

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
CONTACT:

1 October 2004
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ELEMENTAL THEATRE ENSEMBLE PRESENTS ***A BOOK OF TRAVELLING SHOWS*** **by Russell Davis**

A Book of Travelling Shows by Russell Davis, a play “for children and their adults,” is an exciting, unpredictable evening of theatre for children, adults, and anyone in between. The play introduces us to a traveling troupe of actors led by Nigel Entwickle, a “narrator of tall tales”, and featuring the regal Lady Peggy Dill, the eager Penny Twinkling, and the foreign-born Chantal Baboots. These three ladies have replaced the men of Entwickle’s revue, much to his chagrin, and are forced to reinterpret, on the spot, traveling productions of *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* and *Cinderella*. Things take a bizarre turn when actors in the production begin to lose sight of the separation between characterization and real life, and the play threatens to tear itself apart in full view of the audience. *A Book of Travelling Shows* combines the existentialism of *Six Characters In Search Of An Author*, the laugh-out-loud farce of *Noises Off!* and the for-all-ages feel of *The Muppet Show*. Abigail Adams, the co-artistic director of The People’s Light & Theatre Company says “[Davis’] apparent ‘version’ of a story we know turns out to be something all by itself...the struggle of good people to become friends, to join together in at least a modest, temporary victory over solitude, separation, and boom-bahs.”

The play is being performed by Elemental Theatre Ensemble actors David Rabinow (NIGEL, *Wit* - Trinity Rep, 2002), Jennifer Swain (LADY PEGGY, *Red Noses* - Gamm Theatre, 2004), Kelly Seigh (PENNY, *The Grapes of Wrath* - Gamm Theatre, 2001), and Tanya Anderson (CHANTAL, *The Cider House Rules*, Trinity Rep, 2002), and is directed by co-Producer Brian Platt. Brian assisted director Kevin Moriarty with his production of *A Christmas Carol*, and was seen in *Wit* (mainstage) and *Richard III* and *Much Ado About Nothing* (Summer Shakespeare) all at Trinity. The company are graduates of the Trinity Rep Conservatory in Providence, RI.

The mission of Elemental Theatre Ensemble is

- To tell stories that move, engage, challenge, and entertain.
- To create a unique and open connection between its artists and audience.
- To develop new works that reflect the interests and issues of our community.
- To become a vital artistic voice in Southern New England, and in the Coastal Villages region in particular.

Performances at the Meeting House at Tiverton Four Corners Arts Center, located on Main Road in Tiverton, are scheduled for October 22, 23, 24, 29, 30, and 31 2004, with Friday and Saturday curtain times at 7:00 P.M. and Sundays at 2:00 P.M. An additional 2:00 P.M. matinee has been scheduled for Saturday, October 30 as well. Tickets are \$12.00 for adults (\$10.00 for Arts Center Members).

For reservations or information, please call (401) 624-2600.

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AT A GLANCE

PRODUCTION: *A Book of Travelling Shows* by **Russell Davis**

DATES: October 22 (press night), 23, 24, 29, 30, 31

WHERE: The Meeting House at Tiverton Four Corners Art Center
3852 Main Road
Tiverton, RI 02878.

PERFORMANCE TIMES: Friday and Saturday at 7:00 P.M.
Sunday at 2:00 P.M.
Special Saturday matinee, Oct. 30 at 2:00 P.M.

TICKET PRICES: \$12 - adults
\$10 - Arts Center Members
\$6 - children (12-under)

MORE INFORMATION: (401) 624-2600
www.elementaltheatre.org