



Media Contact: Dawn Kellogg
Communications Manager
(585) 232-1366 ext. 3059
dkellogg@gevatheatre.org

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DIVE INTO THE HORNETS' NEST AT GEVA THEATRE CENTER

A Picasso is the next reading in Geva's nationally recognized program of thought-provoking theatre.

April 6, 2011. Rochester, N.Y. - Few experiences can ignite a great conversation like a thrilling night in the theatre. The Hornets' Nest series has theatre-goers itching for that conversation.

The Hornets' Nest series of script-in-hand readings with professional actors and directors investigates the most difficult and controversial questions of today. Following each reading, audience members will have the opportunity to engage in open discussion with key figures from the Rochester community.

The series concludes for the season on April 18th with ***A Picasso*** by **Jeffrey Hatcher** directed by **Kathryn Moroney**.

Picasso has been summoned by representatives from Berlin to identify three of his paintings as originals or as forgeries. Or could he have been summoned because he painted the bombing of Guernica? Can a work of art created for political purposes still be a masterpiece? What makes art political...and can it affect events or only comment on them?

The reading of *A Picasso* is at 7:00pm in the Nextstage. Following the reading there will be an open discussion featuring critic **Jack Garner**; **Anthony Bannon**, Director of the George Eastman House and **Rachael Baldanza**, European Art Historian at the Memorial Art Gallery; facilitated by **Frank Kuhn**, Associate Professor of Theatre at SUNY Brockport. Tickets are free and, due to the popularity of this series, are limited to two per person. Reservations are recommended. Due to anticipated demand, all unclaimed tickets will be released at 6:45pm on the day of performance. Patron discretion is advised: plays deal with adult subject matter. To reserve tickets, phone the Box Office: (585) 232-Geva (4382) or reserve online at www.gevatheatre.org.

The Hornets' Nest. Think Theatre.

**For further information, or to arrange interviews,
contact Dawn Kellogg, Communications Manager, (585) 232 1366 x 3059.**

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 160,000 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; WHAT'S NEXT: Geva's New Play Reading Series and the Hornets' 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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