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**EISEMANN CENTER WILL CELEBRATE ITS FIFTH ANNIVERSARY  
SEPTEMBER 14 AND 15 WITH HIT SHOWS AND REVELRY**

**RICHARDSON** – To celebrate, the anniversary weekend will feature the Texas premiere of a unique and compelling club act that originated in New York City, ***Polygraph Lounge***, appearing in the Countrywide Theatre on Friday, September 14th at 7:00 PM and 10:00 PM. On Saturday, September 15<sup>th</sup> the celebration will continue with ***Neil Berg's 100 Years of Broadway*** in the Hill Performance Hall at 8:00 PM followed by a festive reception for the evening's patrons.

Cartwheeling in the footsteps of masters Spike Jones, Firesign Theatre, and Tom Lehrer comes ***Polygraph Lounge***, a unique one-of-a-kind club act. Conceived in the musical hotbed of New York City's Lower East Side, ***Polygraph Lounge*** is the result of a truly warped and wild collaboration of extraordinary musicians **Rob Schwimmer** and **Mark Stewart**. Joined by the fabulous soprano **Melissa Fathman**, ***Polygraph Lounge*** strip mines the common cultural currency of our time. *In-A-Gadda-Da-Vida* as Gregorian chant, Led Zeppelin meets Aaron Copland, an audience of hundreds of nostrils flaring and blaring on nose flutes in *The Good, The Bad and The Ugly*. ***Polygraph Lounge*** is a place where *Purple Haze*, *Green Acres* and Stravinsky's *Firebird* live happily together. Sensing a dearth of mirth in the music of today, ***Polygraph Lounge*** provides the cure. Quirky, smart, way out in right field, and not to be missed.

**ROB SCHWIMMER** is a composer, pianist, thereminist, synthesist, singer, and arranger who has performed and recorded throughout the world. He has written for many feature films (one of which won an Academy Award for Best Live Action Short Film,) theatre works, television series, TV-movies, and documentaries as well as CD's. He has worked with Wayne Shorter, Stevie Wonder, Antonio Carlos Jobim, Willie Nelson, Paul Simon, Edie Brickell, Laurie Anderson, Muddy Waters, Geoffrey Holder, John Cale, Jay Black and the Americans, T-Bone Walker, Steve Buscemi, "Red, An Orchestra" and The New Haven Symphony (as featured theremin soloist), Burt Bacharach, Karen Black, C&C Music Factory, Liza Minnelli, Kurt Vonnegut, Alwin Nikolai/ Murray Louis, The Zambonis, Sammy Davis, Jr. and Towa Tei among others. Multi-instrumentalist, singer, composer and instrument designer **MARK STEWART** has been heard around the world performing old and new music. Mark spent much of 1999, 2000 and 2001 recording, touring & performing with Paul Simon and the previous summer performing at Lincoln Center in Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* with Helen Hunt, Kira Sedgwick, and Paul Rudd. A founding member of the Bang on a Can All-Stars, Mark is also a member of Steve Reich and Musicians, David Krakauer's Klezmer Madness, the manic duo ***Polygraph Lounge*** with keyboard & theremin wizard **Rob Schwimmer**, The Fred Frith Guitar Quartet, Arnold Dreyblatt's Orchestra of Excited Strings and Zeena Parkins' Gangster Band. He has also worked with Anthony Braxton, Bob Dylan, Cecil Taylor, Meredith Monk, Edie Brickell, Don Byron, Paul McCartney & Marc Ribot. He has worked with the choreographers Eliot Feld, Susan Marshall, & Yoshiko Chuma and has worked extensively with composer Elliot Goldenthal on music for the feature films *Titus*, *The Butcher Boy*, *Bob the Gambler*, *In Dreams* and *Heat*, often playing instruments of his own design and construction. His New York Lower East Side "lab" is home to an instrument workshop and sonic salon where traditional and new instruments cohabit. He has played for the Broadway shows *Showboat*, *The Who's Tommy*, *The Sound of Music*, *Carousel*, and Disney's *The Lion King*. Tickets range from \$30-\$50 for cabaret-style table seating and fixed seating in the Countrywide Theatre on Friday, September 14th with shows at 7:00 PM and 10:00 PM.

***Neil Berg's 100 Years of Broadway*** recreates the finest moments from the greatest musicals of the century on Saturday, September 15, 2007 at 8:00 PM in the Hill Performance Hall. ***100 Years of Broadway*** is a jubilant revue of Broadway's most beloved songs, including treasures from Jerome Kern, Rodgers and Hammerstein, Kander and Ebb, Cole Porter, Stephen Sondheim, and Andrew Lloyd Webber.

