

## **THE READERS' THEATRE ANNOUNCES 2013-2014 SEASON**

The Readers' Theatre of Ithaca is elated to announce their fourth season. All performance readings will be at the **BLACK BOX THEATRE** at **Lehman Alternative Community School**, located at **111 Chestnut Street in West Hill, City of Ithaca**.

In September, the theatre will present **COLLECTED STORIES**, by **Donald Margulies** (September 27-29, 2013). *Collected Stories* will be directed by **Anne Marie Cummings**, **Founder and Artistic Director of The Readers' Theatre**, and will star **Barbara Adams**, writing professor at Ithaca College, and local actress **Helen T. Clark**. *Collected Stories* centers around a famous writer, Ruth Steiner, and her pupil, Lisa Morrison. The corporate sponsor is **Tompkins Trust Company**, and supporting sponsors are **Sustainable Tompkins**, **Barnes & Noble**, and **Buffalo Street Books**. Special guest speakers are local writers **Alexi Zentner**, **Jeanne Mackin**, and **Shawn Goodman**.

In November, the company will present **GOD OF CARNAGE** by **Yasmina Reza** (November 15-17, 2013). The play will be directed by **Cummings**, and will star RTI veterans **Tim Perry**, **Cynthia Henderson**, **Scott Whitham**, and **Darcy Martin Rose**. The story focuses around two couples brought together to "talk things out" after their young children get into a fight with one another at school. The corporate sponsor is **Ithaca Bakery**, and the supporting sponsor is **Acting Out NY**. Talk-backs on the subject of bullying will be given by **Mayor Svante Myrick**, **Dick Polenberg**, and **NYS Assemblywoman Barbara Lifton** with **Ithaca Police Department Chief John Barber** and an **IPD Juvenile Detective**.

On December 6, 2013 The Readers' Theatre will hold an annual fundraiser with a performance reading of **SHOULD'VE**, a new play by **Roald Hoffmann**, American theoretical chemist who won the 1981 Nobel Prize in Chemistry, currently Frank H. T. Rhodes Professor of Humane Letters, Emeritus, at Cornell. **SHOULD'VE** will star **Tony Simone**, **Effie Johnson**, and **Anne Marie Cummings**. Music by **Hank Roberts**, Music Advisor for The Readers' Theatre.

The 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization will kick off 2014 with **IN A FOREST, DARK AND DEEP** by **Neil LaBute** (February 28 – March 2, 2014). This conventional thriller will be directed by **Cynthia Henderson** and will star **Cummings** and RTI newcomer **Evan Stewart Eisenberg**. The corporate sponsor is **Alternative Federal Credit Union** and supporting sponsors are **Dream Catalyst**, and **The Multicultural Resource Center (MCRC)**. Talk-backs on race and racism (highlighting one of characters in LaBute's play) will be given by a panel of speakers provided by **MCRC** following all three performance readings.

The season will end with **DETROIT** by **Lisa D'Amour** (April 25 – 27, 2014) to be directed by **Cummings** and starring RTI ensemble member **Effie Johnson**, **Gary Weissbrot**, **Maggie Goldsmith**, **Kristin Sad**, and **Bryan VanCampen**. *Detroit* tells the story of Ben and Mary who fire up the grill to welcome their new neighbors who've moved into the long-empty house next door.

*The New York Times* said of this 2013 Obie winner, "*This scary-funny comedy...speaks to the fractious frightened American moment more perceptively than any play I've seen on a New York stage.*" Corporate sponsors are **Josh and Kristi Lower** and the **Fraternal Order of Eagles, Aerie #1253**. All three talk-backs, entitled, "The American Heartland and Its Dying Towns," will be given by **Nick Kowalczyk**.

Featuring an array of both newcomers and actors from The Readers' Theatre ensemble, the 2013-2014 season is sure to provide thought-provoking and intellectually stimulating theatre at the low ticket prices that The Readers' Theatre strives to maintain. **Tickets are \$10 for students with a valid student ID, and \$12 for adults and seniors, with a reservation. Tickets are \$12 for students and \$15 for adults and seniors, at the door.** To show their appreciation to LACS and The Ithaca City School District for use of the Black Box Theatre, The Readers' Theatre is setting aside 10 complimentary tickets at each performance reading for LACS faculty, students, and their families.

New to The Readers' Theatre is the formation of The Readers' Theatre's blog and business board. Business board members are **Josh and Kristi Lower**. Artistic board members include: **Peter Stein**, **Tony Simone**, **Cynthia Henderson**, **Karen Rodriguez**, **Darcy Martin Rose**, **Tim Perry**, and **Anne Marie Cummings**. Reservations can be made by calling **607.217.6272**. [www.thereaderstheatre.com](http://www.thereaderstheatre.com).