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***The Shakespeare Center of Los Angeles – 2017 Year of Macbeth
presents a reading of
Bertolt Brecht's***

THE RESISTIBLE RISE OF ARTURO UI ***Harry Hamlin teams up with Joe Spano***

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 2, 2017**

**For Information Call
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Emmy award-winning actor Joe Spano (*Hill Street Blues*, *NCIS*) joins Emmy and Golden Globe nominated actor Harry Hamlin (*LA Law*, *Mad Men*), and a top notch cast of actors in a staged reading of German playwright Bertolt Brecht's "The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui" on March 19, 2017, at 7:00 pm. The reading will be directed by Louis Fantasia and presented by The Shakespeare Center of Los Angeles as a benefit for their "Will Power to Youth" program.

VIP patrons will receive valet parking and admission to a post-show reception with the cast. The reception will include German beer and gourmet Bratwurst courtesy of Wurstkuche, and live polka music. The Shakespeare Center is located at 1238 West 1st Street in Downtown Los Angeles (just down the street from the Music Center). For tickets visit www.shakespearecenter.org/Arturo-Ui, or call (213)481-2273 x20.

"The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui" is a parable play inspired by Brecht's own personal experience of Adolf Hitler's rise to power, the ruthless ambitions of Shakespeare's tyrants, and Charlie Chaplin's "Great Dictator." The title character, Arturo Ui, is a heartless 1930s style Chicago mobster who brutally seizes control of the cauliflower racket and cruelly rises to power. "The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui" has established itself among the world's classic satires. It has been produced twice on Broadway and in notable off-Broadway productions.

Louis Fantasia will direct the reading and has staged over 150 opera and plays around the world. He was recently honored by the Goethe-Institute of Los Angeles for his contribution to German culture with The Order of Merit.

The cast of the reading is led by Joe Spano (*Hill Street Blues*, *NCIS*), Roxanne Hart (*Chicago*

Hope), and Harry Hamlin (*Mad Men*, *L.A. Law*). It also includes Philip Casnoff (*Sinatra*, *Strong Medicine*), Timothy Omundson (*Pysch*), Michael Zelniker (*Bird*), Christopher Anderson, Sheldon Donenberg, Apollo Dukakis, Michele Greene, Lexie Helgerson, Clayton Hodges, Jack Lowe, Don Paul, and Alex Rotaru.

Proceeds from this event will support the Shakespeare Center's White House honored "Will Power to Youth" program. Will Power to Youth provides transformational arts-based employment opportunities to young people living at the poverty threshold.

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