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## PRESS RELEASE

### For Immediate Release

May 27, 2010

Contact: Lesley Greene, Associate Producing Director, 607-272-0403; lesley@kitchentheatre.org

**TICKETS:** \$18-32; CALL 607-273-4497; VISIT Ticket Center Ithaca, 171 The Commons, Ithaca, NY; or CLICK [www.kitchentheatre.org](http://www.kitchentheatre.org) and buy online.

**GROUP RATES:** Discounts are available when you come with a group. For details, call 607-272-0403.

**WEBSITE:** For more information on the Kitchen Theatre Company, visit [www.kitchentheatre.org](http://www.kitchentheatre.org).

### Photos available upon request

This piece is made possible in part by Underwriter: **TOMPKINS TRUST COMPANY**, Sponsor: **ELISSA COGAN and BARRY CHESTER**, and Media Sponsor: **SYRACUSE NEW TIMES**. This funding helps the Kitchen bring intimate and engaging theater to life.

## Summer comedy at the Kitchen Theatre with CHESAPEAKE by Lee Blessing

**Ithaca, NY:** The Kitchen Theatre Company's 19<sup>th</sup> Main Stage season finishes with a comedy, CHESAPEAKE by Lee Blessing, a hilarious tale of art, politics, Chesapeake Bay retriever dogs, and the meaning of life. Opening for previews on June 23 and running until July 18, CHESAPEAKE has performances Wednesdays through Sundays at the Kitchen Theatre, still located in the Clinton House at 116 North Cayuga Street, Ithaca, NY.

When performance artist Kerr, known for his outrageous productions that include everything from Dada nihilism to Italian futurism to extravagant disrobing, is awarded an NEA grant to further his artistic ambitions, he finds himself in the cross hairs of Therm Pooley. Pooley is a southern Senator who has focused his re-election campaign on the elimination of federal funding for the arts. Kerr's efforts to exact revenge on Senator Pooley form the crux of the play, a wild ride that includes kidnapping, canines and the possibility of past and future lives. New York-based actor Mark Boyett plays Kerr and every other character in this one-man *tour de force*. Margaret Perry directs. With its mix of art, politics and dogs, CHESAPEAKE is a wonderfully funny and thoughtful conclusion to the Kitchen Theatre Company's 19<sup>th</sup> season.

Mark Boyett appeared previously at the Kitchen Theatre Company in CLEAN ALTERNATIVES (2006) and last season's A PLAY ON WORDS, which transferred to 59E59 Theaters Off-Broadway. Other credits include OLD WICKED SONGS (The Promenade, Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park and St. Louis Repertory Theatre), THE CHERRY ORCHARD (Pittsburgh Public Theatre), WIT (Syracuse Stage), THE MYSTERY OF IRMA VEP, TURN OF THE SCREW (Triad Stage), HENRY IV PARTS 1 & 2 (American Repertory Theatre). He created the role of Dr. Beauregard in DEBUNKED (Triad Stage). Mr. Boyett is a graduate of A.R.T. at Harvard University.

Directing CHESAPEAKE is Margaret Perry, known for many successful productions with KTC, including A MARRIAGE MINUET, CLEAN ALTERNATIVES, STRANGERHORSE, THE TWO OF YOU and this season's PRECIOUS NONSENSE, ENTERTAINER'S EULOGY, and HO! Scenic Design is by Kent Goetz, Lighting Designer is E.D. Intemann, and Sound Design is by Lesley Greene. The Stage Manager is LaShawn Keyser.

All performances of CHESAPEAKE will be performed at the Kitchen Theatre's current location - the historic Clinton House, 116 N. Cayuga St., Ithaca, NY.

### Performance Dates:

Wed., June 23, 2010 at 7:30pm (Preview 1 of 3)

Thurs., June 24, 2010 at 7:30pm (Preview 2 of 3)

Fri., June 25, 2010 at 8:00pm (Preview 3 of 3)

bold • intimate • engaging  
**KITCHEN**  
**theatre** *company*

Artistic Director, Rachel Lampert

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[www.kitchentheatre.org](http://www.kitchentheatre.org)

Historic Clinton House, 116 N. Cayuga St., Ithaca, N.Y. 14850

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Sat., June 26, 2010 at 8:00pm (Press Opening)  
Sun., June 27 2010 at 4:00pm  
Wed., June 30, 2010 at 7:30pm  
Thurs., July 1, 2010 at 7:30pm  
Fri., July 2, 2010 at 8:00pm (Wine Tasting)  
Sat., July 3, 2010 at 8:00pm  
Sun., July 4, 2010 at 4:00pm  
Wed., July 7, 2010 at 7:30pm  
Thurs., July 8, 2010 at 7:30pm  
Fri., July 9, 2010 at 8:00pm  
Sat., July 10, 2010 at 8:00pm  
Sun., July 11, 2010 at 4:00pm  
Wed., July 14, 2010 at 7:30pm  
Thurs., July 15, 2010 at 7:30pm  
Fri., July 16, 2010 at 8:00pm  
Sat., July 17, 2010 at 8:00pm  
Sun., July 18, 2010 at 4:00pm (Closing)

**Bold, intimate, engaging...**Kitchen Theatre Company (KTC), now in its 19th season, is downtown Ithaca's critically acclaimed and nationally recognized year-round professional theatre with four performance series (Main Stage, Family Fare, Kitchen Counter Culture, Kitchen Sink). KTC is the first not-for-profit recipient of the David R. Strong Memorial "Small Business of the Year" Award from the Tompkins County Chamber of Commerce. KTC provides an engaging mix of regional and world premiere plays and musicals to Central NY in an intimate 73-seat theatre that encourages a bold relationship between audience and actor. The theatre is located in the historic Clinton House, a renovated hotel in Downtown Ithaca, New York. Ithaca is located on the southern tip of Cayuga Lake in central New York. Kitchen Theatre Company receives public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, a State Agency and the Tompkins County Room Occupancy Tax Fund. For the 2009-10 Season the Kitchen Theatre Company also receives support from the Shubert Foundation.

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