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**Paul Handy's *Love in Ruins* premieres at the 2016 Capital Fringe Festival
*Love. Death. War.***

Can you find love amid the ruins - and survivors of war?

Washington, DC – June 6, 2016 – Paul Handy's *Love in Ruins*, a new play based on a true story, premieres this summer as a part of the 2016 Capital Fringe Festival. *Love in Ruins* is directed by Clare Shaffer and will be performed at the Logan Fringe Arts Space – Upstairs Theatre.

Love in Ruins tells the true story of Mayte, a young woman who is in love with Vicente, as the Spanish Civil War begins. While Mayte is desperately hoping to avoid the war, Vicente enlists in the Republican Army. As the war rages on, Mayte meets Guillermo, a young medical student, at the University of Valencia, where she works. Follow the growing relationship between Mayte and Guillermo as they deal with all the ravages and destruction of war.

Love in Ruins is written by Administrative Law Judge and Playwright **Paul Handy**. *Love in Ruins* is Handy's third play to be a part of a Capital Fringe Festival. *Love in Ruins* is based on a compelling true story about Handy's in-laws and the development of their relationship amid the tumultuous backdrop of the Spanish Civil War.

Director **Clare Shaffer** describes *Love in Ruins* as "a high-stakes, emotionally charged snapshot of a wartime love triangle." Shaffer has numerous directing credits in the DC area and is currently the Associate Producer/Casting Director at Nu Sass Productions and the Chief Brand Officer at Flying V, as well as a Helen Hayes Awards judge.

The cast is led by **Thais Menendez**, who plays Mayte. Menendez has performed numerous times at the GALA Hispanic Theatre and has lived in Spain. Menendez is joined by **Calvin McCullough** playing Guillermo, who was seen most recently in Moises Kaufman's *Carmen* at Olney Theatre Center and at Imagination Stage. **Sheila Blanc** and **Danny Santiago** round out the cast playing Josefina and Vicente respectively. Blanc recently appeared in *Bennie's Gym*, a television pilot starring Ed Asner. Santiago last was seen in *Assassins* at Laurel Mill Playhouse.

Love in Ruins

By Paul Handy

Directed by Clare Shaffer

(continued)

Performances are located at the Logan Fringe Arts Space – Upstairs Theatre, 1358 Florida Avenue NE, Washington, DC 20002. Tickets and passes available through capitalfringe.org or by calling 866-811-4111.

The dates and times are listed below:

Saturday, July 9 at 3:30pm
Wednesday, July 13 at 6:15pm
Sunday, July 17 at 2:30pm
Thursday, July 21 at 9:45pm
Saturday, July 23 at 12:45pm

Let others know you're attending *Love in Ruins* by visiting the event page on Facebook at www.facebook.com/events/278704509140825/.

This show is part of the 2016 Capital Fringe Festival, a production of Capitalfringe.org.

Fringe Festival Press Contact: Laura Gross, 202-695-8223, press@capitalfringe.org

About 2016 Fringe Festival

Capital Fringe enters its second decade with year-round programming at the Logan Fringe Arts Space and a Festival that spans the city. There's something for everyone at the Capital Fringe Festival – comedy, drama, dance, music and everything in-between! This year, you can get a taste of every show at the Festival Preview and immerse yourself in live music at the first ever Capital Fringe Festival! The 11th Annual Capital Fringe will run from July 7 to July 31, 2016, celebrating over a decade of bringing together DC's creative community.

Follow Capital Fringe on Twitter @capitalfringe and on Facebook at facebook.com/CapitalFringe or visit the website at www.capitalfringe.org.

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