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NY Public Library Will Tape *Bury the Dead* for Archives

By [Kenneth Jones](#)
14 Nov 2008

Transport Group's new production of the rarely performed 1936 Irwin Shaw play, *Bury the Dead*, directed by Joe Calarco, will be taped for the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts Theatre on Film and Tape Archive on Nov. 21.

This first major New York revival of the surreal anti-war play stars Obie Award winner Donna Lynne Champlin and plays at 220 East 4th Street, between Avenues A and B.

The original Broadway production of *Bury the Dead* included a cast of 32 actors; this production uses seven.

According to Transport Group, the "harrowing 1936 classic...takes place during 'the second year of the war that is to begin tomorrow night.' While a military burial detail goes about its sad duties, the dead soldiers shockingly begin to rise up, pleading not to be buried. Word of their insurrection spreads rapidly: the dead will not yield so easily. In a series of touching scenes the dead men talk with their loved ones of the days of living, now lost forever."

Lucille Lortel Award winner Joe Calarco (*Shakespeare's R & J*) directs Shaw's legendary anti-war play. Calarco wrote a curtain-raiser for the play, which puts the experience in a fresh context.

In addition to Champlin, the cast of *Bury the Dead* features Jeremy Beck, Fred Berman, Mandell Butler, Jake Hart, Jeff Pucillo and Matt Sincell.

Founded in 2001, Transport Group, under the leadership of Jack Cummings III, artistic director, and Lori Fineman, executive director, is a not-for-profit theatre company that develops and produces work by American playwrights and composers with the aim of exploring the American consciousness in the 20th and 21st centuries.

Bury the Dead plays Thursday through Saturday and Monday at 8 PM, Saturday at 2 PM and Sunday at 3 PM through Nov. 23.

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Tickets are \$38 and are available at www.transportgroup.org or by phoning (212) 352-3101; \$10 rush tickets are available to students one hour prior to curtain. For more information about Transport Group and *Bury the Dead*, visit www.transportgroup.org.

"A magnificent idea...A new essential for anyone who loves and follows today's theater scene."
-Robert Osborne, The Hollywood Reporter

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