

# FLASHPOINT

A CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION PROJECT

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Mead Theatre Lab at Flashpoint Presents  
**banished? productions' world premiere of**  
***Into the Dollhouse***



February 17 – 26, 2012

Opening Performance & Reception: Friday, February 17, 8pm

WASHINGTON, DC – The Mead Theatre Lab Program at Flashpoint is pleased to present banished? productions' ***Into the Dollhouse***, an exploration of nostalgia and girlhood that unfolds into the pressuring realities of being female and fully-grown. Making its world premiere, ***Into the Dollhouse*** is a devised work that continues the company's signature method of using the stage as a canvas on which to immerse audiences in a collaborative hybrid theatre form that uses narrative, movement, text, music and sculpture.

***Into the Dollhouse*** is comprised of three vignettes driven by songs that form the backdrop for childhood memories played out on stage. These incidental melodies are songs that grown-ups and older siblings listened to and each tune triggers new reminiscences. "The haunting power of songs to evoke sensory and emotional experiences was the true inspiration for ***Into the Dollhouse***," says director Carmen C. Wong. "We started by weaving in some of my memories, and then expanded to include our collective remembrances. The piece tries to give physical shape and meaning to nostalgia, this inexplicable hungriness and longing of the heart."

***Into the Dollhouse*** is conceived and directed by Carmen C. Wong with movement devised by dancers Stefanie Quinones Bass, Jennifer Rivers and Carrie Monger, banished?'s resident choreographer. The vignettes will be accompanied by the collaged text of playwright Charles Mee's *Salome*, with references to composer/choreographer Meredith Monk's cyclical-and-ritual-driven *Education of the Girl Child*, and Anna Halprin's *Parades and Changes*.

**banished? productions:** *Into The Dollhouse*

**Pay-What-You-Can Preview:** Thursday, February 16, 8pm

**Opening Night & Reception:** Friday, February 17, 8pm

**Performances:** Feb 17-26, 2012

Thursdays, Fridays & Saturdays at 8pm, Sundays at 6pm. Additional show on Saturday, Feb 25 at 6pm

**Venue:** Mead Theater Lab at Flashpoint, 916 G Street NW (near Metro Center and Gallery Place Metro)

**Tickets:** \$15

**For more information:** Call 202.315.1310 or visit [flashpointdc.org](http://flashpointdc.org) or [banishedproductions.org](http://banishedproductions.org)

### **ABOUT banished? productions**

**banished? productions** is an avant-pop performance company that generates immersive interdisciplinary art experiences for all, to re-create wonder and re-awaken the senses. It is committed to producing quality works that cull from multiple artistic expressions, particularly in performative or theatrical experiments that play with text and form. **banished?** strives to inspire and collaborate with other artists in order to fuel its own artistic process: re-discovering and re-inventing the art of narration. **banished?**'s most recent original works include the sensory gastro-art hit *TACTILE DINNER* (premiered at the 2009 CapFringe, followed by performances at Big Bear Café and Long View Gallery in 2010) and *TACTILE DINNER CAR* (premiered at the 2011 CapFringe, later produced by Flashpoint Gallery); and *Ballades Mécaniques* (ver 1.0 in 2007, and ver 2.0 in 2010) – a series of story-telling machines. For more information, visit [banishedproductions.org](http://banishedproductions.org), [facebook.com/banishedproductions](https://facebook.com/banishedproductions) or [twitter.com/banishedpdtns](https://twitter.com/banishedpdtns)

**banished?**'s Artistic Director **Carmen C. Wong** is a self-confessed appropriator and provocateur who hails from Singapore. Following an artist residency in Helsinki the previous year, she was awarded a TCG Global Connections travel grant in 2011 to return to Europe where she mounted several formats of her *TACTILE DINNER* project, most notably *Tactile Taste of Helsinki* as part of the city-wide Ravintolapäivä/Restaurant Day. In 2010, Carmen received DCCA's Young Artist Award to create *Walk With Me*, an alternative art audiowalk exploring DC's Columbia Heights and Mt. Pleasant neighborhoods. Her other directorial dabblings include an international interpretation of Charles Mee's *bobrauschenbergamerica* (2007) and Pablo Picasso's luridly surreal *Desire Caught by the Tail* (2006). She got her start in interdisciplinary performance from working with the dance-theatre company Dorky Park, on Constanza Macras' *Back to the Present* at the Kaufhaus Jandorf in Berlin, Germany.

### **ABOUT THE MEAD THEATRE LAB PROGRAM**

Cultural Development Corporation's Mead Theatre Lab program is an intensive mentorship program for performing artists and independent theatre companies. Inaugurated in January 2006 with *'Capers*, the program provides theatre space, technical production support and production mentoring. A panel of noted DC theatre professionals selects the projects and provides guidance to the chosen producers. The result is an eclectic group of innovative, edgy productions and an environment in which emerging performing artists can grow. The Mead Theatre Lab Program at Flashpoint, a Cultural Development Corporation project, is generously sponsored by Jaylee Mead. Additional support is provided by The Dallas Morse Coors Foundation for the Performing Arts, the Max & Victoria Dreyfus Foundation, the Mary & Daniel Loughran Foundation and The Weissberg Foundation. Funding for Flashpoint is provided by The Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, The Community Foundation for the National Capital Region, The DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities, The Kresge Foundation, the MARPAT Foundation, the Eugene & Agnes E. Meyer Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts and Prince Charitable Trusts. Marvin is CuDC's 2011-12 Wine Partner. American Airlines is the official airline of CuDC.

### **ABOUT FLASHPOINT**

Flashpoint, a Cultural Development Corporation project, is a nonprofit, multi-disciplinary arts space dedicated to nurturing emerging artists and cultural organizations in order to build their professional capacity. Flashpoint provides services and training for cultural organizations to help strengthen their management capacity and offers exhibit and performance spaces that enable arts groups to focus on their artistic goals and expand their visibility. Flashpoint includes a contemporary art gallery, the 75-seat Mead Theatre Lab, the Coors Dance Studio and shared office space for arts organizations.

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