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# Wagner College Theatre's THE THUGS Begins Today

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by BWW News Desk

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Wagner College Theatre's Stage One presents the Island debut of The Thugs, the Obie Award-winning play by Adam Bock, from October 7 - 12. Wagner Professor David Ledoux (WCT's Scab) returns to direct.

The Thugs is a dark comedy about work, thunder and the mysterious things that are happening on the 9th floor of a big law firm. When a group of temp workers try to discover the secrets that lurk in the hidden crevices of their workplace, they realize they would rather believe in gossip and rumors than

face dangerous realities.

The cast features theater performance majors Bobbi Barricella (Daphne), Taylor Baskin (Diane), Noah Bridgestock (Joey), Rachel Nace (Mary), Jasmine Canziani (Mercedes), Samantha Ross (Chantal), Maria Elena Rumayor (Elaine), and Chris Zika (Bart).

The creative team includes Shawn Riley-Rau (set), Dominga Noe (costumes), Pam Pangaro (lights), and Brad Cashman (sound). Nina Weber is production stage manager.

The Thugs received its critically-acclaimed 2006 world premiere at the Soho Rep in New York, winning an OBIE Award for outstanding playwriting and was named to Time Out New York's "Top Ten" lists. The New York Times raved, "The Thugs' is a delightfully paranoid little nightmare that is both more chillingly realistic and pointedly absurd than anything John Grisham ever dreamed up!" Mr. Bock has also won the prestigious American Theater Critics Award, the Glickman Award and the Theater Critics Circle Awards for Best Original Script, among others.

Award-winning Canadian playwright Adam Bock's work includes Phaedra, A Small Fire (which starred WCT's Michele Pawk), The Receptionist, The Drunken City, The Thugs, Swimming in the Shallows and the musical adaptation of Shirley Jackson's We Have Always Lived in the Castle. His plays have been produced in NYC at Playwrights Horizons, Manhattan Theatre Club, Second Stage, Soho Rep and Clubbed Thumb. The Colby Sisters was developed at Sundance/Utah and at New Dramatists.

Performances of The Thugs are Tuesday through Saturday at 8pm, with matinees Saturday and Sunday at 2pm. For tickets call (718) 390-3259 or boxoffice@wagner.edu. Wagner College Theatre Box Office hours are Monday through Friday 12:00 Noon-4:00pm. Single tickets (\$10) are on sale now for The Thugs. Wagner College students attend free with current ID.

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