdays, Nov. 3, 4, 10, and 11 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 12 at 2 p.m. Admission is \$10 for general admission, \$7 for youths and seniors, and \$5 for CSUEB students.

Cal State East Bay performers will present "Part One of the show, titled *Millennium Approaches*. The year 1986 is the play's setting. According to Director Marc Jacobs, it mixes realism with high comedy as it presents the America of the Reagan era as a nation at a political, spiritual and sexual crossroads. He describes it as "a meditation on what it means to live and die and be connected."

Written by Tony Kushner, the play is described by critics as both "moving and funny" theatrically and considered "deeply American" in its attitudes and political concerns. *Angels* is comprised of two full-length plays.

"Working on *Angels in America* has been an amazing experience," said Jacobs. "The play is so rich, complex, funny and tragic, that it is demanding the most from all of us. Usually when I start directing a show, I try to encapsulate what the theme is in one simple sentence for the actors. You can say *Othello* is about jealousy, or *Hamlet* is about a student's disillusionment with a corrupt world. But *Angels* balances so many themes successfully, that it defies that kind of reduction."

"This production is a marvelous launch of our theatre and dance season," said Alden Reimonenq, dean of the College of Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences.

Tickets may be reserved online at: http://class.csueastbay.edu/theatre/Summer_Theatre_Calendar.php^[1] or by telephone at (510) 885-3261.