

bold • intimate • engaging

KITCHEN theatre company

17th Season - Artistic Director, Rachel Lampert

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

PRESS RELEASE

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FAMILY FARE 2007-08

October 27 – November 11, 2007

The Adventure in Apartment G Sharp

book & lyrics by Rachel Lampert & Nathan Hilgartner, music from the
Grandest of Operas

Director: Rachel Lampert & Tony Simione **Music Director:** Richard Montgomery **Costume Design:**
Hannah Kochman

Cast: Jessica Flood, Erin Hilgartner, Maria Jacobi, Larry Komrower, Max Lawrence, Joe Zappala

Performances: October 27 – November 11; Saturdays at 1:00pm and 3:00pm, Sundays at 1:00pm (see calendar on page 2)

Press Opening: Sunday, October 28 at 1:00 PM (**please call to reserve reviewer seating**)

Tickets: Adults \$14 / Student \$7. Tickets may be purchased in person at the Ticket Center located in the Historic Clinton House, Downtown Ithaca near the Commons, 116 N. Cayuga Street, Ithaca, NY (corner Cayuga and Seneca Streets), by calling (607) 273-4497 or online at www.kitchentheatre.org.

Photos available upon request.

The Kitchen Theatre Company gratefully acknowledges the generous support of **Tompkins County Foundation** – underwriter of the Family Fare Series 2006-07 and sponsors **Tompkins Trust Company**, **Purity Ice Cream**, **Vector Magnetics**, and **The Cat's Pajamas**. This funding helps us bring bold, intimate and engaging theater to life.

A Brand New Musical Adventure Takes the Kitchen Theatre Stage

The Kitchen Theatre stage fills with music with the world premiere of *The Adventure in Apartment G Sharp*, opening October 27 and playing Saturdays at 1pm & 3pm, Sundays at 1pm, through November 11. This new musical features a story full of surprises coupled with everyone's favorite opera hits.

The Adventure in Apartment G Sharp tells the story of 9-year-old Bernadette, who is excited to be spending the weekend with her Uncle Howard in his Manhattan loft apartment and looking forward to the wonderful desserts he creates especially for her. In fact, a weekend with Uncle Howard would be perfect except that he listens to opera constantly and Bernadette is *not* an opera fan. Shortly after Uncle Howard sings her a lullaby, tucks her into bed and tiptoes away, some strange things begin to happen—an operatic dream, or a singing nightmare? Bernadette is transported back in time to a faraway land where she is mistaken for a servant girl and finds herself sorting out the complicated lives of two sisters, two brothers, and a father who is determined to see at least one of his daughters married to one of those brothers! Lots of zaniness and lots of beautiful singing ensue.

Bernadette is played by 8-year-old **Erin Hilgartner**, who was seen at the Kitchen last season in *The Mozart Mystery* and *The Odyssey Part II*. Since those first theatrical experiences, Erin has appeared in Boynton Middle School's production of *Once On This Island* as well as in a major motion picture! She plays a supporting role in *Kit Kittredge: An American Girl Mystery*, to be released in July 2008. Joining Erin in the cast are powerhouse singer **Jessica Flood**, familiar to Kitchen Theatre audiences for her roles in Main Stage productions *Comfort Food*, *Tony & the Soprano*, *Iron*, and *Precious Nonsense*, and last year's Family Fare show *The Mozart Mystery*, and Kitchen Theatre newcomers **Joe Zappala**, **Maria Jacobi**, **Max Lawrence**, and **Larry Komrower**.

The Adventure in Apartment G Sharp is the product of an unusual and exciting collaboration—Kitchen Theatre Artistic Director Rachel Lampert co-wrote the play with 10th grader **Nathan Hilgartner** (older brother of Erin Hilgartner). Nathan has been writing plays since he was in elementary school. His plays have been produced on the Hangar Theatre Young Playwrights Festival and Kitchen Theatre Company's Teen Extreme Playwriting Contest. He also contributed a monologue to last season's KTC Family Fare production of *The Odyssey Part II*. *The Adventure in Apartment G Sharp* was developed by Rachel Lampert and Nathan Hilgartner and then workshopped this past summer by a group of actors.

Playwright/lyricist **Rachel Lampert**, also the KTC's Artistic Director, has authored many original Family Fare productions (*Rebecca Returns*, *The Mozart Mystery*, *I Have a Song to Sing O!*, *Winter Tales*, *A December Suite*, *The Sisters Fitzenstarts Fall Recital*, *The Emmett & Hambone Stories and Fools! Schmools!*) and adaptations (*The Odyssey* parts I & II, *A Christmas Carol*, *Pirates of Penzance*, *HMS Pinafore* and *The Mikado*).

Lampert also serves as the director of this play, together with co-director **Tony Simione**, who makes his Kitchen Theatre directorial debut with this show. Tony appeared as an actor in last season's 48-Hour Playwriting Marathon and before that performed in numerous DC-area productions, including *A Streetcar Named Desire* and *The Changeling* with the Kennedy Center, *As You Like It* with The Shakespeare Theatre, and *The Cradle Will Rock* with The American Century Theatre. His was a founding director of The Riot Actors of Washington.

Music Director **Richard Montgomery** has performed as accompanist, conductor, music director, and stage director in opera and musical theater throughout the United States and locally with Ithaca Opera, Kitchen Theatre Company, Cornell Theatre, and the Hangar Theatre. He was the music director for last season's Family Fare shows *The Mozart Mystery* and *The Odyssey* part II and Main Stage production of *Comfort Food*.

Performance Dates

October 27, 2007, Saturday at 1:00 pm
October 27, 2007, Saturday at 3:00 pm
October 28, 2007, Sunday at 1:00 pm (Press opening)
November 3, 2007, Saturday at 1:00 pm
November 3, 2007, Saturday at 3:00 pm
November 4, 2007, Sunday at 1:00 pm
November 10, 2007, Saturday at 1:00 pm
November 10, 2007, Saturday at 3:00 pm
November 11, 2007, Sunday at 1:00 pm (**Closing**)

Bold, intimate, engaging...Kitchen Theatre Company (KTC), now in its 17th 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 2007-08 Season the Kitchen Theatre Company is receiving support from the **Shubert Foundation** and the **New York State Music Fund**.

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