
PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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TICKETS: \$23; CALL 607-273-4497; VISIT Ticket Center Ithaca, 171 The Commons, Ithaca, NY; or CLICK www.kitchentheatre.org and buy online!

SUBSCRIPTIONS: Subscription order forms available at KTC Administrative office, 116 N. Cayuga St, Ithaca, by calling 607-272-0403, or at www.kitchentheatre.org. Subscribers enjoy ticket exchange privileges and premiere seating.

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.

Photos available upon request.

Brian Dykstra's Holiday Satire Lights Up the Kitchen

Ithaca, NY: There will be many holiday parties to attend this year, but none like the one Brian Dykstra is hosting at the Kitchen Theatre. Dykstra's new one-man show, *HO!*, is an irreverent, funny play and a perfect antidote to saccharine holiday specials. The evening includes a holiday party with food, drink, entertainment, and a Kitchen Theatre bazaar of theatrical gifts and stocking stuffers for purchase. This world premiere production is running December 9 through 20. See the full schedule below.

HO! is centered around two original holiday stories written and performed by Brian Dykstra. In the first, he turns the typical children's holiday story on its head in a Dykstra-style poem about the commercialization of Christmas, in which even Santa Claus gets caught up in the greed. This is not likely to be the next Hallmark holiday special, but it certainly will make fans of holiday satire and devotees of dancing sugarplums unite in laughter.

Intermission is when the party gets into full swing. The Kitchen Theatre bazaar will offer a wide variety of gifts, including exciting clothing and scenic elements from the Kitchen Theatre collection, and all proceeds will support programming at the Kitchen. Enjoy holiday music and wait under the mistletoe while schmoozing and noshing with Dykstra.

The performance continues with Dykstra's story *Sammy the Tree*. This charming tale of a Vermont Christmas tree in the big city shows the softer side of Brian Dykstra; just as the Grinch's heart grew three sizes one night, so does Dykstra's sentimentality. *HO!* is a cross between *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* and David Sedaris's *SantaLand Diaries*, with Dykstra's ingenious wordplay and high energy flare.

A true veteran of the Kitchen Theatre stage, Dykstra has had five of his original works produced here: *THE JESUS FACTOR*, *CLEAN ALTERNATIVES*, *A PLAY ON WORDS*, *STRANGERHORSE*, and *THE TWO OF YOU*. He also received popular and critical acclaim for his performance in the KTC's 2007 production of David Wiltse's *A MARRIAGE MINUET*.

Dykstra's artistic partner and collaborator, NYC-based director Margaret Perry, returns to KTC to direct *HO!*. Perry has had many successful productions in Ithaca. In addition to directing the five Brian Dykstra plays, she directed *A MARRIAGE MINUET*, *TONY & THE SOPRANO*, the 2008 summer revival of *THE SOUP COMES*

bold • intimate • engaging
KITCHEN
theatre *company*

Artistic Director, Rachel Lampert

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

LAST, and the recent production of ENTERTAINER'S EULOGY by Darian Dauchan, among others.

So, is HO! a party? Is it a show? The answer is both. HO! is a performance with holiday charm and punch. So, leave the kids at home and come to the Kitchen Theatre for a holiday show and conversation with Brian Dykstra.

For ages 16 and up.

Performance Dates:

Wed., December 9, 2009 at 7:30pm
Thurs., December 10, 2009 at 7:30pm
Fri., December 11, 2009 at 8:00pm
Sat., December 12, 2009 at 8:00pm
Sun., December 13, 2009 at 4:00pm
Sun., December 13, 2009 at 8:00pm
Wed., December 16, 2009 at 7:30pm
Thurs., December 17, 2009 at 7:30pm
Fri., December 18, 2009 at 8:00pm
Sat., December 19, 2009 at 8:00pm
Sun., December 20, 2009 at 4:00pm
Sun., December 20, 2009 at 8:00pm

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.