



# CYGNET THEATRE COMPANY

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## CYGNET CLOSSES FIFTH SEASON WITH CARYL CHURCHILL'S A NUMBER

*Production directed by Award-Winning Esther Emery*  
*and features D.W. Jacobs and Francis Gercke*

SAN DIEGO, CA – Cygnet Theatre Company is proud to present Caryl Churchill's ***A Number***. Esther Emery will helm the production, which stars D.W. Jacobs and Francis Gercke. *A Number* runs **May 22 through June 29, 2008** at the Cygnet's Rolando Theatre. Low-priced previews are May 22 through May 30. **Press Opening is May 31 at 8pm.**

From the innovative mind of Caryl Churchill comes *A Number*, an emotionally compelling, intellectually provocative meditation on the implications of cloning at the most human, most personal level. Through a series of confrontations between a father and his sons, Churchill invites us to consider the disturbing complexity of a reality not too far in our future.

**Caryl Churchill** was born in London in 1938. Her plays include *Owners*, *Light Shining in Buckinghamshire*, *Traps*, *Cloud Nine*, *Top Girls*, *Fen*, *Serious Money*, *Ice Cream*, *Mad Forest*, *The Skriker*, *Blue Heart*, *This Is a Chair* and *Far Away*. She won two Obie Awards (*Cloud Nine* and *Top Girls*), the Hollywood Dramalogue Critics Award (*Cloud Nine*), the Susan Smith Blackburn Award (*Fen* and *Serious Money*). *Serious Money* also won the Olivier Award for Best Play of 1987, the Evening Standard Award for Best Comedy, and the Plays and Players Award.

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**Esther Emery** previously directed the award-winning productions of *Yellowman* and *Communicating Doors* at Cygnet Theatre. She is the first recipient of the Jack O'Brien Excellence in Directing award from the San Diego Critic's Circle. Other directing credits *Dancing at Lughnasa* at New Village Arts, *Limonade Tous Les Jours* and *Devil Dog Six* (co-directed with Jennifer Eve Thorn) at MOXIE Theatre, *Bunbury* at Diversionary, and the world premiere of *Chrysalis: Rapechild* with Sledgehammer Theatre. Her first full length play, *Rhubarb*, was produced by MOXIE this past spring. She recently designed the scenery for *Prelude to a Kiss* at New Village Arts and is an Artistic Associate at MOXIE Theatre.

**D. W. Jacobs** works as a freelance playwright, director, actor and teacher. He co-founded San Diego Rep in 1976 with Sam Woodhouse, and served as Artistic Director until 1997. As an actor, he has played Joe in *The Time of Your Life*, Claudius in *Hamlet*, Howard in Mac Wellman's *A Murder of Crows* (produced & directed by Darla Cash at Brown Field Gallery), Senator Bob in the world premiere of *7 Blowjob*s (at Sledgehammer Theatre) and Andrew in Chuck Mee's *Limonade Tous Les Jours* for MOXIE Theatre. *A Number* marks his debut with Cygnet Theatre.

**Francis Gercke** is the founding and former Artistic Director of New Village Arts. In addition to his work with NVA, he has appeared in two productions at Cygnet, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* and *Desire Under the Elms*. He also directed *Curse of the Starving Class*, a co-production of New Village Arts and Cygnet Theatre.

Performances of ***A Number*** are Thursdays through Saturdays at 8pm and Sundays at 2pm and 7pm. Tickets are \$22 (Previews); \$27 (Thursdays, Sunday Evenings); \$29 (Fridays and Sunday Matinees); \$31 (Saturdays). Discounts are available for seniors, students and military.

Tickets can be purchased by visiting Cygnet's website at [www.cygnettheatre.com](http://www.cygnettheatre.com) or calling the box office at 619-337-1525.

Cygnet' Theatre is located in the College/Rolando area at 6663 El Cajon Blvd. #N, one block west of the intersection of El Cajon and Montezuma.

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