

SHOW BUSINESS®

INSIDE INK By John Rowell

ROOM AT THE TOP

Off-off Broadway Quiz Question # 1: What is New York City's first and longest-running summer festival of emerging art? Is it: A: **The New York International Fringe Festival?** Or B: **The Midtown International Theater Festival?** Or C: **The American Living Room?** If you guessed C, then you are up on your festivals and also perhaps a faithful reader of this column, because for many summers I've written about how exciting the American Living Room, which was founded way back in 1989, turns out to be each year. The summer of '07 promises even more of a deluxe installment, as the Living Room takes shape once again at **HERE Arts Center**, from July 26-September 2. The festival supports the development of new, multi-disciplinary works and artists in a setting that strives to make theater as much a part of everyday life as watching TV, hence its signature "comfortable living room environment." Twenty-five projects, 300 artists: all taking bold risks and provoking audiences. There are far too many exciting shows planned to single any of them out here, but for a complete listing and guide to the festival, visit HERE's Web site at www.here.org.