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**EPICMEGAPRO ANNOUNCES READING OF LOS ANGELES CULT-HIT, *JUNK: A Rock Opera*, AT URBAN STAGES IN NEW YORK ON MAY 11, 2009.**

LOS ANGELES, CA (January 13, 2009) – After both a sold out and an extended run showcase production in Los Angeles, *JUNK: A Rock Opera* will have a full reading in New York City to seek funding for large-scale production. EpicMegaPro, the producer and co-creators of the work is producing the reading with revised stage direction and a dramatically different aesthetic.

“The simplicity of the reading will allow producers to imagine what *JUNK* might look like on a grand scale,” says *JUNK* director and EpicMegaPro co-founder Shakina Nayfack, “We’re working with a graphic artist to create fifty or so hand-drawn, comic-book style graphics for the reading to give a fresh look to the show and move plot points forward. *JUNK* is an opera after all, so the visuals become very important in contextualizing the lyrics and music.”

EpicMegaPro is flying nine cast members (from previous productions) for the reading out to New York and will be casting the final principal role, Ernie a.k.a. “The Man”, in the early months of 2009. The previous two productions originally had casts of 14 performers but included dance numbers and intense staging (director Nayfack’s work is butoh-influenced) that will be omitted from the reading. Off Broadway Booking, a New York based theatrical booking and management company, will manage the reading.

Primary funding for the reading has come from EpicMegaPro’s own investment from previous venture capital and early grassroots fundraising efforts. Fundraising dinners and email appeals to friends, family and fans of the work generated much of the capital needed to bring the show to New York.

Composed by the Swedish band, Brainpool, in 2001, *JUNK* tells the story of a young copy-writer named Anna who lives in the last viable city on the planet. The remainder of Earth is covered in garbage, ruined by the corporate greed and unchecked consumerism promoted by the mega-conglomerate, Junk Inc. Anna dreams of playing in the city’s hottest rock club, owned by the Junk CEO, Ernie a.k.a. “The Man”. While falling in love with a lowly garbage man, Anna must choose a life of money and celebrity or an unknown future beyond the walls of the corporate-owned city.

Tickets to the New York reading are by invitation only, but more information can be found on the *JUNK* website, [www.JunkRockOpera.com](http://www.JunkRockOpera.com).

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**For more photos, song samples, video clips or additional information, contact Joseph Yoshitomi at Joseph@EpicMegaPro.com or (323) 841-1735.**