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## **Rabbit Hole Ensemble presents World Premiere of Obie Award winner Neal Bell's "SHADOW OF HIMSELF" in January**

**RABBIT HOLE ENSEMBLE** is pleased to announce "**SHADOW OF HIMSELF**," the World Premiere of a new play by Obie Award winner **NEAL BELL** ("On The Bum," "Spatter Pattern"). Directed by **EDWARD ELEFTERION**, the production plays from **January 8th through the 31st with an opening scheduled for Friday, January 16th** at **THE ACCESS THEATER, 380 Broadway**. The production schedule is **Thursdays through Sundays at 8:00 PM**. Tickets are \$20 and are available by calling TheaterMania at (212) 352- 3101 or logging onto their web site at [www.TheaterMania.com](http://www.TheaterMania.com). For more information, please log onto [www.RabbitHoleEnsemble.com](http://www.RabbitHoleEnsemble.com).

Inspired by one of the masterpieces of world literature ("The Epic of Gilgamesh") and interviews with men from all walks of life about fear, "**SHADOW OF HIMSELF**" is a modern allegory that uses contemporary attitudes about masculinity, power, and mortality to tell the story of a prideful king and his journey towards himself. Gil, a god-like king, terrorizes his people until he finds balance in a comrade who equals his strength, bravery, and beauty. But when the king sets out on an adventure to kill a notorious monster and immortalize his name, he has no idea that it will cost him the most precious thing he has.

**NEAL BELL** is one of America's most respected playwrights. His plays, which include "Two Small Bodies," "Raw Youth," "Cold Sweat," "On The Bum," and "Spatter Pattern," have appeared at Playwrights Horizons and at regional theatres including the Berkeley Rep, the Mark Taper Forum, South Coast Rep, the La Jolla Playhouse, and Actors Theatre of Louisville, where his ten-minute play "Out The Window" was a co-winner of the Heideman Award. A recipient of fellowships from the Rockefeller Foundation, the National Endowment, and the Guggenheim Foundation, Mr Bell was awarded an Obie Award for sustained achievement in playwriting.

Director **EDWARD ELEFTERION** is the Artistic Director of Rabbit Hole Ensemble and the recipient of the 2008 New York Innovative Theatre Award for Outstanding Director. Among his credits: four collaborations with playwright Neal Bell, including the world premiere of his adaptation of "Therese Raquin" at New York University; "Big Thick Rod" (FringeNYC 2008), "The Night Of Nosferatu," "The Transformation of Dr. Jekyll" (FringeNYC 2006), "The Siblings" (MITF 2006), and acclaimed productions of "In The Jungle Of Cities," "Macbeth", and "The Misanthrope." He currently teaches acting at Hofstra University.

Featured in the cast: **MARK CAJIGAO** ("Broadway's Rising Stars" at Town Hall, "Twelfth Night" at Storm Theatre) **MATT W. CODY** (Ensemble Studio Theatre, Urban Stages, Lark Theatre), **EMILY HARTFORD** (Off Broadway's "The Contrast" at Mirror Repertory Company), **DANIEL AJL KITROSSER** (off-Broadway's "A Dolphin Up A Tree") and **ADAM SWIDERSKI** ("Charlie Victor Romeo" at PS 122).

**RABBIT HOLE ENSEMBLE** is a Brooklyn-based theatre company that engages the imagination of audiences by using the power of the performer to create atmosphere and story. Performers use their bodies and voices to create environments and sound design. The expressiveness of their distinctly minimalist aesthetic has been recognized by two recent NYIT awards for their work on "The Night of Nosferatu": Edward Elefterion for Outstanding Director and Kevin Hardy for Outstanding Lighting Design.