FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RENEGADE THEATRE EXPERIMENT PRESENTS
William Shakespeare’s Macbeth

San Jose, CA, March 19, 2004 – Renegade Theatre Experiment (RTE)-in collaboration with City Lights Theatre Company—proudly presents William Shakespeare’s timeless tale of vaulting ambition. Macbeth previews on April 15 and runs April 16-17, 21-24, 29-30, and closes on May 1. All performances begin at 8:00pm at City Lights in downtown San Jose.

As a part of City Lights’s Spotlight Series, Renegade Theatre’s production of Macbeth kicks off RTE’s thrilling third season with a dark and bloody story of political intrigue, war, and supernatural horror. Shakespeare’s potent poetry-full of sound and fury-signifies the corrupting influence of power in defiance of natural order. Shakespeare’s themes resonate as strongly now in an election year-as four hundred years ago.

Murder, blood, witchcraft, and obsession drive Shakespeare’s darkest and most intriguing play. Scottish thane Macbeth (Tom Gough) takes to heart the prophecy of three tempting witches: that he will rule Scotland. Spurred on by Lady Macbeth (Leah Herman), the celebrated soldier takes matters into his own bloody hands, assassinating King Duncan (Nicolae Muntean). The consequences of this act, and further sins, propel each of them into a personal and solitary hell. Likewise, Scotland spirals into madness and chaos when no one can be trusted and murder is the order of the day. One of the Bard’s most fast-paced plays speeds to the inevitable showdown of the crazed usurper and the armies backing the rightful heir.

Director Russ Marcel has this to say: "I hope to highlight the paradoxical elements: 'Fair is foul and foul is fair,' the natural and unnatural, good and evil. I also hope to further develop the typically nondescript roles of the witches. As the instruments of evil in the play, they'll make surprising and non-traditional appearances. I'm basically here to provide the framework for the very talented cast to spill their guts on stage – in a safe and humane way, of course. Oh yeah, and it gets very bloody, and there's some kick-ass fights."

Tom Gough, who plays Macbeth, also serves as artistic director of City Lights. "We at City Lights are delighted to be collaborating with Renegade on this very exciting project," Gough says. "City Lights has a long history of collaborating with other small companies, including Theatre Rhinoceros and Teatro Vision, and Macbeth was a project City Lights had been considering. So when Renegade announced their production of Macbeth and the desire to expand their season, we saw an ideal opportunity to benefit both companies."

Tickets for Macbeth are $15.00 General Admission (Wednesdays and Thursdays) and $18.00 General Admission (Fridays and Saturdays). Students and teachers, seniors, City Lights Season Subscribers, and Theatre Bay Area members qualify for discount tickets ($10/$12) with valid ID. NOTE: Wednesday, April 21, 2003, is a benefit performance for
Theatre Bay Area’s Lemonade Fund. The Lemonade Fund is a confidential resource for theatre workers with terminal or life-threatening illnesses who are in need of supplemental financial assistance to improve the quality of their lives as they deal with medical conditions.

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The Renegade Theatre Experiment (RTE) was founded in 2001 by a group of Santa Clara University alumni to bring edgy and entertaining new shows to the San Jose theatre community.


Contact: Whitney Stebbins
408-351-4440
wstebbins@renegadetheatre.com
AN INVITATION TO THE MEDIA

Renegade Theatre Experiment proudly invites you to attend our preview performance of William Shakespeare’s *Macbeth*, presented in partnership with City Lights Theater Company.

*Macbeth* by William Shakespeare
April 15, 2004

City Lights Theatre
529 South Second Street
San José, California 95112.

8:00 PM

This is a public preview with a paying audience.
MEDIA RESPONSE TO RTE, THE DICE HOUSE AND EAT THE RUNT

Renegade Theatre Experiment:
“It’s already obvious from its résumé that Renegade Theatre Experiment is living up to its name, and to its mission of presenting unique works away from the mainstream.”
[Heather Zimmerman, Rose Garden Resident; June 5, 2003]

“These self-professed renegades bring a new toy to town with some very serious talent in the wings.”
[W. Fred Crow, Milpitas Post; June 4, 2003]

“…the Renegade Theatre Experiment is attempting to bring to San Jose edgy material that would be overlooked by other local stage groups.”
[Jim Aquino, Silicon Valley Newspapers; August 14, 2002]

