



# CYGNET THEATRE COMPANY

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## **CYGNET WELCOMES TWO NEW FULL-TIME STAFF MEMBERS**

***Francis Gercke is named new Associate Artistic Director.***

***Nick Fouch comes aboard as Technical Director.***

SAN DIEGO, CA – Cygnet Theatre Company recently added two new members to its staff naming Francis Gercke as a new Associate Artistic Director and Nick Fouch as Cygnet's first full-time Technical Director.

As Associate Artistic Director, Francis Gercke will assist Artistic Director Murray in play selection and planning of each season. He will also contribute to the creation and implementation of a professional training program for San Diego actors, along with the development of a program in Old Town State Historic Park that will celebrate the history and history-makers of San Diego.

Mr. Gercke previously served as Artistic Director at New Village Arts which he also co-founded. For the past 7 years he has taught privately in North County at NVA and at Palomar College in San Marcos.

"I am honored and thrilled to take part in the growth of Cygnet Theatre," said Mr. Gercke. "Cygnet Theatre offers San Diego actors the rare opportunity to perform on both the intimate Rolando stage and the grander stage of Old Town."

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Mr. Gercke will also serve as an actor, director, and producer. He has received numerous awards as both an actor and director including *Curse of the Starving Class* (Craig Noel Award - Outstanding Direction) and *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (Craig Noel Award – Featured Performance in a Play). He will direct the upcoming productions of *Dying City* and *Mauritius*. As an actor he will appear in *Love Song*.

Also joining the Cygnet Theatre staff is Technical Director Nick Fouch. Mr. Fouch previously oversaw the construction of most of Cygnet's sets during the past year as an independent contractor. His set design for *Yellowman* received a Craig Noel Award from the San Diego Critics Circle and a Patté Award. He also designed the set for *Communicating Doors*. Mr. Fouch has worked for the La Jolla Playhouse, Old Globe and the San Diego Repertory Theatre.

"I've worked all over town at theatres with budgets large and small," said Nick, "and Cygnet has the best balance of resources and production goals. I like to split my time between design and build. Cygnet is giving me a good balance between the two."

Mr. Fouch's first responsibilities included the construction of the set for *The Receptionist* and the installation of new theatre seats at the Rolando space on El Cajon Blvd. *The Receptionist* began previews on July 24, opens August 2, and runs through August 31. Tickets are available through the box office at (619) 337-1525 or online at [www.cygnettheatre.com](http://www.cygnettheatre.com).

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