

October 13, 2011

For Immediate Release

World Premiere
Cakewalk

Nov. 3 - 29, 2011

MST – Rice Village

“These two women are, at their core, bonded inextricably.” –Nalsey Tinberg

Main Street Theater launches its 2nd world premiere of the season with *Cakewalk*, a funny, poignant tour-de-force for two actresses that charts the mother/daughter experience with great humor and dignity (and the proper amount of disrespect!). With previews Oct. 29, 30 and Nov. 2, *Cakewalk* opens Nov. 3 and runs through Nov. 27 at Main Street Theater – Rice Village, 2540 Times Blvd. Performances are on Thursdays at 7:30pm, Fridays and Saturdays at 8pm, and Sundays at 3pm. Tickets range from \$26 - \$40 (Previews are \$10), depending on date and section, and are on sale in person at the Main Street Theater Box Office, 2540 Times Blvd., via phone at 713.524.6706, or online at MainStreetTheater.com.

About *Cakewalk*

American-born Bershala (Barrie) wants to tell the story of her relationship with her mother, Sprintze, a Holocaust survivor, but Sprintze has her own ideas about how the story should unfold. Inveterate storytellers both, these two strong, passionate women take us on a ten-year journey of transformation – from refugee to homemaker, from Believer to skeptic (and back again), from daughter to mother, from care-giver to care-receiver.

Recommended for mature audiences.

Post-show Discussion with the Playwright

Following the performance on Saturday, November 5 there will be a discussion with playwright Nalsey Tinberg about the play and her work.

About Playwright Nalsey Tinberg

Nalsey Tinberg has written four full length plays, a one-act play, and various ten minute plays. *Christmas Babies* was produced at Laurelgrove Theater in Studio City, California in 2002 and was also read as part of The NY Chapter of the National Television Academy play reading series, NYC, in 2004. Renamed *Cakewalk*, this play was read at the Manhattan Theatre in 2005. *Cakewalk* was also named a second place winner in the Eighth National Readers Theatre Playwrighting Competition of The Open Book in 2006. Other works include *Bearing Witness* (produced at Stella Adler Theatre in Los Angeles, 1998), *Musical Chairs* (produced at the Stella Adler Theatre in LA, 2004), and *A Teachable Moment* (New Play Reading Series, 2010; New Works Festival, Theatre West, 2011; Three Roses Players Reading, 2011).

More...

Ms. Tinberg is a member of Dramatists Guild of America, Association of Los Angeles Playwrights, Women in Theater (Los Angeles), Theatre West, and a Playwright Member of the Association for Jewish Theatre (AJT). Ms. Tinberg is a professor at Occidental College in Los Angeles.

About the Production

Steve Garfinkel directs *Cakewalk*. Mr. Garfinkel has directed numerous productions for MST including last season’s regional premiere of *This* and both productions of *The Last Night of Ballyhoo*. Lisa Thomas Morrison returns to play Barrie after playing Ruth in last season’s production of *Blithe Spirit*. Luisa Amaral-Smith has been in multiple MST productions including *A Catered Affair*, *The Last Night of Ballyhoo*, *Awake and Sing!*, and more.

The design team includes Adam Thornton (set design), Carrie Cavins (lighting design), Janel J. Badrina (sound design), Rebecca Greene Udden (costume design), and Pamela Miltenberger (properties design and set dressing). Rob Babbitt is the production stage manager.

Since 1975, Main Street Theater has produced high quality professional theater for audiences of all ages through its MainStage productions and Main Street Youth Theater. The Main Street Theater Kids On Stage program offers performing arts classes and camps for children 5 years to 14 years of age. The organization produces plays at two locations, 2540 Times Boulevard in Rice Village and 4617 Montrose Boulevard at Chelsea Market.

Main Street Theater is a member of the Fresh Arts Coalition, a collaboration of 25 arts organizations that work collectively to raise awareness of the size and diversity of the arts in Houston, and a constituent of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national service organization for not-for-profit theaters. Main Street Theater offers a lively year-round repertory of classic and contemporary plays for audiences of all ages and provides a much-needed showcase for Houston theater professionals. Main Street Theater is also a member of Actors’ Equity Association and of ASSITEJ, the world theatre network of theatre for children and young people. Main Street Theater is funded in part by grants from the City of Houston through the Houston Arts Alliance, and the Texas Commission on the Arts.

Media Contact Only (not for print publication):

Shannon Emerick, Marketing Director

713.524.3622 ext 105 / shannon@mainstreettheater.com