The Dice House by Paul Lucas (Producer: RTE):
“…the Renegades brought off a very clever, funny performance.”
[Marianne Messina, San Jose Metro; June 19, 2003]

“Carrying the wit of Woody Allen, the recklessness of Monty Python, and the darkness of Stephen King, "The Dice House" entertains at a visceral, adult level…The entire cast was a kick…overall, a solid showing by a solid theater.”
[W. Fred Crow, Milpitas Post; June 4, 2003]

Eat the Runt by Avery Crozier (Producer: RTE):
“The Renegade Theatre Experiment's company of actors lived up to their name…”
[Marianne Messina, San Jose Metro; June 19, 2003]
RENEGADE THEATRE EXPERIMENT PRESENTS
William Shakespeare's Macbeth
produced in partnership with City Lights Theater Company

San Jose, CA, March 19, 2004

WHO: Renegade Theatre Experiment - San Jose-based theatre company with all-local cast. Cast: Tom Gough, Leah Herman, Ron Talbot, Rob Viola, Nicolae Muntean, Peter Canavese, Whitney Quinn Stebbins, Sarah Almazol, Evangeline Maynard, Blythe Thomas, Brian Murphy, Gabriel A. Ross, Chris Tann, Jan Carty Marsh and Peter Svensson. Directed by Russ Marcel.

WHAT: Murder, blood, witchcraft, and obsession drive William Shakespeare's darkest and most intriguing play, Macbeth! Macbeth, incited by his wife, succumbs to the desire for power and performs the terrible act of assassination. The consequences of this act, and further sins, propel each of them into a personal and solitary hell. Witness the blood-soaked tale of ambition fueled by madness and sexuality!

WHY: A chance for San Jose theatre patrons to experience this dark, tragedy presented with a touch of Renegade.

WHEN: April 15 (Pay-What-You-Can Preview) April 16-17, 21-24, 29-30, and May 1. All performances will begin at 8:00 PM.

WHERE: City Lights Theatre, 529 South Second Street, San José, California 95112. General Seating.

PRICE: Ticket Prices:
Wed & Thurs: $15.00 General Admission
$10.00 Student/Educator/Senior/TBA Discount Admission/CLTC Subscriber
Special: Wednesday, April 21, 2003, is a benefit performance for Theatre Bay Area's Lemonade Fund.
Fri & Sat: $18.00 General Admission
$12.00 Student/Educator/Senior/TBA Discount Admission/CLTC Subscriber
Tickets available online (www.renegadetheatre.com) and at the door.


CONTACT: Whitney Stebbins
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RENEGADE HISTORY

Committed to forward-thinking performance, Renegade Theatre Experiment builds creative partnerships with aspiring and established artists to bring unique, outstanding theatre to the Bay Area. Founded in 2001, when a group of alumni from Santa Clara University joined together to develop as actors, RTE continues to explore the human experience through established and fresh performance works which break with convention. RTE’s artistic and critical successes have included Hear me Roar: Women’s Images of Self - an exploration of women’s body image and self-worth in American culture, Avery Crozier’s Eat the Runt, and Wendy MacLeod’s Sin. Renegade produced the first North American production of the critically acclaimed show, The Dice House by Paul Lucas.

RTE continues in its tradition of bringing exceptional, avant-garde productions to the South Bay by kicking off its 2004 season with William Shakespeare’s darkest and edgiest piece, Macbeth. Obsession, betrayal, witchcraft, and murder drive this blood-soaked tale of ambition. This is followed by the West Coast Premiere of Goner by Brian Parks, a frenetic black comedy that combines political intrigue, hospital drama, and screwball comedy resulting in a piece that The Guardian (August 8, 2002) describes as "American satire at its sick, twisted best. It is set in a hospital, where the US president has been taken after an assassination attempt. Watching it is like vomiting acid in the wind and finding it comes back to hit you full in the face." The season finishes strongly with the World Premiere of Tom Jacobson’s Conserving Melissa, a seriocomic piece about a conservator’s obsession with the Egyptian mummy she’s restoring threatens her impending marriage in this funny romance cursed with confusion. You never really know someone till they’re dead....

www.renegadetheatre.com