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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Nov. 30, 2016

For press materials and hi-res color press photos, visit:

<http://www.therhino.org/press.htm>

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/events/263335970750098/>

*Theatre Rhinoceros presents...*

**Gertrude Stein and a Companion**

**By Win Wells**

***"They were regular in being gay...they were gay the same length of time every day, they were gay, they were quite regularly gay."***

Directed by Kathryn L. Wood and John Fisher

**Dec. 28, 2016-Jan. 8, 2017**

***Limited Engagement - Only 8 Performances - 2 Weeks!***

**Opening Night: Friday, December 30 at 8pm**

**Eureka Theatre - 215 Jackson St., (at Battery St.) SF, CA 94111**

[www.TheRhino.org](http://www.TheRhino.org)

**GERTRUDE STEIN AND A COMPANION** won first prize at both the Edinburgh Festival and the Theatre Festival in Sydney, Australia, as well as the Vita Award in South Africa as Best Play. The love of Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas takes the stage in this witty and romantic account of their life together.

"An imaginative and compelling entertainment." - *Christian Science Monitor*

"The evening is a joy...Brisk, fun and literate." - *Gannett Newspapers*

**Performance Dates: Dec. 28, 2016-Jan. 8, 2017**

Previews (2): **Wednesday, Dec. 28 8pm**

**Thursday, Dec. 29 8pm**

*(No Press at Previews Please)*

**Opening Night: Friday, Dec. 30 8pm (Reception to follow)**

**Perf. Dates & Times: FIRST WEEK: Wed., Thurs., & Fri. - 8:00 pm**

**NO SHOW NEW YEAR'S EVE**

**SECOND WEEK: Thurs., Fri, Sat. - 8:00 pm**

**TWO MATINEES: Sat (Jan. 7) & Sun. (Jan. 8) - 3:00 pm**

**GERTRUDE STEIN AND A COMPANION** will receive a Theatre Rhinoceros revival for a limited engagement - 8 performances only – 2 weeks! The show plays Dec. 28, 2016 - Jan. 8, 2017.

**First Week: Wed., Thurs., & Fri. - 8:00 pm**

**Second Week: Thurs., Fri, Sat. - 8:00 pm**

**Two Matinees: Sat (Jan. 7) & Sun. (Jan. 8) - 3:00 pm**

**Opening Night: Friday, Dec. 30 8pm (Reception to follow)**

**No show New Year's Eve.**

**Individual performance dates are: Dec. 28, 2016-Jan. 8, 2017**

<b>Dec.28, 2016</b>	<b>- Wed. - 8:00 pm [Preview]</b>
<b>Dec. 29</b>	<b>- Thur. - 8:00 pm [Preview]</b>
<b>Dec. 30</b>	<b>- Fri. - 8:00 pm [Opening]</b>
<b>Jan. 5, 2017</b>	<b>- Thur. - 8:00 pm</b>
<b>Jan. 6</b>	<b>- Fri. - 8:00 pm</b>
<b>Jan. 7</b>	<b>- Sat. - 3:00 pm</b>
<b>Jan. 7</b>	<b>- Sat. - 8:00 pm</b>
<b>Jan.</b>	<b>- Sun. - 3:00 pm</b>

Shows are at **Eureka Theatre, 215 Jackson St., (at Battery St.) SF, CA 94111**  
– Embarcadero BART

**Tickets are \$15 - \$40** and are available at <http://www.therhino.org/buy.htm> or **1-800-838-3006**. (All Previews are pay-what-you-wish at the door.)

**GERTRUDE STEIN AND A COMPANION features Bay Area actors:**

**Haley Bertelsen** (*Young Woman*), **Elaine Jennings** (*Alice*), **Kathryn L. Wood** (*Gertrude*).

**Tech Credits:**

**Sean Keehan** (Lighting Designer), **Lila Mullins** (Stage Manager), **David Wilson** (Graphics; Photography; Ads). **GERTRUDE STEIN AND A COMPANION** is directed by **Kathryn L. Wood** and **John Fisher**.

**To arrange an interview with directors Kathryn Wood or John Fisher, any of the actors, or for additional info, contact Joseph Tally 510-506-4924**

**[joseph.g.tally@gmail.com](mailto:joseph.g.tally@gmail.com)**

**Synopsis - GERTRUDE STEIN AND A COMPANION**

The play begins just after the death of Gertrude Stein. Her ghost returns to Alice B. Toklas and the genesis and development of their relationship is richly portrayed. Author Win Wells has truly captured the feeling, art, music and literature of Paris of those years--between the world wars--when Pablo and Ernest and Henri and all of Gertrude's friends spent their free time in the great writer's salon. This play flits back and forth in time featuring Gertrude and Alice, as well as a host of famous people who were part of their lives. Using text from Stein's writings, letters and interviews, Wells is able to gradually reveal the inner workings of their relationship.

## **Selected Bios:**

### **Win Wells** (playwright)

Win Wells was born in 1935 as Win Delaine Wells. He was a writer and actor, known for *Gertrude Stein and a Companion* (1987), *The Call of the Wild* (1972) and *Bloodbath* (1979). He died in 1983.

**John Fisher** (Director) is a playwright, director, and actor. Recent play writing credits include his play *Shakespeare Goes to War* (nominated for six 2016 Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle Awards) and *To Sleep and Dream* (2014 Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle Award Winner for Best Script) as well as his direction of and acting in the Theatre Bay Area Award-winning production of Alan Bennett's *The Habit of Art* and the TBA Recommended Production of *Breaking the Code* (nominated for five 2016 Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle Awards). John also acted in both *Shakespeare Goes to War* and *Breaking the Code* and was nominated as Best Leading Actor of 2016 for both performances. In the 2014-15 season John directed the West Coast Premiere of David Mamet's *The Anarchist*.

