



**BROKEN BOUGHS**, a new play in four parts by Clay McLeod Chapman – creator of the enormously-popular downtown hit **PUMPKIN PIE SHOW** at KGB’s Red Room, and author of the much-anticipated book of Southern Gothic stories “Rest Area” (Hyperion February ‘02) – will be given its world premiere by Moving Parts Theater at the Blue Heron Arts Center (123 E. 24 St.) in Manhattan, with preview performances starting March 1<sup>st</sup> prior to the official press opening March 7 Off-Broadway.

Charles Loffredo, founder and artistic director of Moving Parts Theater and a former member of the New Directions Theater Company, directs **BROKEN BOUGHS**. The cast of **BROKEN BOUGHS** features Patricia Randell (remembered for her recent standout performances as Greer Garson in **RANDOM HARVEST** and previously in **TRIPTYCH** and **F-STOP**, all with New Directions), along with Heather Grayson, Matt Tomasino, Hanna Cheek and Joe Sangillo.

Four theatrical works, all of which smack of Mr. Chapman’s unique Southern Gothicism, comprise **BROKEN BOUGHS**: “and the mothers stepped over their sons”, “duct tape to family time”, “a step off from fathering”, and “milking cherry”. The tales, performed as monologues, share the theme of fractured parenting and demonstrate, according to Mr. Loffredo, that “there are no illegitimate children, only illegitimate parents.”

At age 24, Mr. Chapman himself is practically a kid, but one with an impressive list of accomplishments to his credit: a week before he graduated from Sarah Lawrence College, he inked the “Rest Area” book deal with Hyperion; and his performance series **PUMPKIN PIE SHOW** has been a perennial hit down town for five years.

**PUMPKIN PIE SHOW** consists largely of tales from “Rest Area”. Time Out New York praised the work as “Compelling and bizarre, hauntingly poetic tales...a taste of Southern-fried American Gothic that will send shivers down your spine.” Of the author, the Village Voice has said, “If Chapman keeps up with the oddball characters, well-crafted stories and critical plaudits, that Faulkner guy had better look out.”

Moving Parts founder Charles Loffredo – who directed the world-premiere of Herman Rauscher’s **RED LIGHTS AND DRAGONS** for New Directions, and acted in the company’s productions of **TRIPTYCH**, **HOT AIR**, Michael Weller’s **GHOST ON FIRE**

and Joyce Carol Oates' *HERE SHE IS!* – says the new company's mission is to create dramatic, musical and dance works for the stage based on literature, poetry and other alternative texts.

**BROKEN BOUGHS** has scenery and artwork by Jonathan Spiegel; lighting by Frank Dendanto III and costumes by Kent C. Gifford.

Scheduled through ????, **BROKEN BOUGHS** will perform Thursdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m., with an added performance Wednesday, March 20 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$15 and can be reserved by calling 212-539-3500.