



# West End Players Guild News Release

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## Next up for West End Players: Chloë Moss's *This Wide Night*

ST. LOUIS, MO (Oct. 29, 2012) – West End Players Guild continues its 2012-2013 season with the St. Louis premiere of Chloë Moss's compelling drama *This Wide Night*, opening November 9 for a two-week run at the theatre in the Union Avenue Christian Church. Jane Abling and Rachel Hanks star in the production, directed by Sean Ruprecht-Belt.

As the play begins, Lorraine (Abling) arrives at the squalid flat that is now home to Marie (Hanks). Lorraine is in her fifties and newly-released from 12 years in prison. Her cell mate and prison best friend Marie is a younger woman who served a shorter sentence and has been out for some time. As their tense and tentative reunion quickly makes clear, much more has changed in their lives than simply being able to look out an unbarred window. *This Wide Night* is the story of Lorraine and Marie's struggle to determine whether the friendship they treasured in prison is even possible in the outside world, and if so to learn how to trust each other again.

*This Wide Night* was commissioned by Clean Break, a London-based theatre and education company that works with women in prisons and produces original works focusing on the lives and struggles of women in the criminal justice system. Moss took her inspiration for *This Wide Night* from the months she spent working with women in the Cookham Wood prison prior to writing the play. The play was first presented at the Soho Theatre in London in 2008, and subsequently was staged in four women's prisons. More information on Clean Break's work can be found at [www.cleanbreak.org.uk](http://www.cleanbreak.org.uk).

Evening performances of *This Wide Night* will be November 9-10 and November 15-17 at 8:00 p.m.; Sunday matinees will be November 11 and 18 at 2:00 p.m. New for the 2012-2013 season, WEPG has added a Thursday evening show to the second weekend of each run. All shows are in the theatre at the Union Avenue Christian Church, 733 Union Blvd. (just north of Delmar). There is ample free parking in the lot at the rear of the building, near the theatre entrance. Tickets for all shows can be purchased on-line at [www.WestEndPlayers.org](http://www.WestEndPlayers.org); telephone reservations are accepted at 314/367-0025.

WEPG's season of St. Louis premieres continues with John Morogiello's *Engaging Shaw*, directed by Robert Ashton, February 8-17. The 102<sup>nd</sup> season wraps with Michael Hollinger's *Opus*, directed by Jerry McAdams, April 5-14.

West End Players Guild is St. Louis's oldest continuously-operating theatre company, providing "big theatre in a small space" since November, 1911, and now presenting its second century of performances. For more information on our history, season tickets and volunteer opportunities, please visit us online at [www.WestEndPlayers.org](http://www.WestEndPlayers.org).

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Marie (played by Rachel Hanks, L) shared a cell with Lorraine (Jane Abling, R) in prison, where they were best friends. Marie has been out for a while and now Lorraine has appeared at her door after release from her own 12-year imprisonment. Their story as they struggle to define their relationship in the “outside” world is by turns tender and violent, bitter and sweet. The scene is from the West End Players Guild’s production of Chloë Moss’s *This Wide Night*, a St. Louis premiere to be performed Nov. 9-18 in the theatre at Union Avenue Christian Church. (Photo by John Lamb)