

# Monetizing Emma Want a Piece?

A New Play by Felipe Ossa

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## **MONETIZING EMMA WINS SIX AT THE PLANET CONNECTIONS THEATRE FESTIVITY AWARDS CEREMONY**

Planet Connections Theatre Festivity, a new eco-friendly festival designed to promote social and cultural awareness in the theatrical community, celebrated the best of the festival, which took place June 9 – June 28, 2009 at 440 Studios.

*Monetizing Emma* brought home the awards for Outstanding Overall Production of a New Play, Outstanding Playwriting for a New Script of a Play (Felipe Ossa) and Outstanding Direction (Leah Bonvissuto).

Also awarded were James Arden (Outstanding Lead Actor in a Play) and Janice Mann (Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Play). Leah Bonvissuto took home the award for Outstanding Postcard and Program.

*Monetizing Emma* played a limited engagement as part of the Planet Connections Theatre Festivity in June 2009. Written by Felipe Ossa and directed by Leah Bonvissuto, the play featured Nitya Vidyasagar (*Sesame Street*) in the title role, James Arden, Dawn Jamieson, Janice Mann, Daniella Rabbani and Tovah Rose.

The year is 2013 and boutique investment bank Thackeray Walsh is arranging the first-ever securitization of smart teenagers. Nothing like the insanely convoluted securities that brought the global economy to its knees in 2008-2009, this bond is backed by something far more valuable than sub-prime mortgages or toxic assets. It's backed by an A-list pool of adolescents pledging their future earnings. They get money now in return for a share of their subsequent income.

Emma Dorfman's one of the chosen elite. A shy 15-year-old who most days shuttles between bullies at school, a pushy mom and a fantasy life inspired by Jane Austen, she's not exactly sure she wants to be "monetized." But Thackeray Walsh has special plans for her and Emma may be forced to trade her split reality for something doubly scary...and far more adult.

The production featured scenic design by Jasmine Vogue Pai, costume design by Mira Veikley and lighting design by Lauren Parrish. Teresa Violet Cajigas stage managed. Shauna Horn was the assistant director.

For further information on the play and its themes go to [www.thackeraywalsh.com](http://www.thackeraywalsh.com). Information about the festival can be found at [www.planetconnectionsfestivity.com](http://www.planetconnectionsfestivity.com).

Planet Connections Theatre Festivity is committed to producing high-quality theater, with non-traditional casting, unique perspectives, political theater and more! All of the productions are curated and created with the hope of inspiring cultural education and human understanding. Planet Connections Theatre Festivity is a not-for-profit organization, fiscally sponsored by Fractured Atlas.