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**Next Fall**

**By the NUMB#RS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LIGHTS</th>
<th>PROPS</th>
<th>SETS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>183 dimmers</td>
<td>8 Religious articles</td>
<td>13 flats create the hospital walls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>160 lighting instruments</td>
<td>6 waiting room seats</td>
<td>40 sheets of MDF create the flooring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 fluorescent lights</td>
<td>1 hospital bed</td>
<td>11 colors of paint on the set,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 gel scrollers</td>
<td>80 cups of coffee, over the course of the run</td>
<td>4 shades of blue to create the floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 custom glass gobos</td>
<td></td>
<td>415 square feet of projection screen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 different kinds of gobos</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 different colors of gel</td>
<td></td>
<td>6 Doors</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If today’s performance has sparked questions that may be difficult to ask, or you need help finding more information on the topics addressed in Next Fall, you can visit these websites.

- PFLAG: Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays [pflagdallas.org](http://pflagdallas.org)
- Gay-Straight Alliance Network [gsanetwork.org](http://gsanetwork.org)
- Cathedral of Hope Dallas UCC Church LGBTQ [cathedralofhope.com](http://cathedralofhope.com)
- It Gets Better Project [itgetsbetter.org](http://itgetsbetter.org)

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**Next Fall**

**By Geoffrey Nauffts**

**Directed by Kevin Moriarty**

APR13–MAY 6, 2012

Kalita Humphreys Theater


When an accident changes everything for this unlikely couple, Adam must turn to Luke’s family and friends for support… and answers. A beautiful and funny portrait of modern romance, Next Fall portrays the ups and downs of this five-year relationship with sharp humor and unflinching honesty, and asks the hard questions about commitment, love and faith.

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I Believe in…

“When Worlds Collide

It’s very difficult for many audience members to see an honest portrayal of a loving gay relationship on stage; for others, seeing characters express a genuine deep religious faith makes them equally uncomfortable. This is why we are doing this play: to bring both of those audiences together in a dialogue, just like the characters in the play.” –Kevin Moriarty, Director, Next Fall

Within Next Fall a variety of religions are mentioned but two points of view come in sharp contrast through the beliefs of the two main characters; Luke, a fundamentalist Christian, and Adam, an Atheist. Before coming to the play, take note of the following pertinent definitions and statistics on religion in America.

FUNDAMENTALISM (n) Christianity (especially among certain Protestant sects) the belief that every word of the Bible is divinely inspired and therefore true.

ATHEISM (n) the doctrine or belief that there is no God.

THE RAPTURE Theology, the experience, anticipated by some fundamentalist Christians, of meeting Christ midway in the air upon his return to earth.

U.S. Statistics:

- 83.9% of the population identifies as having a religious affiliation
- 26.3% of the population identifies as Evangelical Protestant
- 16.1% of the population identifies as Unaffiliated; of those Agnostics make up 2.4%, Atheists 1.6% and 12.1% identify as nothing in particular.
- The gay/lesbian population constitutes about 3% of adults.
- 70% of the gay/lesbian population self-identify as Christians.

For many people, religion is intensely personal and unique. We often describe our religion as “what I believe,” or “my set of beliefs.” They may be shared with others of a similar faith, but as individuals we choose what to believe in. We choose who to share our beliefs with and we choose how important those beliefs will be in our everyday lives.

When Worlds Collide

“No one’s the devil, here. We’re all just trying to get along.”

–Anonymous. Quote included in the script by Geoffrey Nauffts, the playwright of Next Fall.

The character Luke has established his belief structure and crafted his lifestyle through small choices every day. In Next Fall’s hospital waiting room we see these two worlds collide. What happens when we aren’t around to shepherd our loved ones through an introduction ourselves?

Holly: I’m not sure it’s your place to tell. Adam: Oh and whose would it be? Holly: Luke’s.

Who would be in your waiting room? And when decisions regarding your medical treatment have to be made, who speaks for you?

Butch: I could have you thrown out of here… and there wouldn’t be a damn thing you could do about it.

Who should speak for Luke?

If Luke and Adam’s relationship hadn’t been interrupted by this accident, do you think they would have continued to compromise their beliefs/individual lifestyle—or would they have reached an impasse?

Love and Other Strangers

“Love after all is every bit as preposterous, subjective and inexplicable as faith itself.”

–Ben Brantley of The New York Times on Next Fall

Six characters tell the story of Next Fall:

LUKE, 30, an aspiring actor is in a relationship with ADAM, 45, a substitute teacher.

Adam: It’s a negotiation like any relationship. He lets me watch CNN 24/7! I let him watch that show where people hop across the big, rubber balls.

Their biggest negotiation—their beliefs.

Luke: Is it so wrong of me to want you to go to heaven? Adam: I mean what’s the big ** deal?

Adam: Yes… because I don’t believe in it. Not your version, it’s too exclusive. Too many rules.

Luke: Fine. Then I’ll believe. For the both of us.

And Lastly their friends.

HOLLY, 35, a candle shop owner, friends with both Luke and Adam has been “open to” various religions throughout the play.

Butch: Arlene, why don’t you sit still and muzzle it for a while.

Arlene: Charming. Butch. That’s real attractive.

Luke’s parents are BUTCH, 65, a businessman, and ARLENE, 50, a divorcee. They’ve been divorced for over 15 years and Butch has remarried.

Their relationship is tense. Butch is a devout fundamentalist Christian. Arlene is best described as a lapsed Christian.

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BRANDON, 30, a property developer, is Luke’s more-estranged—every-day friend.

Brandon: God has a plan. A perfect one. And I don’t believe in getting in the way of that.

In each of these relationships there are negotiations. Luke and Adam have built their relationship to each other through purposeful interactions: sharing select pieces of themselves; engaging in certain conversations; not engaging in others.

When you’re in a relationship what do you share freely, what has to be earned, and what is fiercely protected?

What happens when those carefully curated relationships intersect? Typically those interactions are pivotal moments in our lives—weddings, births, funerals. But then there are those jarring and unexpected moments in our lives when our various relationships are thrust together without our own purposeful planning— as is seen in Next Fall, through a tragic accident.

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W.W.Y.D. What Would You Do in that moment when you realize that the person sitting across from you has a different belief system than yours? How does that effect your relationship? When does religion begin to matter?
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And lastly their friends, HOLLY, 35, a candle shop owner, friends with both Luke and Adam and has been "open to" various religions throughout the play.

Holly: It’s funny moments like this… how ingrained this stuff is… I mean, I mean I sell candles for a living! I’ve been to **** ashrams and silent meditation retreats. I’ve got like five yoga mats in my closet… But I haven’t stopped crossing myself since I got here.

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