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Seat Filler: Best Theater of 2010

From cerebral classics to campy capers, *The Advocate's* man on the New York theater scene counts down the year's top 10 LGBT-themed shows.

By Brandon Voss

The 2009 off-Broadway premiere of *Next Fall*, a boy-meets-boy dramedy by gay playwright Geoffrey Nauffts, topped last year's Seat Filler list of queer theatrical highlights ahead of treasures like *The Temperamentals*. *Next Fall* returned for a brief Broadway run this past spring, but with the exception of yet another *La Cage aux Folles* revival, the greatest of the gayest bowed on small off-Broadway stages. No hard feelings, *All About Me's* Dame Edna and Michael Feinstein, but here are my 10 favorite LGBT-inclusive productions of 2010.

2. *The Revival*



Directed by Michole Biancosino, this staggering drama by Samuel Brett Williams crackled with cinematic tension at the Lion Theatre. Trent Dawson of *As the World Turns* starred as Eli, the son of a Southern Baptist preacher who must try to rebuild his late father's congregation in Arkansas. Pressured to compete with nearby megachurches, the married pastor became an evangelical superstar when he publicly "cleansed" a troubled young drifter named Daniel — an outstanding David Darrow — of his homosexuality, but Eli and the rough-trade hothead were actually having sex on the sly. "It's hot and cold, but good — hard to explain," said Daniel, describing the look Eli gave him at a church potluck. "Kinda like makin' meth."