

**OFF BROADWAY'S SWIMMING WITH THE POLAR BEARS TO
BENEFIT THE CLIMATE PROJECT**

New York, NY (PRWEB) 2, April, 2009 -- **4CORNERS ENTERTAINMENT** is pleased to announce the world premiere production of **Mel England's** ***SWIMMING WITH THE POLAR BEARS***, directed by **Jill André**. ***SWIMMING WITH THE POLAR BEARS*** will play three benefit performances only at Off-Broadway's Bleecker Street Theatre (45 Bleecker Street). In accordance with England's survival story and his strong dedication to the continued existence of the planet, all profits from this production will be donated to the Climate Project. www.swimmingwiththepolarbears.com

Jenny Clad, Executive Director of The Climate Project says, "The Climate Project and *Swimming with Polar Bears* share a common goal - raising awareness of climate change. *Swimming with Polar Bears* will shine the spotlight on the urgency of this global issue in its own unique way. We are delighted to be a beneficiary of the production and to share the stage with such a creative endeavor by having one of our TCP presenters on hand to deliver Mr. Gore's slide show message."

Swimming with the Polar Bears is a funny, poignant, and devastatingly personal look at the dangers of global warming. Actor **Mel England** returns to the autobiographical one-man arena, with director **Jill André**, to explore the parallels between contemporary life, ancient Eskimo mythology, and the tragic loss of endangered species.

In the tradition of Spaulding Grey, **England** takes an introspective examination of his battles with extinction – from surviving childhood abuse to overcoming Cancer – as a backdrop for larger questions of how we all can survive on our precious planet. A 20-year AIDS survivor, **England** struggles against the odds—to understand our own denial, grasp justifications, and ultimately accept responsibility to save oneself.

England takes us on a fantastical journey bringing ***Polar Bears*** to life -- with video and images by National Geographic's **Tristan Bayer** and original music by **Thomas Silcott** – and, in the end, we find we are all ***Swimming with the Polar Bears***.

SWIMMING WITH THE POLAR BEARS (75 minutes, no intermission) will be performed on Monday, April 20 at 8 p.m. pre-show presentation from The Climate Project and post-show talk-back; Tuesday, April 21 at 8 p.m. pre-show presentation from The Climate Project and post-show talk-back; and Wednesday, April 22 at 8 p.m. EARTH DAY CELEBRATION with The Climate Project.

Tickets are \$30 and are now available online at <http://www.telecharge.com> by calling (212) 239-6200. Tickets may also be purchased in-person at the Theatre's Box Office, 1/2 hour prior to the performance. More information is available at

<http://www.swimmingwiththepolarbears.com>.

Swimming with the Polar Bears is officially sponsored by, American Stationery (www.americanstationery.com), Kampfire PR (www.kampfirefilmspr.com) and Indie Rentals (www.indierentals.com).

4CORNERS ENTERTAINMENT (Producer) is a production/management company formed by partners Jess Petelle and Paul Davidovac. The company was born of the desire to create a collaborative environment to further develop artists and projects in Theater, Film, Television, and New Media.

THE CLIMATE PROJECT (TCP) is a nonprofit organization based in Nashville, Tennessee, which began operations in June 2006 with the mission of increasing public awareness of the climate crisis at a grassroots level in the United States and abroad. It consists of a professional staff and diverse group of more than 2,600 volunteers throughout the world who have been trained by Al Gore himself to present a version of the slide show featured in the Academy Award-winning film *An Inconvenient Truth*. In 2009, TCP expanded its mission with a new commitment to advocacy and activism to combat the climate crisis.

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