

Office (607) 272-0403
 Fax (607) 272-0944
 Tickets (607) 273-4497
www.kitchentheatre.org

TICKETS: \$18-32; CALL 607-273-4497; VISIT Ticket Center Ithaca, 171 The Commons, Ithaca, NY; or CLICK 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.

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

September 3, 2010

Contact: Lindsay Hahnes, Director of Development & Marketing, 607-272-0403; lindsay@kitchentheatre.org

Photos available upon request

This piece is made possible in part by Sponsors: **Tompkins Trust Company** and **Purity Ice Cream**. This funding helps the Kitchen bring intimate and engaging theater to life.

Kitchen Theatre and Cayuga Chamber Orchestra Special Performances

Ithaca, NY: Rachel Lampert's newest movement/theater piece, *Summers at Rock's Edge* (working title - *Dancing in the Kitchen with the CCO*), is a collage of dances and scenes. Rock's Edge is a glorious artists' retreat ruled over by Madame Tumkovsky, a passionate teacher of dance and "all things necessary to make your way in the world." The usual mix of painters, writers, dancers and musicians who take up residency at Rock's Edge for the summer are not so sure about the newest addition to the summer guest list, eleven year-old Clarice. The piece moves back and forth in time as Clarice and her friend Stefan recall summers spent at Rock's Edge.

Rachel Lampert says, "I set a majority of the piece in 1927. The music will include short pieces by Prokofiev, Shostakovich, Joplin, Gershwin, Kreisler, as well as Mozart, Chopin, Paganini, Beethoven and American composer Amy Beach. This is a labor of love. Not only am I working in dance and movement with a delightfully creative cast, but we will also have Cayuga Chamber Orchestra musicians Linda Case and Andrea Merrill playing at all the performances. We had a little taste of the way live music will sound in our new lobby when Linda played for a small gathering we had while the space was under construction. I cannot wait to hear music in our intimate new theater space."

The performers in the piece include Stephen Nunley, who wears many hats at the Kitchen Theatre, and with Rachel Lampert toured the U.S. for fifteen years as a member of her dance company. Ithaca College dance instructor Lindsay Gilmour and modern dancer and teacher Maren Waldman add their professional experience to the project and are joined by Ithaca-based dancers Meredith Conroy (last seen at the Kitchen in *Scoot, Sizzle & Slide*), Nicholas Barb (who appeared at the Kitchen in *STRANGERHORSE* and *Emmett & Ella's Big Apple Escapade*), James Potter (*Scoot, Sizzle & Slide*) and Erin Hilgartner (*Losing Myself, Scoot, Sizzle & Slide, Adventure in Apartment G#* among others). Kitchen Theatre Company chameleon Lesley Greene, former KTC Artistic Director Norm Johnson, local actor/teacher/clown Holly Adams, and Rachel Lampert round out the cast.

"It's a band of very talented people. Some are professional dancers and others terrific movers. I am making pieces that use a variety of approaches to creating movement. Some sections have choreography with strict steps and sequences, other sections are combinations of pedestrian movement, improvisation and narrative. I have always enjoyed all kinds of movement. And I love watching both highly trained and natural movers work together. In this piece I am able to explore simple gesture, skips, runs, and falls as well as highly structured material. And, one thing for sure, the music will be wonderfully performed," adds Lampert.

Summers at Rock's Edge has only six public performances. Wednesday, September 22 at 7:30pm, Thursday, September 23 at 2pm and again at 7:30pm, Friday and Saturday, September 24 and 25 at 8pm, and Sunday, September 26 at 4pm. There is a special matinee sponsored by Purity Ice Cream for after school programs at GIAC and Southside Community Center.

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All performances are in the new Kitchen Theatre Company location at 417 West State / W. Martin Luther King, Jr. Street.

The Kitchen Theatre Company's new home will welcome the public at 10:30 a.m. Thursday September 30th with a ribbon cutting ceremony. We hope you will join us in opening the doors to our Bold New Space for the 20th Anniversary Season. Tours for the public will be held following the ceremony.

Performance Dates:

Wed., Sept. 22, 2010 at 7:30pm (Preview 1 of 3)
Thurs., Sept. 23, 2010 at 2:00pm (Matinee)
Thurs., Sept. 23, 2010 at 7:30pm (Preview 2 of 3)
Fri., Sept. 24, 2010 at 8:00pm (Preview 3 of 3)
Sat., Sept. 25, 2010 at 8:00pm (Press Opening)
Sun., Sept. 26, 2010 at 4:00pm (Closing)

Bold, intimate, engaging...Kitchen Theatre Company (KTC), beginning its milestone 20th anniversary season, is downtown Ithaca's critically acclaimed and nationally recognized year-round professional theater company, specializing in regional and world premiere plays and musicals. KTC's intimate 99-seat theatre is in its newly renovated "green" building in the West End neighborhood of downtown Ithaca, New York (beginning September 2010). 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 and receives public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, a State Agency, and the Tompkins County Room Occupancy Tax Fund. The Kitchen Theatre Company also receives general operating support from the Shubert Foundation.

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