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Cape May Stage Eagerly Anticipates David Gaines'

7 (XI) Samurai

or

Looney Tunes meets 17th Century Japan

**Gaines skillfully reinvents the art of mime earning raves from
Audiences of All Ages (and critics too!)**

Cape May Stage

Box Office: (609) 884-1341

The Robert Shackleton Playhouse

Bank & Lafayette Streets, Cape May, NJ 08204

www.capemaystage.com

7 (XI) Samurai

David Gaines, Mime and More

Performances:

July 6, 2009 7PM

July 7, 2009 11AM

Cape May, NJ – June 22, 2009- David Gaines' new brand of mime consistently garners awards such as "Best Solo Show", "Best of the Fest", and "Patrons' Choice" from Fringe Festivals in Washington, D.C., Orlando, Cincinnati and beyond. Best described as a live-action version of an animated cartoon, Cape May Stage is thrilled to present Gaines' physically energized storytelling that engages viewers from start to finish. Critics call it a "riotous mime-based lampoon" sure to thoroughly entertain the entire family, with two performances, Monday, July 6th at 7PM and Tuesday, July 7th at 11AM.

Dispelling any and every negative connotation or stereotype that mime may imply (apologies to Marcel Marceau), Gaines retells the story of *The Seven Samurai*, the classic 1954 film. Portraying hundreds of characters using his entire body, remarkable ingenuity, a few masks and many well-placed sound effects, the result has been described by critics as "a frenetic feat of creativity and storytelling".

As part of Cape May Stage's new Second Stage Series, *7 (XI) Samurai* perfectly fits into the Equity company's vision of offering a variety of entertainment during the theatre's otherwise 'dark days/nights'. New Artistic Director Roy Steinberg's innovative approach

to programming brings diverse acts to audiences, and is helping to spread the word that "there is always something creative happening at Cape May Stage!"

About David Gaines

David Gaines is an actor and director who specializes in movement, mask, improvisation, commedia, and clown. He studied at the Ecole Jacques Lecoq in Paris, France, and has taught workshops at many U.S. universities and colleges. He taught for three years at the graduate school of the University of Missouri at Kansas City Professional Actor Training Program before settling in Arlington, VA. He is currently a member of the Big Apple Circus Clown Care Unit in Washington and Baltimore.

Gaines originally wrote *7 (X1) Samurai* as a piece for three actors, but later challenged himself to reduce the cast to one, realizing that the creativity and stamina necessary for such a performance was enormous. Luckily for audiences, he was up to the task and has been thrilling them since its premiere.

Describing his new take on an old genre, Gaines says, "Imagine mime that isn't pretentious and clowning that isn't childish." Critics say, "Gaines boosts the aesthetic beyond slapstick, to the mythic and you have to see it to believe it."

Ticket Information

7 (X1) Samurai performances are Monday July 6 at 7PM and Tuesday July 7 at 11AM at the Robert Shackleton Playhouse of the Cape May Stage. Tickets are \$20 for adults, and 1/2 price for kids/students! Call (609) 884-1341 for tickets and information or visit the theatre's website, www.capemaystage.com. Audio enhancement, wheelchair accessible seating, and large print programs are available with advance notice by calling the box office at (609) 884-1341.

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