Thinking Outside the Box
Ten Minute Play Festival
SUNDAY, MARCH 4
7pm Reception  8pm Performances
SUNDAY, MARCH 11  8pm Performances
$8; Members, $5.

Celebrate the thinkers and creators who look at the world from new and different perspectives. Featuring all new, general-audience works, these ten minute plays were created by Connecticut playwrights (or playwrights who work in Connecticut) and featuring local professional and pro-am actors.

Thinking Outside the Box, pays homage to the notion that theatre encourages us to think differently, to understand the world in a multiplicity of ways, and to see new perspectives on life and living that gets little air time in the “little boxes” that define our culture today. This project was created under the artistic guidance of Falcon Repertory Theatre, Inc., a not-for-profit theatre and film company of Fairfield County, CT.

The program includes:
GOOD MANNERS
by Dan Friedman; directed by Joel Fenster

UNBLOCKING WILL
by Tom Rushen; directed by Marie Reynolds

ASPIRATION/DREAM
by Vanessa David; directed by Carin Zakes

TESTIMONIAL
by Jack Rushen; directed by David Klein

CLOWN THERAPY
by Nina Mansfield; directed by Nancy Ponturo

UNTITLED #2
by Jim Gordon; directed by Debra Lee Failla

DRUGS, WAR AND NINE
by Elizabeth Appel; directed by Jeanine DeFalco

YOU’RE NOT SICK, YOU’RE JUST IN LOVE
by Kerry Davies; directed by Jeanine DeFalco

A STAND IN LINE
by Susan Goodell; directed by Debra Lee Failla

Named one of the
“Season’s Best Art Exhibits”
CBS Connecticut

Bravo!
A Century of Theatre in Fairfield County

Exhibition and Programs
On view through April 1, 2012
www.fairfieldhistory.org

Monday–Friday, 10am–4pm
Weekends, Noon–4pm
Members: Free. Adults: $5; Seniors and Students (6–22): $3.
Children under 5: Free
Fairfield Museum and History Center, in collaboration with Falcon Repertory Company, Inc., presents the following Ten Minute Play Festival program:

GOOD MANNERS by Dan Friedman; directed by Joel Fenster
An actor, a writer and a thief walk into a bar… okay, not really. But who’s to say what’s fact and what’s fiction when you’re dealing with artists?

UNBLOCKING WILL by Tom Rushen; directed by Marie Reynolds
Where would Will Shakespeare be without his friend to help him through his writer’s block? Thankfully, the world will never need to know.

ASPIRATION/DREAM by Vanessa David; directed by Carin Zakes
Inspired by the impact of technology on relationships, this play explores an isolated sense of self in collision with its connections to the past.

TESTIMONIAL by Jack Rushen; directed by David Klein
An aging college professor is schooled in his own impact on generations of students by a special former student.

CLOWN THERAPY by Nina Mansfield; directed by Nancy Ponturo
Frank and Maggie Bozo have some serious issues in their marriage. For one thing, Frank just isn’t the man—or the clown—Maggie thought he was. Can a session with a therapist possibly save this relationship?

UNTITLED #2 by Jim Gordon; directed by Debra Lee Failla
Two “art critics” arrive at strikingly different opinions as to the meaning of a painting. Caught up in a fever of contrasting artistic and political views they come close to fisticuffs before the artist sets them straight.

DRUGS, WAR AND NINE by Elizabeth Appel; directed by Jeanine DeFalco
New Haven was once an incubator for radical activity, the Black Panther Party and drug use. Doug is damaged and he has a secret. Two individuals assigned to help him instead battle each other about the murder of Alex Rackley.

YOU’RE NOT SICK, YOU’RE JUST IN LOVE by Kerry Davies; directed by Jeanine DeFalco
A romantic comic parody of three friends struggling with love, life, and the common cold.

