

Press Release

For immediate release
September 2013

VENUE: Tides Theater
533 Sutter Street
@ Powell

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2013-14 Sandbox Series presents

World Premiere

IDEATION

By Aaron Loeb

Directed by Josh Costello

November 14 to December 7th

Wed, Thurs 7pm / Fri, Sat 8pm / Sat 3pm

Press Opening: Saturday, November 16th at 8pm.

Performances will be held at Tides Theater, 533 Sutter St, 2nd Floor @ Powell.

San Francisco, CA (September 2013) – The **San Francisco Playhouse** (Bill English, Artistic Director; Susi Damilano, Producing Director) enters its fifth season of the Sandbox Series of new plays with the return of **Aaron Loeb** (*First Person Shooter*, *Abraham Lincoln's Big*, *Gay Dance Party*) and his newest play, *Ideation*. **Josh Costello** will direct.

In this psychological suspense thriller, a group of corporate consultants work together on a mysterious and ethically ambiguous project. As the lines between right and wrong are blurred, these characters must navigate the cognitive dissonances and moral dilemmas to decide for themselves if everything is as it really seems.

The cast includes Ben Euphrat, Jason Kapoor, Mark Phillips*, Carrie Paff* and Michael Ray Wisely*.

The mission of **The Sandbox Series** is to promote new works utilizing top-notch directors and actors. The presentations will have limited design elements thus reducing the costs and risk of each production. By reducing risk, we hope to bridge the gap between “readings” and “main stage” productions and thus provide increased exposure to the new voices in American Theater.

Aaron Loeb (Playwright) Aaron's work has been performed in San Francisco, New York, Los Angeles, Sacramento, Ft. Worth, San Jose and Connecticut. His full-length plays include *Brown*, *First Person Shooter*, *Blastosphere* (with Geetha Reddy) and *Abraham Lincoln's Big*, *Gay Dance Party*, which had its Off-Broadway premiere in 2010. Among the honors Loeb has received are: two Bay Area Theater Critic

THE SAN FRANCISCO PLAYHOUSE

World Premier Sandbox Series

Ideation

Continued:

Circle Awards for Best New Play (*First Person Shooter* in 2007, *Abraham Lincoln's Big, Gay Dance Party* in 2008, both had their world premieres at the San Francisco Playhouse), Outstanding Play from the New York International Fringe Festival (*Abraham Lincoln's Big, Gay Dance Party* 2009), GLAAD Media Award Nominee (*Abraham Lincoln's Big, Gay Dance Party* 2009), and seven "Emerging Playwright Awards" from PlayGround. He is a member of the Dramatists Guild, Inc. and a Playwrights Foundation resident playwright.

Founded by Bill English and Susi Damilano in 2003, **The San Francisco Playhouse** has been described in the New York Times as "a company that stages some of the most consistently high-quality work around." Located right in the heart of the Union Square Theater District, **The San Francisco Playhouse** is the city's Off-Broadway company, an intimate alternative to the larger more traditional Union Square theater fare. The San Francisco Playhouse provides audiences the opportunity to experience professional theater with top-notch actors and world-class design in a setting where they are close to the action. The company has received multiple awards for overall productions, acting, and design including the SF Weekly Best Theatre Award and the Bay Guardian's Best Off-Broadway Theatre Award. Presenting a diverse range of plays and musicals, **The San Francisco Playhouse** produces new works as well as re-imagining classics, "making the edgy accessible and the traditional edgy." The company's 2012-2013 season marked its 10th anniversary and as it moved to a newly renovated venue, The San Francisco Chronicle raved: "On the verge of opening its 10th season, the company that lived a hand-to-mouth existence for its first few years has become the little playhouse that could. It quickly established a reputation for attracting some of the Bay Area's best acting and directing talent, as well as for its exciting play choices. And with its bold Sandbox Series, it's become a player in developing new works as well." **The San Francisco Playhouse** is committed to providing a creative home and inspiring environment where actors, directors, writers, designers, and theater lovers converge to create works that celebrate the human spirit.

FOR CALENDAR EDITORS:

WHAT: In this psychological suspense thriller, a group of corporate consultants work together on a mysterious and ethically ambiguous project. As the lines between right and wrong are blurred, these characters must navigate the cognitive dissonances and moral dilemmas to decide for themselves if everything is as it really seems.

SHOWS: **Previews** 11/14-11/15 at 8pm, **Opens** November 16 at 8pm through December 7th.
Wednesday & Thursday 7pm
Friday & Saturday 8pm
No performances November 28th, December 4th and 5th
Added 3pm matinees November 30th and December 7th

WHERE: 533 Sutter Street: Tides Theatre

TICKETS: For tickets (\$20) or more information, the public may contact The San Francisco Playhouse box office at 415-677-9596, or www.sfplayhouse.org.