

1501 Broadway, I Suite 506 I NYC I (212) 354-4660

Press Contact: Joe Trentacosta / joe@sprinegrassociatespr.com

# URBAN STAGES' FAMILY SERIES Presents

## The Hey-Ya Brothers

**Starring Joel Jeske and Christopher Lueck** 

# Sundays at 2PM March 15 – April 5, 2009



New York: **URBAN STAGES FAMILY SERIES** (Frances Hill, Founder/Artistic Director, Lauren Schmiedel, Managing Director) is proud to present the hysterical slap-happy family show, **The Hey-Ya Brothers** starring the award winning clowns and physical comedians Joel Jeske and Christopher Lueck along with "Special Guest" famed unicycler, Mike Richter. **Beginning performance on Sundays, March 15 - April 5 at Urban Stages** (259 West 30<sup>th</sup> St)

the tickets are \$10 and reservations can be made at <u>urbanstages@gmail.com</u> or by calling 212-421-1380.

**The Hey-Ya Brothers** is a two-man slapstick comedy variety act that proves that even the simplest of tasks can become a great source for hysterical confrontations. In the vein of Laurel and Hardy, Abbott and Costello and The Three Stooges, **The Hey-Ya Brothers** combines classic comedy, slapstick, magic and music, and is a wonderful Sunday outing for the entire family.

Originally created by the award winning clowns and physical comedians Joel Jeske and Christopher Lueck for the 2008 AEMI International Clown Theater Festival in Hangzhou, China; *The Hey-Ya Brothers* continue to perform in New York City and around the United States. Recent appearances include The Clowning Around Children's Series at New York's Westside Y, Pinstripes and Plaid at Gotham City Improv, and a continued partnership with Big Apple Circus' Circus to Go!

### The Hey-Ya Brothers

Created by and starring Joel Jeske and Christopher Lueck

With "Special Guest" Mike Richter

SUNDAYS at 2PM beginning March 15 – April 5, 2009

Urban Stages is located at 259 West 30<sup>th</sup> Street (between 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Avenues)

Tickets will be \$10 urbanstages@gmail.com or call 212-421-1380.

Running Time is 45 minutes, ages 3 +

www.HeyYaBrothers.com

Following the performance there will be Balloon Artists in the lobby along with popcorn and refreshments to purchase

Mr. Jeske, Mr. Lueck and Ms. Hill are available for interviews.

To arrange interviews or press seats please contact Springer Associates PR at 212 354 4660.

### Joel Jeske (creator/ performer)

"Clown of the Year" Golden Nose Awards 2007

New York Drama Desk Nominee 2008

Mr. Jeske is a professional clown, actor, physical comedian, director, teacher, writer and creator of his own theatrical productions. He has appeared in major feature films, including *Two for the Money* with Al Pacino and *Two Weeks Notice* with Sandra Bullock. On television, Joe was featured in "Sex in the City," "The Late Show with David Letterman," and "Live with Regis and Kelly." Joel is a creator and performer for the physical theatre company Parallel Exit (www.parallelexit.net). He created and starred in Parallel Exit's *This Way That Way* and *Cut to the Chase.* Joel was nominated along with Parallel Exit for a Drama Desk Award in 2008 for creating the show *Cut to the Chase.* As a clown, Joel toured and created clown acts for Ringling Bros. and Barnum and Bailey Circus and hosted The Big Apple Circus 2006-07 production of *Step Right Up!* Joel teaches circus and clown with The Big Apple Circus and Cirque Du Jour both internationally and at home in New York. Joel and his wife Juliet can be seen all around New York area with their business Red Noses New York (www.rednosesnyc.com). Joel was honored last year as Clown of the Year 2007 at the New York Downtown Clown Golden Nose Awards.

### **Christopher Lueck (creator/ performer)**

NYTheatre.com's Influential People of 2006

Mr. Lueck is a clown and educator in NYC. He has worked in many venues, including TV commercials, The Grand Ole Opry and has appeared on ABC's "All My Children." He is the founder and co-producer of New York Downtown Clown (NYDC), a company that is dedicated to cultivating clown theatre in New York. NYDC produces the longest running all-clown variety show in North America, *The New York Downtown Clown Revue*, for which Christopher is the host and curator. Other NYDC special events include *The Golden Nose Awards* and *The Clown Olympics*. Christopher along with Joel Jeske founded and co-instructs the Slapstick Dojo, the only weekly physical comedy class in America. Christopher has toured his solo clown show *i want to be MUSASHI: a clown samurai fantasy* to fringe festivals around the country. The show combines clown with Japanese sword fighting, two of Christopher's great passions. He holds a Masters Degree in Educational Theatre, is a graduate of the Dell' Arte School of Physical Theatre, is a certified sword instructor, and has a BFA in Acting from Brooklyn College. When not acting or clowning Christopher teaches puppetry, masks, and clowning in NYC public Schools and is an adjunct at Brooklyn College.