

**\*NEWS RELEASE\***
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Monday, January 16, 2012

**NEW REPERTORY THEATRE ANNOUNCES  
 THE ROLLING WORLD PREMIERE OF  
 BAKERSFIELD MIST BY STEPHEN SACHS**

(WATERTOWN, MA, Monday, January 16, 2012)—Co-producers New Repertory Theatre and Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theater (WHAT) will remount the National New Play Network Rolling World Premiere of *Bakersfield Mist* by Stephen Sachs in the Black Box Theater at the Arsenal Center for the Arts February 26 through March 18, 2012. **Opening night will be held on Monday, February 27, 2012 at 7:30pm.**

Directed by **Jeff Zinn**, the *Bakersfield Mist* cast features area favorites **Ken Cheeseman** and **Paula Langton** as Lionel Percy and Maude Gutman, respectively.

“This is my third production with a National New Play Network selection,” Zinn explains. “I look forward to their selections every year. What interested me in *Bakersfield Mist* is the collision between two very different worlds. Yes, he's a ‘left coast’ effete snob and she's trailer trash. They present themselves to the world one way, but there's always so much more going on.”

“The road to co-production with New Rep was quite serendipitous,” Zinn shares. “Ken and Paula are tremendously generous collaborators, willing to try anything and absolutely passionate about the work.”

“We welcome Jeff back to New Rep,” says Managing Director, Harriet Sheets. “This is his third time directing at New Rep. We are proud to be a member of the National New Play Network, and happy to have collaborated with Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theatre on this production.”

Maude Gutman has bought the ugliest thrift store painting she could get her hands on as a gag gift. After the painting is rejected, Maude tries to offload it at a yard sale where she learns it might be much more than junk—it just might be the “find of the century,” an undiscovered Jackson Pollock painting. When Lionel Percy, a renowned art expert, arrives at Maude's trailer to investigate the painting's potential, the two embark on a fiery debate over class, truth, and what we personally perceive as valuable. Inspired by true events, this National New Play Network Rolling World Premiere by Stephen Sachs asks, what makes a work of art truly authentic?

**RENT**

*book, music, and lyrics* by Jonathan Larson  
 directed by Benjamin Evett  
*musical direction* by Todd C. Gordon  
*choreography* by Kelli Edwards  
**Sep. 4, 2011—Sep 25, 2011**  
 CHARLES MOSESIAN THEATER

**COLLECTED STORIES**

*a drama* by Donald Margulies  
 directed by Bridget Kathleen O'Leary  
*featuring* Bobbie Steinbach *as Ruth Steiner* and  
 Liz Hayes *as Lisa*  
**Oct. 9, 2011—Oct. 30, 2011**  
 CHARLES MOSESIAN THEATER

**THREE VIEWINGS**

*by* Jeffrey Hatcher  
 directed by Jim Petosa  
**Nov. 27, 2011—Dec. 18, 2011**  
 BLACK BOX THEATER

**'ART'**

*a comedy* by Yasmina Reza  
 translated by Christopher Hampton  
 directed by Antonio Ocampo-Guzman  
**Jan. 15, 2012—Feb. 5, 2012**  
 CHARLES MOSESIAN THEATER

**BAKERSFIELD MIST**

*a National New Play Network  
 Rolling World Premiere* by Stephen Sachs  
 directed by Jeff Zinn  
*a co-production with* Wellfleet Harbor  
 Actors Theater  
**Feb. 26, 2012—March 18, 2012**  
 BLACK BOX THEATER

**LONG DAY'S JOURNEY INTO NIGHT**

*a drama* by Eugene O'Neill  
 directed by Scott Edmiston  
*featuring* Will Lyman *as James Tyrone* and  
 Karen MacDonald *as Mary Cavan Tyrone*  
**April 1, 2012—April 22, 2012**  
 CHARLES MOSESIAN THEATER

**LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS**

*music* by Alan Menken  
*lyrics and book* by Howard Ashman  
*music director* Todd C. Gordon  
**April 29, 2012—May 20, 2012**  
 CHARLES MOSESIAN THEATER

**Support comes from:**

Bank of America  
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New Repertory Theatre produces plays that speak powerfully to the essential ideas of our time. Through the passion and electricity of live theater performed to the highest standards of excellence, New Rep expands and challenges the human spirit of both artists and audience. New Rep presents world premieres, contemporary and classic works in several intimate settings. We are committed to education and outreach, including special dedication to the creation of innovative in-school programming and providing access to underserved audiences. New Rep is an active advocate for the arts and a major voice in the national dialogue defining the role of theater in our culture.

### **BAKERSFIELD MIST ARTISTS**

**Ken Cheeseman** (Lionel Percy) returns to New Repertory Theatre. Recent credits include *A Civil War Christmas*, *All My Sons* and *Prelude to a Kiss* (Huntington Theatre Company); *Othello* and *Measure for Measure* (Actors' Shakespeare Company); *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (New York Shakespeare Festival); and various work at American Repertory Theatre, Merrimack Repertory Theatre, Gloucester Stage Company, Portland Stage Company, Shakespeare & Company, Yale Repertory, The Long Wharf Theatre and The Charles Playhouse. In New York he appeared in *Scapin and Amphitryon* (Classic Stage Company) and *King Lear* (La MaMa). Film and television credits include *Leaves of Grass*, *Shutter Island*, *Invention of Lying*, *The Good Wife* and *Law and Order*. Mr. Cheeseman is both artist in residence and full time faculty at Emerson College.