A STAND IN LINE by Susan Goodell; directed by Debra Lee Failla
A department store’s customer service is so infuriating that the waiting line becomes a special kind of purgatory. That’s until customers band together and concoct a way to even the score.
PRODUCER: JEANINE A. DEFALCO

Artistic Director of Falcon Repertory Company, Inc., Jeanine is a member of the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers, and the Literary Managers and Dramaturges of America. Currently enrolled at NYU for her second Masters in Educational Theatre, Jeanine's first Masters is in Dramatic Literature and Criticism is from Johns Hopkins University, and her professional directing internship was competed in 1997 at the Actors Theatre of Louisville under then Artistic Director Jon Jory. Jeanine's directing credits include having directed at the Actors Theatre of Louisville, the Samuel Beckett Theatre in NYC, and the New York Theatre Workshop. A co-presenter at the Eight International Eugene O’Neill Conference (O’Neill in the Classroom), Jeanine is also a local teaching artist specializing in play development for playwrights, process drama for special learners, and text analysis for actors.

PLAYWRIGHTS

ELIZABETH APPEL is a writer who tilted toward playwriting after studying at the Hartford Stage a few years ago. Her work is short, long, avant-garde, serious, and comedic and has been produced across the country. An adjunct professor of English at the University of Bridgeport, she resides in rural Connecticut with her tolerant husband and two teenaged children. She is a member of the Dramatist Guild and the Stratford SquareWrights. Drugs, War and Nine was named a 2011 winner of the “Connecticut Stories on Stage” competition and was produced at the annual “Connecticut Stories on Stage New Play Festival.”

VANESSA DAVID began her theatrical career as an actress. After earning her BA in Theatre Arts at Western Connecticut State University she landed roles at Yale Repertory Theatre, Shakespeare on the Sound and the Pioneer Playhouse. She spent many years performing with the Downtown Cabaret Children’s Theatre Company and at The Spinning Wheel Inn in their annual Christmas show. She received the Square One Subscribers Outstanding Actress award for her work in EDUCATING RITA. Her first production as a playwright came in 2005 when 13th Street Repertory Theatre produced her play Current Season. Since then 5 of her ten-minute plays have been published and produced coast-to-coast. Her full-length play VERMIPOSTAL has had numerous readings and was a semi-finalist for both Seven Devils and PlayPenn. Her latest play CONNECT COUPLES (DOT) COM was written for the Piedmont Club’s first dinner theater night in Darien, CT. It featured the playwright and her husband David F Savo in the roles and played to a sold out crowd. She recently received a certificate in Culinary Arts from Norwalk Community College and is rocking the internet as The Headbanging Hostess, blogging about her food and making videos featuring local music. She’s also a regular contributor to Alternative Control, a CT e-zine covering music, culture and food.

KERRY DAVIES is an award-winning playwright currently living in Trumbull, Connecticut. A recent graduate of Fairfield University, Davies has penned several one act and full length plays, including her most recent, HELP, the prized DEAD CARDS: A REALLY SERIOUS COMEDY, and THIRTEEN HUNDRED MOVIES. She has had several of her plays produced by Theatre Fairfield including THOUGHTS FOR YOUR PENNIES, ROW SIX, BUT YOU’RE DEAD, and the award-winning HIGH SCHOOL LITERATURE FOR THE CAFFEINATED LOVER. An excerpt of THIRTEEN HUNDRED MOVIES was read with Naked Angels program, Tuesdays@9 in 2010. She is a recipient of The Mary Louise Larrabee Prize (’10), Humanities Institute Grant (’09), the John W. Ryan, S.J. Prize for Playwriting (’09, ’11), and other awards. Kerry also co-wrote and produced plays at Fairfield University including BED SHEETS AND FAIRFIELD: THEN AND NOW. She is the author of six web videos for Fairfield University’s The R&J Project, an interdisciplinary project at culminating in Fairfield University Theatre Fairfield’s production of ROMEO AND JULIET in the spring of 2010. Davies also acted in THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW, MACHINAL, and T.F. SHOWCASE.

