

11 December 2005

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## BREAKING NEWS

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Source: Reuters

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December 11, 2005

US peace activist Cindy Sheehan, who won wide attention with a vigil outside President George W. Bush's ranch in the name of her soldier son killed in Iraq, is the subject of a new play by Nobel laureate Dario Fo.

*Peace Mom* received its world premiere in London yesterday, starring British actress Frances de la Tour, with both Ms Sheehan and Italian dramatist Fo in the audience.

The one-woman show is based on extracts from Ms Sheehan's letters to Mr Bush and other writings. De la Tour delivered the monologues beneath large pictures of Ms Sheehan's son Casey and a tank in the Iraqi desert in front of a plume of fire.

"Frances did such an amazing job of conveying my feelings of anger and betrayal," a tearful Ms Sheehan said after the play.

She said she hoped the play would help "put a human face" on the war.

Ms Sheehan, from Vacaville, California, has become one of the best-known figures calling for US troops to be withdrawn from Iraq since she protested for several weeks outside Mr Bush's ranch in Crawford, Texas, in August.

Mr Bush has said he sympathises with Ms Sheehan over the death of her son in 2004 but will not pull out US forces. Some of his supporters have gone further, accusing her of being an advocate of surrender in the face of terrorism.

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