**Kathryn L. Wood** (*Gertrude*/Director) has been working as an actor, director, and costumer in the Bay Area for over 25 years. She is a graduate of University of California, Irvine, where she studied theater. She has worked with Rhino as an actor in *Ishi* by John Fisher, *Roadshow* by Stephen Sondheim, *Habit of Art* by Alan Bennett, and *Present Laughter* by Noel Coward. She first started directing during two years she lived in Albuquerque, New Mexico: Sean Owens's *Tincture* (SolArts Theater) and Jane Chamber's *Last Summer at Bluefish Cove* (Vortex Theatre). Locally, Wood has directed several productions at Exit Theater (*Her Majesty*, *An Affair of Honor*, *Lucky Girl*, and *Nerd Nation*). Wood is delighted to be continuing her collaboration with Theatre Rhino.

**Theatre Rhinoceros** - Founded in 1977, The Rhino is the longest running LGBT theatre in the nation. We develop and produce works of theatre that enlighten, enrich, and explore both the ordinary and the extraordinary aspects of our queer community. Our emphasis is on new works, works about under-represented members of the larger queer community, and revivals of lesser known queer classics. Over the years Theatre Rhinoceros has received many awards of recognition including: Theatre Rhinoceros Day in the City Proclamation from Mayor Gavin Newsome, State Assembly Certificate of Recognition from Senator Mark Leno, recognitions from Congressperson Nancy Pelosi and Assembly Persons Tom Ammiano and Carole Migden, numerous Cable Car, BATCC and TBA Awards and Nominations, and the GLAAD Media Award for Best LGBT Theatre.

## **AND JOIN US FOR:**

**The 2016 Rhino New Year's Eve Spectacular**

***The Best of Bobrow Revue***

**The stars of Morris Bobrow's hit musicals *Foodies* and *Shopping* return for an evening of song and comedy to ring in the New Year.**

**One Show Only: Saturday, December 31, 2016**

**[www.TheRhino.org/1-800-838-3006](http://www.TheRhino.org/1-800-838-3006)**

## **Calendar Editors:**

WHAT: *Theatre Rhinoceros presents...*  
**GERTRUDE STEIN AND A COMPANION** by Win Wells  
*"They were regular in being gay...they were gay the same length of time every day, they were gay, they were quite regularly gay."*  
directed by Kathryn L. Wood and John Fisher

**GERTRUDE STEIN AND A COMPANION** won first prize at both the Edinburgh Festival and the Theatre Festival in Sydney, Australia, as well as the Vita Award in South Africa as Best Play. The love of Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas takes the stage in this witty and romantic account of their life together.

WHEN: **Dec. 28, 2016 - Jan. 8, 2017**  
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TIX: Tickets are \$15 - \$40 and are available at <http://www.therhino.org/buy.htm> or **1-800- 838-3006**. (All Previews are pay-what-you-wish at the door.)

WHERE: **Eureka Theatre - 215 Jackson St., (at Battery St.) SF, CA 94111**

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## **Public Service Announcements (PSA's) for**

**GERTRUDE STEIN AND A COMPANION by Win Wells / directed by Kathryn L. Wood and John Fisher**

***Limited Engagement - Only 8 Performances - 2 Weeks!***

**A Theatre Rhinoceros production at**

**Eureka Theatre in SF: Dec. 28, 2016-Jan 8, 2017**

### **15 seconds:**

Theatre Rhinoceros invites you to come see GERTRUDE STEIN AND A COMPANION by Win Wells – An Award-winning play in which the love of Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas takes the stage in this witty and romantic account of their life together.

GERTRUDE STEIN AND A COMPANION plays Dec. 28, 2016-Jan 8, 2017, - 2 weeks only, at The Eureka Theatre - 215 Jackson St., (at Battery St.) in San Francisco.

Call 800- 838-3006 or visit [TheRhino.org](http://TheRhino.org) for more information.

### **30 seconds:**

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### **1 minute:**

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## **Upcoming Shows in the 2016/17 Season at Theatre Rhino:**

**A whole new season of LGBT plays all performed at our new home The Eureka Theatre 215 Jackson St., (at Battery St.) SF, CA 94111 in beautiful Downtown San Francisco! Join us for a wild ride in 2016-17!**

**A Rhino Tradition**

***The New Year's Eve Spectacular***

**The stars of *Foodies* and *Shopping* return for an evening of song and comedy to ring in the New Year.**

**December 31, 2016 – *One Show Only!***

**Eureka Theatre - 215 Jackson St., (at Battery St.) in San Francisco.**

**World Premiere**

***Ding Dong!***

**By John Fisher**

**A San Francisco drag party turns into a crazy evening of self-discovery. Ding Dong! And another drag queen comes through the door.**

**February 25 – March 19, 2017**

**Eureka Theatre - 215 Jackson St., (at Battery St.) in San Francisco.**

***Priscilla, Queen of the Desert***

**The Musical**

**By Stephan Elliott and Allan Scott**

**The glorious musical adventure about trannies, drag shows, Down Under, and what we will do for love.**

**May 27 – July 2, 2017**

**Eureka Theatre - 215 Jackson St., (at Battery St.) in San Francisco.**

**Special Event**

***Lear!***

**An Outdoor Shakespeare Adventure**

**In the spirit of *Titus!* and *Timon!*, The Rhino takes to the park once again for another walkabout production. A Co-Production of the Yerba Buena Gardens Festival.**

**July 7-9, 2017**

**Yerba Buena Gardens - 750 Howard St. (Btw'n 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sts.) in San Francisco**

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