DAN FRIEDMAN has written several plays, a few screenplays, and been contributor to several newsletters and magazines on topics ranging from religion to the films of Bob Fosse. He is a past winner of the Astere E. Clayessens Playwriting Award, endowed annually by his alma mater, George Washington University. His one act play SUBPOENA ENVY has been, chronologically, a unanimous selection to he 14th Annual Playwrights/Directors Workshop by the Hand to Mouth Players, a feature selection for the Mill Mountain Theatre reading series, the winner of the Drury University one-act lay festival, a semi-finalist in the Variation Theatre Company's Harvest Festival, and most recently the winner of he Oswego Players one-act play competition. This past October his play BEEN TOO LONG ON LONELY STREET was a finalist in the 2nd Annual Harvest Festival of New Plays in NYC. Dan has also served as the producer of the feature-length documentary BROOKLYN NECROPOLIS, the short film SEPARATE LIVES and several dozen theatrical productions. He would like to thank Jeanine, Raymond and everyone at Falcon Rep.
SUSAN GOODELL's works were last seen in Connecticut in staged readings of two full-length plays, HEELS OVER HEAD and HOPE THROWS HER HEART AWAY, both presented by Slant of Light Theatre Company. Her plays have received some two dozen productions and readings over eight states including New York (three food groups: the Strawberry Festival, the Turnip Festival and Cocktail Six) Connecticut where she is a Theatre Artists Workshop member, and Colorado, where stagings were nominated for a Denver Critic’s Circle Award and named to the Denver Post’s annual “10 Best” list. She has been commissioned by Steppenwolf Theatre Company and chosen for the Djerassi Residence Artists Program.

JIM GORDON's plays have won or been finalists in over 70 national and international competitions. DEATH DEFYING ACTS, a collection of eight short plays was published by Dramatic Publishing Company in 2009. A second collection, THE REVENGE PLAYS, was published this year. Among his many awards, Jim received the “Alan Minieri Award for Playwriting Excellence” from “The American Globe Theatre” in New York City. Jim is a member of the Theatre Artists Workshop in Norwalk, CT. and the Dramatists Guild.

NINA MANSFIELD is a Greenwich, CT based writer of plays and fiction. Her work has been produced throughout the United States and in Canada, England and Ireland at a variety of venues and festivals including the New York International Fringe Festival, the Boston Theatre Marathon, Vital Theatre's New Works Festival, 20% Theatre Twin Cities, the Six Women Playwright Festival, Looking Glass Theatre Forum, and multiple 8-Minute Madness Festivals in New York. Her plays are published by Smith & Kraus, Original Works Publishing, One Act Play Depot and YouthPLAYS. Visit her at: www.ninamansfield.com.

JACK RUSHEN celebrates his 25th year in show business this year, working in clubs, stage, television, and film. He began his professional acting career in Michael Moriarty's production of RICHARD III, which he performed at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC. He also appeared in several regional theatre productions, including THE ADMIRABLE CRichtON, ETHAN FROME and THE DOCTORS DILEMMA at New Haven's esteemed Long Wharf, and was also seen at the Hartford Stage in ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA, under the direction of Mark Lamos. Jack is a member of the Emerging Artists Theatre in New York City, where several of his comedies and dramas have been produced. Recent projects include a short film, TEMPORARY HELP, and his first feature film AMONG FRIENDS, is to be shot in the fall of 2012. Awards include first place at the Georgia Theatre Conference for his play “Testimonial”, first place at the Milford Arts Festival for “The Crossing”, a finalist in the “Arts and Letters Prize” at Georgia State University, The Boston Theatre Marathon, and many others. Film writing awards include the NEW YORK FILM FESTIVALS, COLUMBUS FILM FESTIVAL, and the LOS ANGELES FILM FESTIVAL to name just a few.

TOM RUSHEN’s plays include UNDERNEATH IT ALL, which was featured in the Samuel French Off Off Broadway Festival. THE HIPPO AND THE WASPS was featured in the Havemeyer Playwright Festival, and GOING LIVE was produced by Provincetown’s Universal Theatre. He is a member of SquareWrights, a playwrights’ collaborative based in Stratford. SquareWrights has staged many of Tom’s plays, including PLOT HOLES, BREWING UP TROUBLE, and MR. SMITH AND THE PREAMBLE. Tom’s most recent appearance onstage was as Jimmy Curran in THE WEIR for Town Players of New Canaan. He has also appeared at both Eastbound Theatre in Milford and Center Stage in Shelton for separate productions of LAUGHTER ON THE 23RD FLOOR (Val and Ira, respectively). He has been onstage at Westport Community Theatre in ARSENIC AND OLD LACE (Officer Klein) and THE MAN WHO CAME TO DINNER (Professor Metz), and has been seen in many readings and one-act plays in the Stratford/Milford area.

For Cast & Crew Information, please visit www.falconrep.com