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**New Musicals Will Tune Up in BMI's "Fall Smoker" Showcase Nov. 20**

By *Adam Hetrick*  
17 Nov 2008

Highlights from ten new musicals will be previewed as part of the BMI-Lehman Engel Musical Theatre Workshop's Fall Smoker showcase on Nov. 20.

The 5:30 PM Fall Smoker presentation, open to workshop and industry members, will take place in the Media Room of BMI's New York office. The title was derived from workshop moderator Maury Yeston's informal music gatherings while an undergraduate.

Among the shows that will be previewed are *The Suicide* by Raymond Bokhour and Simon Gray; *The Thing About Joe*, with music by Randy Klein, book and lyrics by Matthew Hardy; *The Dirty Hippie Jam Band Project* from Dan Israel and Phoebe Kreutz; *Saloon Songs* by Richard Engquist; and *The Three Daughters* by Mary Liz McNamara.

Also on the bill: Sean Hartley will perform the song "Rules are for Fools"; Andy Sandberg and Megan Stern will perform "Evermore" by Ron Barnett and Greg Edwards; "There's a Place" from the Eric March musical *312 13th Street* will be presented; Jeff Ward will perform a song from his musical *Intervention*; Julie Kilpatrick, Ruth Weber and Jeff Webb will perform from Matt Schatz and Phillip Chernyak's musical *For Sale by Owner*; and Alison Hubbard and Kim Oler will perform the title song from their new musical *Strawberries in January*.

\*

Founded by Lehman Engel in 1961, the BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theatre Workshop, fully funded by the BMI foundation at no cost to its participants, was created in order to nurture the craft of musical theatre by providing new writers with a testing ground for their work under the guidance of experienced professionals within the industry.

Notable alumni and members include Maury Yeston (*Titanic*, *Grand Hotel*, *Nine*), Alan Menken (*Little Shop of Horrors*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *The Little Mermaid*), Jeff Marx and Robert Lopez (*Avenue Q*), Edward Kleban (*A Chorus Line*), Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty (*Ragtime*, *Once on This Island*, *Dessa Rose*), Gerard Alessandrini (*Forbidden Broadway*) and Michael John LaChiusa (*Hello Again*, *Marie Christine*, *The Wild Party*).

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