



# THEATRE RHINOCEROS

GLAAD MEDIA AWARD WINNER

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### *SexRev: The José Sarria Experience*

By John Fisher

**Theatre – Comedy**

**Production Company:**

**Title:**

**Creative Team:**

**Venue:**

**Previews:**

**Opening Night:**

**Performances:**

**Box Office:**

**TIX:**

**Press:**

Theatre Rhinoceros

*SexRev: The José Sarria Experience*

Written and Directed by John Fisher

Stephen Chun, Donald Currie, Jean Franco, Brian Martin, Tom Orr, Dave Robertson, Adam Simpson, Christine U'ren, Michael Vega

Mama Calizo's Voice Factory  
1519 Mission Street (at 11th; Civic Center BART)  
San Francisco, CA 94103

Wed., April 14 – Sat., April 17 @ 800 PM;  
Sun., April 18 @ 700 PM  
Wed., April 21 – Fri., April 23 @ 800 PM  
(No Press at Previews Please)

Sat., April 24, 2010 @ 800 PM (Reception to follow)

Sun., April 25 – Sun., May 2

Wed. - Sat. @ 800 PM

Sundays, 4/25 and 5/2 @ 300 PM

www.TheRhino.org or (800) 838-3006

\$10 - \$25 (First two previews are “pay what you wish”)

Visit our website at [www.TheRhino.org](http://www.TheRhino.org) or contact John Fisher, at  
(415) 552-4100

Publicity pictures are now available for download on our website — [www.TheRhino.org](http://www.TheRhino.org)

The thrilling musical celebration of America's first queer activist. José Sarria started as a drag performer at SF's famous Black Cat Café in the early-1950s and rose to fame and popularity as the city's first openly gay public figure. He ran for supervisor in 1961 and went on to form the Imperial Court System as Her Royal Majesty, Empress of San Francisco, José I, The Widow Norton.

*SexRev* is the centerpiece of The Rhino's residency at Mama Calizo's Voice Factory, an incubator for exciting new queer performance. *SexRev* utilizes a non-linear approach to the presentation of Sarria's life, drawing on camp, sketch comedy, opera parody and queer confrontation to tell the story of Sarria's enormous impact on gay entertainment and LGBT politics. Many people don't know that Sarria ran for SF Supervisor a decade and a half before Harvey Milk appeared on the scene; that he has always been at the forefront of gay politics; and that his influence has made possible so much that we accept as basic queer rights. But *SexRev* is first and foremost an entertainment, an experience for its audience, like the man himself.

**Donald Currie** (Donald) plays *SexRev*'s narrator, a man inspired by José Sarria's life. Mr. Currie is famous for his autobiographical pieces including *Sex and Mayhem*. He has appeared at the Rhino as Harry in *Staircase* and in the premieres of Nicky Silver's *A Beautiful Child* and *Past Perfect*.

**John Fisher** (Writer/Director) Fisher's plays include *The Joy of Gay Sex*, which was produced Off-Broadway, and *Medea: The Musical*, which was produced on HBO. Recent projects include *Ishi: The Last of the Yahi* at Theatre Rhino and *Red Scare on Sunset* at ACT. John is a two-time winner of the Will Glickman Playwright Award, and a recipient of the NEA Grant, a GLAAD Media Award, two *L.A. Weekly* Awards, a Garland Award, two Cable Car Awards, a *San Francisco Bay Guardian* Goldie Award, and the Bay Area Theatre Critics' Circle Award. John holds a Ph.D. in Dramatic Art from the University of California, Berkeley and has taught at UC Berkeley, UC Santa Cruz and at the Yale School of Drama.

**Tom Orr** (José) recently appeared as Michael in the Rhino's production of Jonathan Larsen's musical *tick, tick... BOOM!* Tom achieved fame in SF for his shows *Dirty Little Showtunes* and *I Feel a Thong Coming On*.

**Mike Vega** (Jose Redux) starred in 2008 as Ishi in *Ishi: The Last of the Yahi*, John Fisher play about SF's most famous indigenous person. Mike has also appeared in the Rhino's productions of *Bent*, *The 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Show*, *Schoenberg* and "T-Shirts."

**Theatre Rhinoceros**, America's longest running professional queer theatre, develops and produces works of theatre that enlighten, enrich, and explore both the ordinary and extraordinary

aspects of our queer community.