**Paula Langton** (Maude Gutman) makes her New Repertory debut. Recent credits include *Walking the Volcano* and *Daughter of Venus* (Boston Playwrights Theatre); *A Question of Mercy* (Potomac Theatre Project); *The Glass Menagerie* (The Olney Theatre); *Good, Galactia* and *Scenes From an Execution* (Boston Center for American Performance); *Othello*, *King Lear*, *The Winter's Tale* and *Measure for Measure* (Actors' Shakespeare Project); *Trojan Barbie* and *Donnie Darko* (American Repertory Theatre); and work with Shakespeare & Company and Los Angeles Women's Shakespeare Company.

**Jeff Zinn** (director), as Artistic Director of Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theater (1988-2011), produced over 150 productions and directed over 50. During his tenure, WHAT earned two Elliot Norton Awards including one for *Establishing a Beachhead for Serious Theatre on Cape Cod* (2001). His productions of *Bakersfield Mist*, *A Beheading in Spokane*, *Danny Casolaro Dies for You* and *Daughter of Venus* received critical acclaim and his productions of *Beauty Queen of Leenane*, *Closer*, and *Proof* made the 2010 *Boston Globe* top ten. He has guest directed at both the Nora Theatre Company and New Repertory Theatre, and taught courses in acting, dramaturgy, and theater literature at both Clark College and Wheaton College. His most recent project is a comprehensive approach to character creation called "The Existential Actor." Mr. Zinn serves as Visiting Academic Professional of Drama/Theatre and Adjunct Instructor in the Department of Humanities and Arts at Worcester Polytechnic Institute and resides in Orleans.

**Stephen Sachs** (playwright) is an award-winning playwright and director and the Co-Artistic Director of the Fountain Theatre in Los Angeles. *Bakersfield Mist*, which he also directed at Fountain Theatre, premiered in June, enjoyed rave reviews and was extended. The play also premiered in New Jersey (New Jersey Repertory), and has been optioned for both New York and London. Sachs is also the author of *Miss Julie: Freedom Summer* (LA Drama Critics Circle Award nomination), *Gilgamesh*, *Open Window* (Media Access Award), *Central Avenue* (PEN USA Literary Award Finalist), *Sweet Nothing in My Ear* (PEN USA Literary Award Finalist, NEA grant), *Mother's Day*, *The Golden Gate* (Best Play Award, Dramalogue), and *Baron in the Trees*. He wrote the teleplay for *Sweet Nothing in My Ear* for Hallmark Hall of Fame which aired on CBS starring Marlee Matlin and Jeff Daniels. Sachs received a NEA grant for his new deaf/hearing modern adaptation of *Cyrano*, opening May 2012. He has won many awards as a director, and is noted for his longtime artistic association directing the premieres of new plays by Athol Fugard.

### **BAKERSFIELD MIST FACTS AT A GLANCE**

<b>Company:</b>	<b>New Repertory Theatre</b>
<b>Where:</b>	In residence at the <b>Arsenal Center for the Arts</b> , Black Box Theater 321 Arsenal Street, Watertown, MA 02472
<b>Production:</b>	<b><i>Bakersfield Mist</i></b>
<b>Playwright:</b>	Stephen Sachs

**Director:** Jeff Zinn

**Co-production with:** Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theater (WHAT)

**Cast:** **Ken Cheeseman** as Lionel Percy  
**Paula Langton** as Maude Gutman

**Designers:** **Jiyoun Chang** Scenic Designer  
**Anne Miggins** Costume Designer  
**John Malinowski** Lighting Designer  
**Nathan Leigh** Sound Designer  
**Mary Fritz** Properties Designer  
**Joseph Travers** Fight Director  
**Dan Lombardo** Dramaturg

**Performing:** First performance: Sunday, February 26, 2012 at 2:00pm  
**Opening Night: Monday, February 27, 2012 at 7:30pm**  
Runs through: Sunday, March 18, 2012 at 2:00pm


**Performances:** Sunday, February 26, 2012 at 2:00pm  
Sunday, February 26, 2012 at 7:30pm  
Monday February 27, 2012 at 7:30pm (**Opening Night**)  
Thursday, March 1, 2012 at 2:00pm  
Thursday, March 1, 2012 at 7:30pm  
Friday, March 2, 2012 at 8:00pm  
Saturday, March 3, 2012 at 8:00pm  
Sunday, March 3, 2012 at 2:00pm (talkback)  
Wednesday, March 7, 2012 at 7:30pm  
Thursday, March 8, 2012 at 7:30pm  
Friday, March 9, 2012 at 8:00pm  
Saturday, March 10, 2012 at 3:00pm  
Saturday, March 10, 2012 at 8:00pm  
Sunday, March 11, 2012 at 2:00pm (talkback)  
Thursday, March 15, 2012 at 7:30pm  
Friday, March 16, 2012 at 8:00pm  
Saturday, March 17, 2012 at 3:00pm  
Saturday, March 17, 2012 at 8:00pm  
Sunday, March 18, 2012 at 2:00pm (talkback)

**Tickets:** Full Price \$35 General Admission. Seniors \$5 Off Full Price. Student Rush \$10.  
**Call: 617-923-8487 or buy online at [www.newrep.org](http://www.newrep.org).**

**Accessibility:** Wheelchair accessible  
Assisted Listening System  
Box office with TTY  
For TTY only, dial 617.923.2067  
Large-Print and Braille Programs available

**Public Transportation:** #70 or #70A bus to the School Street stop

**Parking:** Free, six-level parking garage across from the Arsenal Center for the Arts

**2011-2012 Season Sponsor:** New Repertory Theatre thanks Season Sponsor Bank of America for their support. 

**For Media Inquiries:** Contact Ami Bennitt at 617-923-7060, extension 205 or e-mail [ami@newrep.org](mailto:ami@newrep.org)