

## NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

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### THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER WELCOMES JUSTIN JAIN AND CATHY SIMPSON AS NEW “FREEDOM RISING” ACTORS

PHILADELPHIA, PA (November 6, 2006) – The National Constitution Center is pleased to announce **Justin Jain** and **Cathy Simpson** as two new actors in the Center’s signature “Freedom Rising” theatre experience.

Justin Jain, originally from the Orlando area, worked extensively in entertainment at Walt Disney World and with several Florida-based dance companies. He has worked with several theatre companies throughout the Philadelphia area, including Arden Theatre Company, Azuka Theatre Collective, Enchantment Theatre Company, Hotel Obligado, 1812 Productions, Gurus of Guffaw, and Pig Iron Theatre Company. Regionally, he has worked with McCarter Theatre in Princeton, New Jersey and Impetuous Theatre in New York City.

Jain received a Bachelor of Arts degree in acting from the University of the Arts and is also a graduate of the Arden Professional Apprentice Program. He teaches stage combat for the University of the Arts Pre-College Institute and is a theatre educator throughout the city. Jain is the co-founder of the Philadelphia theatre company Mad Hatter Lab. He resides in South Philadelphia.

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## ADD ONE/FREEDOM RISING ACTORS

Cathy Simpson has been a company member at People's Light and Theatre Company since 1994. Her most recent productions include *Fabulation*, *The 35<sup>th</sup> Celebration*, *Merlin's Fire*, *He Held Me Grand*, and *In The Blood and Pretty Fire*. Simpson has also performed with other area theatre companies, such as The Philadelphia Theatre Company, Interact Theatre Company, the Philadelphia Shakespeare Company, and Freedom Theatre. Her regional theatre credits include the Arena Stage, The Kennedy Center, The National Theatre, Woolly Mammoth, Olney Theatre Center, Indiana Repertory Theatre, The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, The Black Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, Big Arts and The Florida Repertory Theatre.

Simpson is a theatre educator and teaching artist and has worked with youth throughout the tri-state area and Washington, D.C. She lives in Center City Philadelphia.

"Freedom Rising" is an award-winning, state-of-the-art multi-media theater experience dedicated to connecting visitor—in a direct, engaging, and unforgettable way—with the story of the U.S. Constitution. This 345-seat theater-in-the-round production incorporates one actor, 360° projection, surprise scenic elements, theatrical-lighting, and a dynamic surround soundtrack. The production creates a magical environment in which visitors come to see themselves as a force in the life of the Constitution and the Constitution as an on-going force in all our lives in this country. "Freedom Rising" is performed every 30 minutes during museum hours, and is free with regular museum admission of \$9 for adults and \$7 for seniors ages 62 and up, children ages 4-12, and active military personnel. Children ages 3 and under are free.

The National Constitution Center, located at 525 Arch St. on Philadelphia's Independence Mall, is an independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to increasing public understanding of the U.S. Constitution and the ideas and values it represents. Opened on July 4, 2003, the Constitution Center is a museum, an education center, and a forum for debate on constitutional issues. The museum dramatically tells the story of the Constitution from Revolutionary times to the present through more than 100 interactive, multimedia exhibits, film, photographs, text, sculpture and artifacts, and

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## ADD TWO/FREEDOM RISING ACTORS

features a powerful, award-winning theatrical performance, “Freedom Rising”. The Center also houses the Annenberg Center for Education and Outreach, which serves as the hub for national constitutional education and debates, and is a partner of NPR’s “Justice Talking,” a program of the Annenberg Public Policy Center. Also, serving as a nonpartisan forum for constitutional discourse, the Center presents – without endorsement – programs that contain diverse viewpoints on a broad range of issues. For more information, call 215.409.6700 or visit [www.constitutioncenter.org](http://www.constitutioncenter.org).

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