

The Whiting, 1241 E. Kearsley St., Flint, MI 48503

## PRESS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release**

October 12, 2006

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**The Whiting Presents *Lazer Vaudeville* as Part of the  
Razzle Dazzle Family Series  
Co-presented with Flint Youth Theatre**

**Flint, MI** – The Whiting is proud to co-present *Lazer Vaudeville* with Flint Youth Theatre as part of the Razzle Dazzle Family Series on **Friday, November 3 at 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.** Ticket prices are \$18 for adults and \$16 for children 12 and under. Tickets are available online at [TheWhiting.com](http://TheWhiting.com) and by phone at (810) 237-7333 or (888) 8-CENTER. The Whiting is located at 1241 E. Kearsley St. just off I-475 between the University of Michigan Flint and Mott Community College on the beautiful Flint Cultural Center campus.

*Lazer Vaudeville* combines high-tech laser magic with the traditional arts of vaudeville to create an original theatrical production. Complete with superlative juggling, black light illusion, acrobatics, zany comedy, and audience participation, *Lazer Vaudeville* offers clean, classy fun for the entire family. A cast of fantastical characters leads the audience on a journey through the imagination as a wizard creates magical illusions with laser beams, a neon cowboy kicks up a luminescent rope-spinning display, and an audience member escapes from a straitjacket. The master of ceremonies is a seven-foot tall, fluorescent, fire-breathing dragon named Alfonzo.

Touring since 1987, *Lazer Vaudeville* fulfills Carter Brown's dream of bringing contemporary vaudeville to the American stage. Internationally acclaimed as a master of his craft, Brown demonstrates the endangered art of hoop rolling. In an astonishing visual display, up to ten hoops roll around the juggler's body and circle the stage as if taking on a life of their own. Brown also collaborates with performers Cindy Marvell and Nicholas Flair to fly indoor kites, spin glowing staffs, and juggle running chainsaws.

"The kind of juggling we do blows away everybody's concept of what juggling is about," Brown comments. Together the troupe creates pinwheel illusions and percussive sounds with South American bolas, bounces balls off airborne drums in a mesmerizing ensemble piece, and defies the laws of probability by passing up to ten clubs in an engaging display of buffoonery and expertise. *Lazer Vaudeville* has performed at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C., and was featured in the P.B.S. specials *Juggling Work and Family* with Hedrick Smith and *Center Stage* at the Paramount Theatre in Austin, TX. International tours have included theater festivals in England, Singapore, Hong Kong, Japan, Taiwan, Bermuda, and Saudi Arabia.

Composer Jesse Manno of the University of Colorado in Boulder has created an original soundtrack that captures the show's special effects and vaudevillian spirit. The music mixes electronic sound with Turkish guitar, Macedonian tambura, Greek bouzouki, and Irish fiddle. The troupe sells this lively and lyrical recording on CD along with a performance video, available online at [www.lazervaudeville.com](http://www.lazervaudeville.com).

Designer Maia Robbins-Zust of Berkshire Production Resources in Richmond, MA created the company's fiber-optic scenery. A floating castle lights up the stage and monument valley glows in the evanescent moonlight. Imaginative costumes by Jennifer Johanos add extra sparkle to the performance.

Cindy Marvell, the first woman ever to win the International Jugglers' Association Championships, "juggles like a poet" and performs with "a compelling mix of pragmatism and magic," according to Jennifer Dunning of *The New York Times*. Marvell also dresses up like a chef and teaches children from the audience to spin plates.

Master manipulator and physical comedian Nicholas Flair intercepts clubs with razor-sharp timing as Brown and Marvell send them whizzing by at precarious angles.

Other performances in the Razzle Dazzle Family Series include:

**Seussical**

Friday, February 2, 2007 at 4:30 & 7pm

“Oh, the things you can think” when Dr. Seuss’s best-loved stories and characters collide in an unforgettable musical caper presented by TheaterworksUSA. Take a romp through the Seuss classics in this must-see for fans of all ages.

**The Peking Acrobats**

Friday, March 30, 2007 at 4:30 & 7pm

Setting world records for astounding acrobatic feats and introducing national and global audiences to Chinese folk art tradition, The Peking Acrobats fascinate audiences with wire-walking, trick-cycling, tumbling and so much more.

Performances in The Razzle Dazzle Family Series are generously sponsored by the Ruth Mott Foundation, abc12, CK 105.5, CARS 108, WFNT, and US 103.1.

For a complete schedule of performances in The Whiting 2006-07 Season, please visit [TheWhiting.com](http://TheWhiting.com).

The Whiting is a member organization of the Flint Cultural Center Corporation and is dedicated to bringing the performing arts to the community. The Whiting is a nonprofit organization and an Equal Opportunity Employer providing programs and services without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex or handicap.

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**\*\*Reviewer Tickets ARE AVAILABLE. High Res Images are available upon request.**

**To secure tickets or request images, please contact Wendi Ware at**

**(810) 237-8689 or [wware@thewhiting.com](mailto:wware@thewhiting.com)\*\***