

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DECEMBER 9, 2010

CONTACT Ann Filmer

(708) 795-6704 x105 theater (773) 307-1563 cell

[ann@16thstreettheater.org](mailto:ann@16thstreettheater.org)

## **Marilyn Campbell's adaptation of THE BEATS begins January 13 at 16th Street**

BERWYN, DECEMBER 9, 2010 – Jack Kerouac, Allen Ginsberg, LeRoi Jones (Amiri Baraka), Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Diane di Prima: Beat poets took on 1950's mainstream America and dragged change kicking and screaming into the 60's. 16<sup>th</sup> Street Theater, a part of the North Berwyn Park District, announces **Marilyn Campbell's adaptation of THE BEATS** directed by Ann Filmer performing **January 13 – February 5, 2010** at the Berwyn Cultural Center, 6420 16th Street in Berwyn, with a press opening of **Thursday, January 13 at 7:30 PM**. This is the first play in 16th Street's Season Four 2011: Season of Change.

Marilyn Campbell's adaptation premiered at Writers' Theatre in Glencoe with Kate Buckley directing and David Cromer as Ginsberg. Ann Filmer was Assistant Director. It was 1997, the year Allen Ginsberg died. "14 years later," Filmer states, "our country is in a very different place, having possibly reached the ceiling as a superpower. As we look ahead to what's next, Berwyn's 16<sup>th</sup> Street turns to The Beats. A young cast of five born 60 years after Kerouac dig into these poets' words, ideas, culture, lifestyle and ask: Are we progressing? Regressing? And do we still have a love affair with the road?"

"...and I am waiting for someone  
to really discover America  
and wail" – **Lawrence Ferlinghetti**

"**The Beats** were part of a society that lived on the  
border of perpetual fright... they've given us the only  
serious literary movement indigenous to this country."  
– **Arthur Knight**

"It was a complete reaction: socially, politically,  
and of course artistically to what the 50s  
represented." – **LeRoi Jones (Amiri Baraka)**

## MARILYN CAMPBELL

**MARILYN CAMPBELL** is a published playwright, award winning actress and co-founder (w/ Michael Halberstam) and artistic associate of the Writers' Theatre in Glencoe, Illinois. Her co-adaptation of *Crime and Punishment* w/Curt Columbus is published by Dramatic Publishing as well as the recipient of a 2003 Joseph Jefferson Award, a 2009 Los Angeles *Backstage* Garland Award and a 2009 nomination from the LA Drama Critics Circle for "Best New Adaptation."

*Crime and Punishment* has been produced in over 40 productions both nationally and internationally in some of the largest theater's in the country including Berkeley Rep, Intiman Theater, 59E59th Street Theater, Cleveland Playhouse and in 2011 Centerstage in Baltimore, directed by Jason Loweth. She currently has a commission at Writer's Theatre and is working on a new retelling of Frankenstein entitled *The Monster's Lullaby*. In addition to her playwriting, Ms. Campbell is an award winning actress and has been seen in many productions at Writer's Theatre including, *My Own Stranger* with Mary Beth Fisher (a play she also co-adapted).

Ms. Campbell has had a long association with Ann Filmer who produced *Mixing It Up* in 2009 for the Words and Motion Festival (an original work Ms. Campbell co-authored and performed with her daughter Maria Merrin). They also co-produced Estrogen Fest together in 2003 and 2005 at the Storefront Theater. Marilyn is thrilled that Ann has chosen to remount and direct *The Beats* at 16th Street. The play premiered at Writer's Theatre in 1997 and featured David Cromer as Allen Ginsberg. At that time it received special mentions from both Lawrence Bommer (Chicago Tribune) and Andrew Patner (Chicago Sun-Times) as one of the best shows of the 1997 Chicago Theater Season. Ms. Campbell is also the host of a new radio show on WFMT called *The Feminist Lens*, which will air on New Year's Day 2011.

## 16TH STREET THEATER

Recognized by the Chicago Reader as **Chicago's Best Emerging Theater 2009**, 16<sup>th</sup> Street Theater (committed to telling the stories of ALL in our community) is located 17 minutes from downtown Chicago at the Berwyn Cultural Center, 6420 16<sup>th</sup> Street, Berwyn, IL 60402. Just west of Ridgeland, the theater is one mile southwest of the Austin exit off the Eisenhower Expressway/290 and the Austin Blue line. There is free parking in the lot one block west at 16<sup>th</sup> and Gunderson. Go to [www.16thstreettheater.org](http://www.16thstreettheater.org) to subscribe to Season Three, purchase tickets or for more information.

## FACT SHEET

### THE BEATS

Adapted by Marilyn Campbell  
Directed by Ann Filmer

### RUNNING TIME:

Under 2 hours including one intermission.

### WHEN:

January 13 – February 5, 2011

**Press Opening: Thursday, January 13, 2011 @ 7:30 PM**

**VIP Opening: Friday, January 14 @ 7:30 PM**

**Regular Run: Thursdays & Fridays @ 7:30 PM, Saturdays @ 5:00 & 8:30 PM**

**Closing: February 5, 2011**

### WHERE:

Berwyn Cultural Center, 6420 16<sup>th</sup> Street, Berwyn

### WHO:

CAST: Malcolm Callan, Carly Ciarrocchi, Jon McGilberry, Adam Poss, John Taflan and Grant Strombeck on drums.

### TO PURCHASE TICKETS:

#### \$18 Tickets

Online – [www.16thstreettheater.org](http://www.16thstreettheater.org)

In Person – at North Berwyn Park District, 1619 Wesley Ave., Berwyn

**Ticket and Information Hotline** – (708) 795-6704

### HOW MUCH:

General Admission: \$18

Student Rush Tickets (available day of show only): \$10

16<sup>th</sup> STREET THEATER is Berwyn's professional equity theater under the artistic direction of Ann Filmer. Now in its fourth year, 16<sup>th</sup> Street's Season Four 2011: Season of Change is supported in part by **The Richard H. Driehaus Foundation**. The BERWYN CULTURAL CENTER, a North Berwyn Park District managed facility, is dedicated to providing the highest quality and range of cultural arts programs, classes, workshops, events, and exhibitions providing opportunities for Berwyn residents and area artists. The center provides year-round programs engaging participants of all ages in visual, performing, literary, martial and media arts and 16th Street Theater's professional productions. The BCC also serves as an incubator for emerging artists, artisans, writers, performers and musicians to develop and present new works. The center is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life and sustainability of our local communities by advancing appreciation for the beauty of cultural diversity.

###