



Andrew Westerside, Gillian Lees and Alice Booth in *WHISPER* 2007

"Keep an eye out for this adventurous group..." Jason Zinoman, Time Out NY

"Director Peter S. Petralia is a master at creating atmosphere. His hallucinatory sound design, which keeps speeding up and slowing down, nicely fits the hazy set. Petralia has a cinematographer's eye, and some of his stage pictures are in the spirit of classic black and white Gothic horror. But he, of course, is working on a more modern, Freudian type of fright. The monsters of today's Beckett influenced drama don't lurk in Transylvania; they fester in the subconscious... Keep an eye out for this adventurous group..."
Jason Zinoman, Time Out NY

"Peter S. Petralia is rapidly becoming downtown theatre's premiere auteur: nobody can conjure a milieu with so much specificity and precision as he can...Lots of times, the words "experimental theatre" are a euphemism for the half-baked work of a well-intentioned but not particularly innovative director or playwright. Take note, though, that when I tell you that Cheap Thrills is experimental theatre of the most exciting and fundamental kind, I'm not saying it to make anybody feel good about themselves. Peter S. Petralia, the director-playwright-designer responsible for this weird, intoxicating show, is a true visionary: he has a unique take on how theatre should work, and this show, second in a trilogy that started with last year's Bunny's Last Night in Limbo, is a living laboratory where all of us—artists and audience alike—can explore the dynamics of a form that is breathtakingly original. Hence, experimental theatre: the actual kind...**one of the more adventurous, innovative, and worthy cutting-edge groups that I know of.**" *Martin Denton, The New York Theatre Experience*

"Three Ring is an exquisitely moody work...the cast's Olympian energy also has the confidence to execute Petralia's odd, endearing vision." *Leonard Jacobs, Backstage Magazine for Live from Downtown on DCTV*

Museum of Dreams 2005



Bunny's Last Night in Limbo 2001



"Of the three productions that I saw, the **most daring, experimental, and theatrically engaging** is Third Person, by Proto-type Theater. Third Person is a poignant and amusing exploration of the loneliness that seeps into and eventually comes to define even the most seemingly passionate of relationships. "This could be fiction," says Ferguson early on in the play. "But it's not really," adds Ward. The purposeful blurring of such boundaries adds to the work's impact." *Dan Bacalzo, Theatermania*

"**Cheap Thrills is brave, loud, unique and provocative.** There is much about this nightmarish brothel-family epic that would make Tim Burton, John Waters and David Lynch proud. Audiences should not expect an emotionally safe or comfortable experience from Proto-type's newest production. But they should find much to ponder and enjoy." *Daniel Gallant, The Greenwich Village Gazette*

"Bunny's dreamlike world chaotically exists somewhere between John Water's white-trash Baltimore and Lewis Carroll's psychedelic Wonderland...Produced by the always-inventive proto-type, this follow-up to 2000's Bunny's Last Night in Limbo is **an intelligent and entertaining merger of avant-garde and conventional performance styles.**" *Robert Kent, NEXT Magazine*

"Proto-type, a collective under the artistic and producing direction of Peter S. Petralia, exploded onto the scene two years ago with Bunny's Last Night in Limbo. Their surreal staging, dense sound design, and irreverent material caught the eye of theatergoers and critics alike. They've since produced two equally successful productions (The Twilight Series and Cheap Thrills); been published in Martin Denton's anthology, Plays and Playwrights 2002; and most impressively, developed a **cult-like following.**" *Arthur Lynn, On and Off Magazine*

Third Person 2005

Invisible Messages 2006



Proto-type Theater, Inc. is dedicated to creating new works of live performance that give equal weight to form and content. Physical theatre, text, circus, original music, and evocative lighting merge into an unpredictably dynamic form through which Proto-type dissects modernity. Our audience expects to have a strong reaction: to love it, to hate it, to be inspired into conversation or silence.

Proto-type was formed in 1996, and incorporated as a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization in 2002.

Proto-type has created **ten** original works of theater: POOR ANGELS (1999), BUNNY'S LAST NIGHT IN LIMBO (2000 and 2001), THE TWILIGHT SERIES (2001) which were performed at HERE Arts Center, CHEAP THRILLS (2002, 2003) which was performed at HERE Arts Center, as a reading at New York Theatre Workshop and as a workshop at Warren Wilson College in North Carolina, THREE RING (2003, 2004) which was performed at HERE Arts Center, Walkerspace and at the 11th Annual Sibiu International Theater Festival in Romania, ABOUT SILENCE (2003, 2004) which was performed at One Arm Red and Dixon Place, MUSEUM OF DREAMS (2004, 2005) which was performed at Chashama, THIRD PERSON (2005) which was performed at the Brick Theater in Brooklyn, APOSTASY (2005) which was commissioned by Dixon Place and INVISIBLE MESSAGES (2006) which was commissioned by PS122.

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Cheap Thrills (2003)

Three Ring (2004)

