

Women Can Write? Who Knew!

The Alcyone Festival 2009

The Blessed Child by Astrid Saalbach

Translated by Michael Evans

Directed by Christine Lin

Part of the Alcyone Festival 2009

Women rule the world, and men are reduced to pathetic house-slaves. No children have been born for decades, and humanity faces extinction. Then a female servant gets pregnant, apparently by divine intervention. She gives birth to the blessed child, who is half man and half beast. The play is a grotesque satire about a generation of adults so obsessed by their careers, ridiculous alternative lifestyles, and the pursuit of personal growth, that they no longer notice their children.

The first US production of Saalbach's work.

June 11 through July 18, 2009

The Alcyone Festival 2009 features six phenomenal women writers from across the globe in rotating repertory.

Performances will be at the Lincoln Square Theatre
in the Barry United Methodist Church
4754 North Leavitt, in Chicago

For more information and performance schedule:
halcyontheatre.org/alcyone09



Astrid Saalbach's trilogy *Morning and Evening* (Morgen og aften); *Blessed Child* (Det velsignede barn); and *Ashes to Ashes Dust to Dust* (Aske til aske støv til støv), has made her the most popular dramatist of her generation.

Saalbach has received several awards and bursaries including the Danish dramatist's honour award and the lifelong grant of the Danish art fund. With her play *The Cold Heart* (Det kolde hjerte) she received the Wilhelm Hansen Foundation Award for Best Drama. The play *The End of the World* (Verdens ende) won Saalbach the Nordic Dramatist award in 2004, as well as the Reumert Award for Best Dramatist. Her latest play *Pieta* has been performed in Denmark, Sweden and Norway.