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## 'Dangerous' to get tuner treatment New musical fest lands Lippa

By Gordon Cox

Andrew Lippa ("A Little Princess"), Paul Gordon ("Jane Eyre") and a tuner adaptation of 1998 pic "Dangerous Beauty" with lyrics by Amanda McBroom (who wrote 1970s tuner "The Rose") are all on the slate at the upcoming Festival of New Musicals, produced by the National Alliance for Musical Theater.

Set for Oct. 8-9 at New World Stages, the industry-only NAMT fest hosts producers, reps from regional theaters and other NAMT members for a two-day look at 45-minute segments of eight developing musicals.

Event's alumni include Tony winners "The Drowsy Chaperone" and "Thoroughly Modern Millie."

Offerings this year are:

- "Jerry Christmas," with music and lyrics by Lippa (currently developing "The Man in the Ceiling" with Disney Theatrical) and book by Daniel Goldfarb ("Modern Orthodox"). Show, about a has-been comedian hoping a Christmas special on TV will revive his career, recently completed a summer workshop at New York Stage & Film.
- "Emma," an adaptation of Jane Austen's novel, with music, lyrics and book by Gordon.
- "Dangerous Beauty," adapted by book writer Jeannine Dominy from her screenplay about a Renaissance courtesan. Michele Brourman provides the music for McBroom's lyrics.
- "Vanities," an adaptation of Jack Heifner's 1976 play about the lives of three Texas women, with music by David Kirshenbaum ("Summer of '42") and book by Heifner. Show got a full production at TheaterWorks in Mountain View, Calif., earlier this summer.
- "Julian Po," a mythical story about a stranger in a Midwestern town, by composer Ira Antelis and book writer-lyricist Andrew Barrett. Latter is a writer for Showtime's "Sleeper Cell" whose play "Rainy Days and Mondays" will have a run at the New York Fringe Fest.
- "One Step Forward," with music and lyrics by Leslie Arden and book by Berni Stapleton, Tim French and Arden, about WWII veterans returning home in 1945.
- "Piece," about a woman revisiting conversations with her dead mother, written by composer-lyricist Scott Alan and book writer Tara Smith.
- "Sunfish," based on a Korean folk story, with music and book and Hyeyoung Kim and lyrics and book by Michael L. Cooper.

According to NAMT, 75% of its fest shows go on to future productions. Offerings that got picked up from last year's event include "I Love You Because," which had an Off Broadway run last season, and "Caraboo, Princess of Javasuu," which was staged at Goodspeed in the spring.