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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OUT OF POCKET PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

Separation

Proceeds to Benefit Epilepsy Foundation of Rochester

January 7, 2010. Rochester, N.Y. – Geva Theatre Center is delighted to welcome Out of Pocket Productions for their second visit to the Nextstage since TheatreFest with *Separation*, Tom Kempinski's moving play about life, love and distance.

Middle-aged and overweight British playwright Joe Green hasn't been able to write since the premiere of his play about a woman faced with a lifetime in a wheelchair. A young American actress who is suffering the debilitating effects of the illness that plagues the character in Joe's play wishes to procure the rights to perform in it in New York. Over a series of transatlantic phone calls, what starts out as an artistic collaboration develops into something more —an unlikely romance that must overcome not only geographical distance but the treacherous terrain of two battered hearts.

Playwright Tom Kempinski is best known for his play and subsequent film, *Duet for One*, loosely based on the life of Jacqueline du Pre and her husband Daniel Barenboim, which had its stage premiere in 1980. *Separation* was first produced at the Hampstead Theatre in London in 1987 and had its American premiere in New York in 1992.

Out of Pocket Productions was founded by Irondequoit resident and theatre professional, Stephanie Roosa. Out of Pocket Productions is a not-for-profit theatre group dedicated to raising money for charitable organizations by drawing on the considerable talents of the Rochester theatre community through performances, productions and workshops. Proceeds from this production of *Separation* will benefit the Epilepsy Foundation of Rochester-Syracuse-Binghamton.

The Epilepsy Foundation of Rochester-Syracuse-Binghamton is a non-profit, human service agency serving the needs of people affected by epilepsy, seizure, traumatic brain injury and related disabilities. The agency serves all individuals and families without regard to race, color, sex, age or national origin. Their mission is to ensure that people with seizures are able to participate in all life experiences; and will prevent, control, and cure epilepsy through services, education, advocacy, and research. One in ten adults will have a seizure sometime

during their life. One in 100 will be diagnosed with epilepsy. Over 10,000 individuals have epilepsy in the Greater Rochester Region.

Separation stars local husband and wife actors **Jeff Siuda** and **Stephanie Roosa**. **Kathryn Moroney** directs.

Separation is the second of three productions that Out of Pocket Productions will be producing in the Nextstage this coming season. The final production, *Stop Kiss*, will be produced in March.

TICKET PRICES: **\$20 for Adults, \$15 for Students and Seniors**

RESERVATIONS: **232-Geva or via the website: www.gevatheatre.org**

LOCATION: **Geva Theatre Center, 75 Woodbury Blvd, Rochester, NY 14607**

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE: Thursday, January 27 @ 7:00pm
Friday, January 28 @ 7:00pm
Saturday, January 29 @ 1:30pm
Saturday, January 29 @ 7:00pm
Sunday, January 30 @ 1:30pm
Saturday, February 5 @ 1:30pm
Saturday, February 5 @ 7:00pm
Sunday, February 6 @ 1:30pm

**For further information, photographs or to arrange interviews, please contact:
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GEVA THEATRE CENTER

Geva Theatre Center is Rochester's leading professional theatre and the most attended regional theatre in New York State. Founded in 1972, Geva attracts over 170,000 patrons annually, including more than 16,000 students. The 552-seat Elaine P. Wilson Mainstage offers a wide variety of shows, from musicals to American and world classics.

The 180-seat Ron & Donna Fielding Nextstage is home to Geva's own series of cutting-edge drama, comedy and musical theatre; Geva Comedy Improv; Geva's New Play Reading Series and the Hornet's Nest - an innovative play-reading series facilitating community-wide discussion on controversial topics. The Nextstage also hosts visiting companies of both local and international renown.

Geva Theatre Center offers a wide variety of educational, outreach and literary programs, nurturing audiences and artists alike. Since 1995 the organization has been led by Artistic Director Mark Cuddy.

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