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Mustard Seed Theatre

Press Release

Local play, *Falling* will be produced Off-Broadway in New York

St. Louis, Missouri- October 12, 2011 -

Mustard Seed Theatre's production of Deanna Jent's new play *Falling* received critical acclaim and broke box office records for the company, extending twice to sold-out houses. Broadway producer Terry Schnuck saw the show during its first extended weekend and has optioned the play for an Off-Broadway production in 2012.

Jent's play explores the dynamics of a family caring for a teenaged son with severe autism, but as noted by several critics, it moves beyond the realm of a case history. Judy Newmark of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch calls it "a thoughtful portrait of a family struggling to hold on in particular and challenging circumstances."

Schnuck says: "While it centers on one family's specific situation, *Falling* causes us to reflect on how we each deal with our own challenges and relationships. It is an incredibly moving and thought provoking play that I think people will want to experience."

Jent is "grateful that Terry sees potential in this play and thrilled know that this story will continue to be told!"

Jent, a Professor of Theatre at Fontbonne University, has written stage adaptations of novels by C.S. Lewis (*Till We Have Faces*) and Jane Austen (*Pride and Prejudice*) and a play called *Six Sisters* which chronicled the history of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet (founders of Fontbonne University). Jent is the Artistic Director of Mustard Seed Theatre, where she is preparing to start rehearsals for *Godspell*.



Schnuck has been active as a producer on and off-Broadway since 2003, producing *High; Race; Superior Donuts; Burn The Floor; Hair* (Tony); *Blithe Spirit; The Homecoming; Spring Awakening* (Tony); *Martin Short: Fame Becomes Me; The Caine Mutiny Court-Martial; 'night, Mother; Enchanted April; Silence! The Musical; and Ministry of Progress*. Other productions he has been associated with include: *Thoroughly Modern Millie; All Shook Up!; and Summer of '42*. He is also producing the upcoming new musical *Bonnie & Clyde*.

As specific performance information becomes available, it will be posted on the Mustard Seed Theatre website: www.mustardseedtheatre.com

Mustard Seed Theatre

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