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### The Company

#### *Artistic Directors*

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#### *Members*

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Emily Otto  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Thursday, February 08, 2007

Produced in association with The Stolen Chair Theatre Company...

Antonio Fava's

## *Pulcinella's War*

*Legendary Commedia dell'Arte performer, maestro, and maskmaker, Antonio Fava presents his signature show, performing lazzi from the life, death, and resurrection of Pulcinella, the stock character he inherited from his father and one of comedy's most beloved scoundrels.*

**What:** Pulcinella's War

**Where:** UNDER St. Marks, 94 St. Marks Place  
Betw 1<sup>st</sup> Ave and Ave A  
(No Wheelchair Access )

**When:** Feb 24<sup>th</sup>, 2007 @ 8pm

**Tickets:** Adults \$25, Students/Seniors \$15  
Order by phone: (212) 868-4444  
Or purchase online at: [www.smarttix.com](http://www.smarttix.com)

War, unfortunately, is a timeless and universal situation experienced by all cultures and peoples - it is also a classic situation for the **Commedia dell'Arte**. *Pulcinella's War*, by **Antonio Fava**, features **Pulcinella** and **Zazzà**: two masks, of the oldest and longest lasting comic theatrical tradition still on the boards - the Commedia dell'Arte, with almost five centuries of uninterrupted history.

*Pulcinella's War* tells the comic story of Pulcinella who goes to war not for glory or honor but to solve his problem of love. To Pulcinella, war appears as a refuge, a solution, a form of intentional, planned suicide. The audience follows Pulcinella's exploits and his relationship with Zazzà, the woman who is his match.

Fava gained a passion for Commedia dell'Arte through his father, a famous Pulcinella in Scandale, Calabria, Italy. From this, he would go on to become the **world's leading teacher and director in the Renaissance art-form** so few know about or even understand. In 1980, he created the **International School for Comic Acting** in Reggio Emilia, Italy for the purpose of teaching and training performers from around the world in Commedia, Masks, Mask-making, Opera Regia, Tragedy and the original variety show.

Fava's leather masks are renowned in both design and function, are shown in important museums and cultural institutions as accurate representations of the originals from the early 16th-century, and are used in his school and performances.

Antonio Fava's book entitled ***The Comic Mask in Commedia dell'Arte: Actor Training, Improvisation and the Poetics of Survival*** is published by Northwestern University Press.

*Pulcinella's War* will be produced by **The Stolen Chair Theatre Company**, fresh from its critically-acclaimed and 100% sold-out month-long run of *Kill Me Like You Mean It*, an absurdist film noir for the stage.

*For more information on Antonio Fava, visit [www.commediabyfava.it](http://www.commediabyfava.it).*

*For more information on The Stolen Chair Theatre Company which is producing Fava's performance and hosting a series of Commedia masterclasses with him, visit [www.stolenchair.org](http://www.stolenchair.org).*