

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ROCKY PHILLY

Presented by The Bushwick Starr Theater and Van Cougar

September 9th, 2009 8pm

September 10th, 2009 8pm

September 11th, 2009 8pm

September 12th, 2009 8pm

September 17th, 2009 8pm

September 18th, 2009 8pm

September 19th, 2009 8pm

***September 21st, 2009 8pm (special Monday night showing for industry audience)**

September 23rd, 2009 8pm

September 24th, 2009 8pm

September 25th, 2009 8pm

***September 26th, 2009 7pm (early curtain followed by a closing night reception)**

The Bushwick Starr and Van Cougar are proud to present the world premiere of ***Rocky Philly***, a 90-minute play that weaves personal stories collected from citizens of Philadelphia with the movements of the characters from the classic Academy Award-winning film.

Rocky Philly juxtaposes two forms of storytelling: a cinematic underdog story created as entertainment and the personal stories of everyday people. The show layers story over movement to emphasize the relationship between the way stories are told to us in modern entertainments, and told by us when connecting with members of our own communities.

The structure of the movie is held in tact: the well-known characters Mick, Adrian, Paulie, Jergen and Apollo Creed join a female Rocky in retelling the Rocky story. The actors recite recorded

stories from Philadelphians verbatim; stories which have been carefully woven together by dramaturg Erica Rippey and director Mark Sitko. Speaking first-hand about living in the City of Brotherly Love, the numerous storytellers unknowingly provide insight into the creation of a story--from beginning to end--and how it is the silences, as well as the utterances, that make a story truly worth listening to.

About Van Cougar:

Van Cougar aims to celebrate and remind the public of the importance of oral storytelling. As a theater company, we use stories we have collected to create work that challenges traditional forms of dramatic literature and creates a more complete, interesting and shocking piece of theater. Our long-term mission is to compile an internet database for use by artists and anthropologists with stories recorded from people of all ages, races, genders, and geographic regions.

About The Bushwick Starr:

The Bushwick Starr is a full-scale not-for-profit performance venue and Presenting Organization, dedicated to bringing a continuum of performance artists to the Bushwick community. Focusing on the presentation of theater, dance, and music, The Bushwick Starr offers a professional and supportive space in which to develop and present new work. We aim to cultivate powerful programming and offer consistent and exciting new work to our community of theater-goers

Rocky Philly marks our first co-production with an up-and-coming theater company. We are proud to present this piece in collaboration with Van Cougar as the kick-off to our Fall performance season.

Participating Artists:

Featuring:

Rebecca Lingafelter as Rocky

Noel Allain as Adrian

Marty Brown as Mick

Julia Sirna-Frest as Paulie

Erin McCarson as Apollo

Sam Traylor as Jergen

Directed by: Mark Sitko

Lighting Design by: Christina Watanabe

Sound Design by: Mark Valadez

Video Design by: David Gladden

Costume Design by: Antonia Ford-Roberts

Assistant Director: Dan Stearns

Stage Manager: Elizabeth Nielsen
Dramaturg: Erica Rippy
Boxing Coach: Rena Anakwe

Location:

The Bushwick Starr theater: 207 Starr Street, Brooklyn, NY [between Irving and Wycoff]

Directions:

Via Subway take the L Train to Jefferson Street, exit at Starr Street, walk against traffic on Starr, and the theater is 3/4 of a block on the right. For detailed driving directions visit: www.thebushwickstarr.org/DIRECTIONS

Tickets are \$10.00 and will be available at the door or by reservation at www.brownpapertickets.com/event/77242

