
PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

February 1, 2010

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TICKETS: \$18-\$34; 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

The Kitchen Theatre Company gratefully acknowledges the generous support of underwriter **C.S.P. Management**. This funding helps the Kitchen bring intimate and engaging theater to life.

Media sponsorship for **SPEECH & DEBATE** is provided by Planned Parenthood's Sexuality Education and Advocacy Program.

Kitchen Theatre to stage regional premiere of Stephen Karam's timely comedy SPEECH & DEBATE

"Bristling with vitality, wicked humor, terrific dialogue and a direct pipeline into the zeitgeist of contemporary youth."
— *Variety*

Ithaca, NY: Next on the Kitchen Theatre's Main Stage: sex, secrets and video blogs with a Casio keyboard beat. This isn't your typical high school debate team! An aspiring teen journalist, an awkward wannabe actress, and the openly gay new kid in town all have secrets. But when their straight-laced small-town high school refuses to acknowledge the messier aspects of being a teenager, this mismatched threesome set out to expose a scandal—and spark more debate than their high school ever bargained for. Playwright Stephen Karam creates a hilarious and revealing portrait of the borderland between late adolescence and early adulthood in this clever and contemporary comedy about the life of the un-average American teenager. Full of unbridled dark humor, **SPEECH & DEBATE** tackles issues of politics, sexuality, and self-expression in the digital age. At the Kitchen Theatre February 24th through March 14th.

Directing the play is Samuel Buggeln, long-time Artistic Associate with the Ohio Theatre's Obie-award winning resident company Soho Think Tank. He has developed numerous new works including **THE FLIGHT OF ICARUS** and the Drama Desk-nominated **CRESSIDA AMONG THE GREEKS** and directed the Off-Broadway premiere of **RUM & VODKA** by Conor McPherson. Buggeln is also the New York-based Artistic Associate at Portland Stage in Maine, where he oversees that company's casting and has directed some of their top selling shows. He is a regular faculty guest director at SUNY Albany and the NYU/Tisch School of the Arts.

SPEECH & DEBATE boasts an exciting line up of KTC newcomers: New York City based actors **Adam R. Deremer**, **Renee Petrofes**, **Alison Scaramella**, and **Conor Tansey**.

bold • intimate • engaging
KITCHEN
theatre company

Artistic Director, Rachel Lampert

Office (607) 272-0403
Fax (607) 273-4816
Tickets (607) 273-4497
www.kitchentheatre.org

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

Set design is by **Abigail Smith**, lighting design is by **Max Doolittle**, costume design is by **Ainsley Anderson**, sound and projection design is by **Lesley Greene**. Stage Management for SPEECH & DEBATE is by **LaShawn Keyser**.

SPEECH & DEBATE is underwritten by **C.S.P. Management**.

***Planned Parenthood's Sexuality Education and Advocacy Program** will sponsor a pre-show reception on Thursday February 25th at 6:00PM at the Kitchen Theatre's Clinton House location. The reception will be followed by a 7:30PM performance and a post-show talk-back. Please plan ahead if you would like tickets to this special event performance as limited tickets are available.

Recommended for ages 16 & up for some profanity and teens engaged in discussions of sex, drinking and drug abuse.

Performance Dates:

Wed., February 24, 2010 at 7:30pm (preview 1 of 3)

*Thurs., February 25, 2010 at 7:30pm (preview 2 of 3)

Fri., February 26, 2010 at 8:00pm (preview 3 of 3)

Sat., February 27, 2010 at 8:00pm (press opening)

Sun., February 28, 2010 at 4:00pm

Wed., March 3, 2010 at 7:30pm

Thurs., March 5, 2010 at 7:30pm

Fri., March 5, 2010 at 8:00pm (wine tasting)

Sat., March 6, 2010 at 8:00pm

Sun., March 7, 2010 at 4:00pm

Wed., March 10, 2010 at 7:30pm

Thurs., March 11, 2010 at 7:30pm

Fri., March 12, 2010 at 8:00pm

Sat., March 13, 2010 at 8:00pm

Sun., March 14, 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.