

Dear FEST members,

Firstly, I would like to wish you all a very Happy New Year for 2012.

I want to say that I am very happy and excited about working with FEST in putting on the Whole Shebang by Rich Orloff and would like to quickly introduce myself and to encourage you to get involved this spring production.

I was born in Adelaide, Australia of migrant parents and studied Science at Flinders University. It was there that I first got involved in theater and clowning. After my baptism by fire with Doppio Theater I later joined another theater group only this time in Saudia Arabia where I worked for 2 years. The Desert Rose theater group was based in Riyadh and I very much enjoyed being part of the group. In returning to Australia I joined the Lane Cove Theatre group in Sydney where I acted and worked backstage. In 2003 I moved to Frankfurt and soon after became involved in the ESOC Theater group in Darmstadt.

Rich Orloff's, The Whole Shebang, is a comedy that asks the question, "What if the entire universe was just some nerd's science project?"

In directing this play I would like the cast to develop early, not only their characters, but how we can present this comedy to the audience. For this reason I would like to workshop the rehearsals in February/March, well before having to be scripts down in April. As part of cast and crew I will welcome and encourage your input. As director I will give emphasis to how your character is interacting with others as well as the blend of light, sound and physical presence allows for Rich Orloff's script to be portrayed.

I look forward to meeting you at the auditions and to a fun time in putting on this play.

Cheers  
Ivan Aksenov