

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

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

January 7, 2009

Contact: Lesley Greene, Kitchen Counter Culture Producer, 607.272-0403; lesley@kitchentheatre.org

TICKETS: \$14-\$16 (senior, student, and subscription discounts available) and may be purchased in person at the Ticket Center in the Historic Clinton House, 116 N. Cayuga Street, Ithaca, NY (corner Cayuga and Seneca Streets), by calling (607) 273-4497 or online at www.kitchentheatre.org

GROUP RATES: Discounts are available when you come with a group. For details, contact Marta Potter: marta@kitchentheatre.org or 272-0403.

Photos available upon request. Artist available for interviews.

The Kitchen Theatre Company gratefully acknowledges the generous support of Series Sponsors **FOSTER CUSTOM KITCHENS** and **CSP MANAGEMENT** and Hospitality Sponsor **HILTON GARDEN INN**. This event was funded in part by **POETS & WRITERS, INC.** with public funds from The New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency. This funding helps the Kitchen bring bold, intimate and engaging theater to life.

KTC to present dancer/poet Marc Bamuthi Joseph in **THE SPOKEN WORLD**

ITHACA, NY: The Kitchen Theatre Company's KITCHEN COUNTER CULTURE series, featuring cutting-edge, outside-the-box work by guest artists from around the country, begins in February with a not-to-be missed event—Marc Bamuthi Joseph in **THE SPOKEN WORLD**. Marc Bamuthi Joseph creates works that fuse hip-hop, West African, tap and modern dance with theater and spoken word poetry, and the results are thought-provoking, complex, and stunningly beautiful. It will be a rare treat to see this dynamic performer in the Kitchen Theatre's intimate 73-seat space. **THE SPOKEN WORLD** will run at the Kitchen for three performances only: February 13, 14, and 15. **All performances are followed by a talkback with the artist.** For ages 14 and up.

Born to Haitian immigrants in Queens, NY, Bamuthi's performing career began early. At age ten, he was the understudy for Savion Glover in **THE TAP DANCE KID** on Broadway and went on to tour the country with that show. A multidisciplinary prodigy, he worked with the Senegalese National Ballet in his early twenties and captured the National Poetry Slam crown as part of the San Francisco team by age 24. Bamuthi worked with Katherine Dunham, appeared on Russell Simmons' Def Poetry Slam, and performed with such diverse artists as Gil-Scott Heron, Linkin Park's Joe Hahn, Mos Def, and Bonnie Raitt. His work is influenced by hip-hop as well as studies of modern dance, ballet, West African dance, and Cuban folkloric movement.

In recent years, Bamuthi's work has been presented in Bosnia, Belgium, Italy, the Netherlands, Cuba, and Japan. He is currently developing new projects with le Centre Nationale de Dance, the National Dance Project and the International Theater Institute to be performed in France, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Germany, and the Philippines. He was the inaugural recipient of the United States Artists Rockefeller Fellowship and in 2007 was named one of Smithsonian Magazine's Young Innovators helping to shape the world. His latest piece, *the break/s*, premiered at the Humana Festival and has been presented at the Kennedy Center and the Skirball Center for the Performing Arts at NYU.

The Kitchen Counter Culture series is sponsored by Foster Custom Kitchens and CSP Management, with Hospitality Sponsor Hilton Garden Inn.

Performance Dates:

Fri., February 13, 2009 at 8:00pm

Sat., February 14, 2009 at 8:00pm

Sun., February 15, 2009 at 4:00pm

Bold, intimate, engaging...Kitchen Theatre Company (KTC), now in its 18th 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 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. 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 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 2008-09 Season, the Kitchen Theatre Company also receives support from the Shubert Foundation.

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