## Cast announced for world premiere of timely 'Human Interest Story' at Fountain Theatre

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Actors <u>Rob Nagle</u> and <u>Tanya Alexander</u> will head the cast as newspaper columnist Andy Kramer and laid-off Elementary school teacher Betty Frazier in the world premiere of <u>Human Interest Story</u> at the <u>Fountain Theatre</u>, written and directed by <u>Stephen Sachs</u>. The timely drama on homelessness, celebrity worship and the assault on American journalism opens February 15.

Rob Nagle is a film/TV/stage actor and longtime Los Angeles favorite admired by local theatre audiences. His acclaimed portrayal of Oscar Wilde in David Hare's *The Judas Kiss* at Boston Court Pasadena was hailed by the Los Angeles Times as "A performance not to be missed." Tanya Alexander has been seen in a variety of film and TV roles and recently co-starred in the world premiere of Brian Reynolds' *Mono/Poly* at the Odyssey Theatre.

Joining Nagle and Alexander are veterans <u>Richard Azurdia</u>, <u>Aleisha Force</u>, <u>James Harper</u>, <u>Matt Kirkwood</u>, and <u>Tarina Pouncy</u>. Stephen Sachs is the co-founder and co-Artistic Director of the Fountain Theatre and the author of fifteen plays. Recent work includes his Deaf/Hearing love story, <u>Arrival & Departure</u> (Critic's Choice, LA Times),

his stage adaptation of William Goldman's screenplay for <u>All the President's Men</u> at LA City Hall starring <u>Bradley Whitford</u> and <u>Joshua Malina</u>, and his stage adaptation of Claudia Rankine's <u>Citizen: An American Lyric</u> (Fountain Theatre and Kirk Douglas Theatre). His play <u>Bakersfield Mist</u> is performed worldwide.

In *Human Interest Story*, newspaper columnist Andy Kramer is laid off when a corporate takeover downsizes the City Chronicle. In retaliation, Andy fabricates a letter to his column from an imaginary homeless woman named "Jane Doe" who announces she will kill herself on the 4th of July because of the heartless state of the world. When the letter goes viral, Andy is forced to hire a homeless woman to stand-in as the fictitious Jane Doe. She becomes an overnight internet sensation and a national women's movement is ignited.

*Human Interest Story* runs February 15 to April 5 at the Fountain Theatre.