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“What Neil Berg and five scintillating and incredibly talented singers/actors hath wrought is enough to keep Broadway buffs in a state of bliss for weeks to come!” says the *Napa Valley Register*. Patrons attending this performance are invited to a post-performance dessert reception in the Leftwich Grand Foyer to toast the Fifth Anniversary and meet the artists from *Neil Berg’s 100 Years of Broadway*. Performance tickets range from \$32-\$75 and include a post-performance reception.

*Neil Berg’s 100 Years of Broadway* features five of the finest voices on Broadway backed up by an all star band. **NEIL BERG** is the composer/lyricist of the hit off-Broadway musical *The Prince and the Pauper*, which ran for two years at the Lamb’s Theater in New York City. *The New York Times* described it as “...soaring on the wings of theatrical fun.” Berg is currently writing the music for the Broadway bound musical *Grumpy Old Men*, based on the hit film. **RITA HARVEY** starred recently as Hodel in the hit Broadway revival of *Fiddler on the Roof* with Rosie O’Donnell and Harvey Fierstein. She made her Broadway debut performing the lead role of Christine Daae in *The Phantom of the Opera*, after two years performing the role with the second national tour. **RAYMOND JARAMILLO MCLEOD** A Broadway veteran, most recently Mr. McLeod appeared as ‘Wreck’ in the Tony Award winning production of *Wonderful Town*. He has also worked in shows with such stars as Michael Crawford (*Dance of the Vampires*), Placido Domingo (Metropolitan and Los Angeles Operas), Taye Diggs (*The Wild Party*) and Will Smith (*Fresh Prince of Bel-Air*). **CARTER CALVERT** has New York credits including starring in the original Broadway production cast album, and touring productions of *It Ain’t Nothin’ But The Blues*. Ms. Calvert toured Europe in *Smokey Joe’s Café*, played Grizabella in the national tour of *Cats*, and appeared as the title role in *Always, Patsy Cline*. **DANNY ZOLLI** Best known for his monumental number of performances as Jesus, Judas, and Annas in more than 15 productions of *Jesus Christ Superstar* throughout the world, Danny’s unique and stirring performance of the aria “Gethsemane” is debated among *Jesus Christ Superstar* fans as one of the best. **ERICK BUCKLEY** was the first person in the world to perform both the roles of Marius and Jean Valjean in *Les Miserables*.; Piangi in “Andrew Loyd Webber’s *Phantom of the Opera*, Dave in *The Full Monty*, Roger in the Broadway revival of *Grease!* with Sheena Easton, John Secada, Rex Smith, and Adrian Zmed, Gangster #1 in the Tony winning Broadway revival of *Kiss Me, Kate, Camelot* opposite Robert Goulet and critically acclaimed concerts around the world.\*

The Charles W. Eisemann Center for Performing Arts and Corporate Presentations opened to the public on September 14, 2002. Since 2002, over 840,000 people have attended events at the Eisemann Center at one or more of the 2,000+ events that have taken place. Community volunteers have given over 41,000 hours of service as ushers, ticket takers, in the administrative office and assisting with marketing initiatives offsite. To date, the Eisemann Center Ticket Office has sold tickets on behalf of Eisemann Center clients and for *Eisemann Center Presents* shows in excess of \$7.8 million.

“Leading up to the Eisemann Center’s opening in 2002, our vision was to establish the Eisemann Center as a regional center for the performing arts and corporate presentations. Today our clients and audiences come from all over North Texas representing theatre, dance, music and a diverse mix of cultural attractions and corporate entities. We are pleased with what we have been able to accomplish and proud of the continued growth we’ve experienced each year,” says Managing Director Bruce C. MacPherson.

The Eisemann Center is a City of Richardson facility located in the Galatyn Park Urban Center at 2351 Performance Drive in Richardson, Texas. The Eisemann Center is easily accessible from Highway 75 North taking the Galatyn Parkway/Renner Road exit going north and the Galatyn Parkway/Campbell Road exit going south or from the DART light rail station at Galatyn Park. Major sponsors include WFAA-TV/*The Dallas Morning News*, DART and the Renaissance Dallas-Richardson Hotel.

\*Cast is subject to change based upon possible Broadway and touring developments.

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