

**NEWS FROM ...**

## **CITY COLLEGE OF SAN FRANCISCO**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **City College premieres "Aftermath of War: in their own words"**

SAN FRANCISCO, California, July 5, 2007 — The Theatre Arts Department of City College of San Francisco will premier "Aftermath of War: in their own words," an original docudrama conceived and directed by Professor John Wilk. The play was developed with acting students from the Theatre Department over a four-month period in the class "Performance Art: New Media Workshop." Music Department Professor Brian Fergus composed the original score.

"Aftermath of war: in their own words" was conceived after Wilk read a San Francisco Chronicle story about a Marine recovering at the VA Hospital in Palo Alto. It inspired Wilk and his students to discover the names and stories of other soldiers fighting in or returned from Iraq through their blogs, letters, interviews and poetry. Their findings about how soldiers and their families were affected by military values like valor, as well as the pain and sense of loss resulting from combat, were molded into a powerful script. Eleven students will act in the stories of some 30 individuals staged as a series of monologues and dramatizations punctuated by projections.

Among the items of source material was an interview with Drew Cameron, a participant in the "Warrior Writer" project. Similar to the material in the play, Cameron's work with other soldiers has led to the publication of their stories of war. Cameron some day wishes to return to Iraq as a "citizen of the world" in order to help fix what he feels he "broke" while serving in the military. His story is one of many soldiers who have conflicting points of view as to their service in the play.

"Aftermath of war: in their own words" will be presented July 27-29 and August 3-5 in the Diego Rivera Theatre, 50 Phelan Ave. Friday and Saturday night performances begin at 8 o'clock, Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$10 general; \$5 for students, seniors and Theatre Bay Area members.

For reservations and further information, telephone John Wilk at (415) 452-7274 or email [jwilk@ccsf.edu](mailto:jwilk@ccsf.edu).