

## **Chill Live Shows**

Bonnie Kenaz-Mara

Gala Fundraiser at Actor's Gymnasium-opening night of Lost & Found 2012

Lost & Found: A Recycled Circus Back by popular demand! February 11 – March 11, 2012

"This production will charm, warm and wow you...sly and nuanced clowning...wordless, impressive poetry" - Chicago Theatre Blog.

"Director Lawrence DiStasi showcases a wry sense of humor and some superb acrobatics in this quirky Actors Gymnasium show" "Recommended" - Chicago Reader.

We had the great pleasure of checking out opening night of Lost & Found at The Actors Gymnasium last Saturday. The caliber of their circus arts is truly top notch. This colorful extravaganza combines all of our favorite elements--aerial acts, steampunkery, a funky, rag tag band of urchins playing instruments and making mischief, a love triangle, technology as art, low tech fun, recycled and upcycled outfits, drums and toys. We'll be returning to catch the show again with the kids as soon as possible. Lost and Found is highly recommended, family friendly fun for all ages. We were quite impressed with the cast, and the cast off set dressings. We're also enamored with Co-Artistic Director, Lawrence E. DiStasi's statement about the show. He says:

I didn't used to like old things. They kind of depressed me. But now, when someone takes an old chair or something, a thing that has managed, against all odds, to survive the world for many years, and they give it a little careful attention-I think it's incredibly moving. And these things have so much personality. It's almost like they're alive. Like people. They have souls in a way. Unfortunately most of the stuff we all bring into our lives is disposable. And things that are made to be thrown away, are sad company. It's so hard to stay away from them, but who needs that kind of sadness? Anyway, I think there is treasure in our garbage-in what we throw away, and overlook. And those people we throw away and overlook too. There is magic in our trash. And probably our future there too.

ChilL Mama has potential video interviews in the works with the Artistic Directory and also actor/Chicago Dad, David Catlin, who plays alongside both of his daughters in the show. Saylor, who is 9 and in 4th grade, went to preschool with ChilL Mama's Sage. Saylor's younger sister, Emerson, is a 6 year old first grader and Lost & Found 2012 is her first circus show! So check back with ChilL Mama like we vote in Chi, IL...early and often. We have lots of exciting things in store.

The Opening Night Gala was lots of fun, too. We saw a zillion familiar faces including our past video interview subject, Director-David Kersnar, who can be seen HERE. (in his fabulous "Ernie & Bert style bed interview" with Mark Messing) on the set of Goodnight Moon.

We also sat next to an accomplished aerialist, whom we photographed and chatted with in the past, when she played Alice in Lookingglass' last remount of their namesake story. We also saw familiar faces from CircEsteem, including Will, a talented high school senior, who plays the lead juggler in Lost & Found. We highly recommend checking it out.

Lost & Found gets ChilL Mama's GRRREAT GREEN SEAL OF APPROVAL: 99% Recycled! - Costumes, props and set pieces used in this show are re-purposed, recycled, found-object art.

Last year's runaway hit, Lost and Found: A Recycled Circus returns to The Actors Gymnasium! A collaborative original work by Co-Artistic Directors Larry DiStasi and Sylvia Hernandez-DiStasi, together with an amazing team of designers and performers, this circus production explores the world of second-hand treasure. Cast-off junk and cast-off characters are saved in this show and given thrilling, new life. Lost and Found: A Recycled Circus features aerial acrobatics, live music, and magical, found-object invention.

Click here for The Actor's Gym's main site for ticket ordering info and more.

## Order Tickets HERE before it's sold out!!

Shows run every Friday through Sunday till March 11th. The Actors Gymnasium 927 Noyes St Evanston, IL 60201

Recommended for ages 5 and up.
Adults \$15
Students with ID and kids under 13 are \$10

Check out ChilLMama's past coverage here.

