

# CLASSICAL VOICE OF NORTH CAROLINA

**From The Top 10 Touring Shows & the Top 10 Local Shows of 2006;**

**Compiled by Robert W. McDowell**

The proliferation of Triangle theatrical presentations in 2006 — the *Triangle Theater Review* Theater Calendar listed 426, including fundraising events — makes selecting a single top 10 list even more difficult than usual, so this year there are two: a list of the Top 10 Touring Shows and a separate list of the Top 10 Local Shows. We have listed the 10 top shows in each category, plus five Runners Up that missed the final cut by an eyelash and other productions of exceptional merit that deserve Honorable Mention. We have also provided brief excerpts from the original reviews by Scott Ross, Alan R. Hall, Jerome Davis, Carl Jeeter, and yours truly. Enjoy! — Robert W. McDowell.

MAN 1, BANK 0 (The Carolina Theatre, Jan. 25, and The Clayton Center, Jan. 28). *Man 1, Bank 0* is a hilarious 90-minute multimedia one-man show, written and performed by the man who lived it. This classic David-vs.-Goliath story pits 28-year-old San Francisco free spirit Patrick Combs against corporate giant First Interstate Bank of California. On April 26, 1995, on a whim Combs deposited a junk-mail check for \$95,093.35 — clearly marked “non-negotiable” into his checking account via an ATM. He endorsed it with a smiley face, thinking that he might be brightening some bored bank employee’s day with what he calls “a random act of banking kindness.” But the bank credited his account with the entire amount of “The Little Fake Check That Could!”; and weeks later, when the money was still in his account, Combs had the bank issue him a cashier’s check for \$95,093.35 that he put it in one of the bank’s safety deposit boxes. *Man 1, Bank 0* chronicles FICAL’s outrageously heavy-handed response when it belatedly discovered its error, and Combs’ attempts to give back the cashier’s check in exchange for a letter from the bank acknowledging its error and absolving him from future responsibility in the matter. — R.W.M.

**MAN 1, BANK 0 is Represented by Alkahest Artists & Attractions, Inc.  
Tel (888) 728-8989 | E-mail: [Info@AlkahestArtists.net](mailto:Info@AlkahestArtists.net)**