

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Theatre, Arts, Education, Events, Calendar, etc,
PRESS CONTACT: Cameron Eng, 415-531-5855, foulplaysf@gmail.com
PRESS PHOTOS: Available at foulplaysf.com/lefthanded

Foul Play presents the World Premiere of Nikita Schoen's

LEFT-HANDED DARLING

WHEN: July 14 – August 13, 2011
Fridays and Saturdays @ 8pm
Press Previews on 7/8 & 7/9; Gala on 7/14

WHERE: The EXIT Theatre
156 Eddy Street, SF; theExit.org

TICKETS: \$20 - \$30 Sliding Scale, at the door and online at BrownPaperTickets.com/event/177619
* Discount Available for Students and Starving Artists

INFO: FoulPlaySF.com/lefthanded
foulplaysf@gmail.com
415-EXCITED

SAN FRANCISCO, CA, JULY 2011 — Foul Play announces the culmination of their inaugural launch of the New Writers' Program—the world premiere of Nikita Schoen's LEFT-HANDED DARLING. Following a year of workshops and development, LEFT-HANDED DARLING centers on the unusual upbringing of Calliope Darling, and her unique definition of beauty. Set in the Dustbowl era, LEFT-HANDED DARLING captures the sights and sounds of the sideshow and the dilapidated grandeur of the Vaudeville aesthetic, while probing the complex psychologies of both the reviled, the rarified and the rejected. This mesmerizing tale of murder and make-believe is an astonishing debut for first-time playwright Nikita Schoen, and a must-see theatrical endeavor from the minds who brought you *Attack of the Killer B-Movies* and *Stale Magnolias*.

Nikita Schoen, a future student at the California College of the Arts and an artist of many sorts (including choreography, painting, acting and poetry), takes her first steps into playwriting under the mentorship of Foul Play's New Writers' Program. Inspired in part by Tod Browning's film *Freaks*, an immersion into the world of sideshow history and her own ardent attachment to the conjoined, the limbless and the hirsute, Schoen has crafted LEFT-HANDED DARLING, a play populated with delightful deviations from normalcy. Michelle Talgarow, director, heads an impressive team of artists to bring Calliope's (and Schoen's) world to life and create FP's most lavish production to date.

LEFT-HANDED DARLING runs **July 14 – August 13, 2011, Fridays and Saturdays at 8pm at the EXIT Theatre, 156 Eddy Street, SF. Tickets are \$20-30 sliding scale** with discounts available to students and starving artists; available on BrownPaperTickets.com/event/177619. More information at FoulPlaySF.com/lefthanded and foulplaysf@gmail.com

PRESS PREVIEW NIGHTS: July 8th & 9th, Friday and Saturday shows at 8pm. **GALA: Thursday, July 14th** @ 8pm; Tickets \$25.

LEFT-HANDED DARLING is written by Nikita Schoen; directed by Michelle Talgarow; produced by Foul Play (Sean Owens and Cameron Eng); designed by Peter Parish, Richard Board and Kathryn Wood with an original score from Don Seaver; and features Mikka Bonel, Kimberly MacLean, Mikl-em, Amanda Ortmayer, Sean Owens, and Don Wood.

— END —

ABOUT FOUL PLAY: Since 2008, FP is the SF-based production team of Sean Owens and Cameron Eng, dedicated to curating insightful, innovative and accessible theater, like the *Attack of the Killer B-Movies* (1 & 2) and *Stale Magnolias*.

ABOUT THE NEW WRITERS' PROGRAM: FP's NWP is a playwright mentorship program that seeks out unique new voices in Bay Area theater, guiding them through the rigorous process of translating script to stage, and providing them with the tools required to flourish in the world of play production. The year-long program begins with workshops focusing on the newly crafted text itself and culminates in a world premiere.

ABOUT THE GAIETY PROJECT: The Gaiety Project is the self-sustaining 501(c)3 nonprofit that provides a nexus for unique, only-in-SF art groups to gather, creating a Sanctuary for the Lost Arts—an enduring, nurturing environment for the city's growing arts-and-culture district.