**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT**

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**Elemental’s *Go.Go 5* – Five Years of New Plays in Providence**

January 27 – February 13 at 95 Empire Street

**PROVIDENCE, RI –** December 26, 2010

Every autumn, **Elemental Theatre Collective** commissions original works of theater from local playwrights, then casts them, rehearses them and premieres them by the end of January. The pieces are always written in response to a challenge: **ETC** draws random playwriting elements out of a hat, and the playwrights have to incorporate those elements into their plays, to be completed by a certain deadline. **Elemental** calls the resulting program of new work “***The Go.Go Plays***.”

For ***Go.Go 5***, the fifth annual event, **ETC** decided to do something different.

Rather than commissioning particular playwrights to participate in the event, the company publicized the elements online, and put out a general call for play submissions. Forty-five days later, **Elemental** had received 31 new plays. Without knowing who had written them, the selection committee set to work, evaluating the pieces based on dramatic structure and conflict, language, character development, and creative use of the required elements.

Four plays were finally chosen: *Wake* by **Jill Blevins**, *Baby Talk* by **George Brant**, *The Pickle Shop* by **Rob Grace**, and *A Brief History of the Earth and Everything In It (As Performed by Ms. LoPiccolo’s Third-Grade Drama Group from the William Jennings Bryan Elementary School in Springfield, Missouri)* by **Dave Rabinow**.

ETC Artistic Director **Alexander Platt** is directing the evening of plays, and was thrilled with the selection process and the finalists. “We received a surprising number of good plays, and we wanted to do many more of them than we are able to produce in this round. When we finally narrowed down the finalists and looked at the names of the writers, we were delighted to find that we had two local playwrights (Grace and Rabinow), and two formerly local playwrights (Blevins and Brant).”

ETC has produced plays by **Brant** and **Rabinow** in previous festivals. This is **Rob Grace**’s first time collaborating with the group, while **Jill Blevins** has worked with the company as an actor and director, but never before as a playwright.

The cast features a stunning array of local talent. Many of the company are new to the ***Go.Go Plays***. **Gamm** Resident Artist Casey Seymour-Kim\* is working with Elemental for the first time, as is another Gamm regular, Amanda Ruggiero. Rae Mancini is joined onstage by Kevin Broccoli and Erin Olson, all frequent actors at **Second Story**. Bryce Johnson, a Junior at the **JM Walsh School for the Performing and Visual Arts**, is making his Elemental debut. Returning to the festival are Jed Hancock-Brainerd, Rebecca Noon and Chris Rosenquest (fresh from their ***Special Happy*** triumph). Rounding out the cast are ETC Resident Artists D'Arcy Dersham\*, Dave Rabinow and Kelly Seigh, who between them have been seen in 11 previous ***Go.Go Plays***.

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***Go.Go 5****: The 5th Annual Go.Go Plays* will be presented at 95 Empire Street (Home of **Perishable Theatre**), January 27 – February 13, Thursdays through Saturdays at 7:30 pm and Sunday matinees at 2:00 pm. Tickets are $15 General/$10 Student ID, with $10 Previews on January 27 and 28. Visit [www.elementaltheatre.org](http://www.elementaltheatre.org) to reserve tickets, or call (401) 447-3001.

\*Members, Actors' Equity Association

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**About Elemental Theatre Collective**

The seed for Elemental was planted in the fall of 1999, when the Trinity Rep Conservatory Class of ’02 met for the first time. During three years of intensive learning and collaboration, the students became a tight-knit group of theater artists. The Collective was founded in the summer of 2004, and has mounted a wide array of productions, from full-length dramas, to late-night live radio plays, to cutting-edge original work, to free summer tours presented across Rhode Island.   What links these diverse projects is a commitment to providing affordable theatre that surprises, challenges, and excites our audience and our artists.

This production is using the space at **95 Empire St**, home of **Perishable Theatre**, through the Perishable Enriches Artists (PEA) program, offering below-market rehearsal and performance space to new, emerging, and established artists. Our spaces include a dance studio, classroom and black-box theatre space. More information about space at www.perishable.org/rental. ***Go.Go 5*** is not a Perishable production.

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**ATTENTION CALENDAR EDITORS**

DETAILS AT A GLANCE

***Go.Go 5****: The 5th Annual Go.Go Plays*

DIRECTOR Alexander Platt

PLAYWRIGHTS Jill Blevins

George Brant

Rob Grace

Dave Rabinow

CAST Kevin Broccoli Rae Mancini Chris Rosenquest

D’Arcy Dersham\* Rebecca Noon Amanda Ruggiero

Jed Hancock-Brainerd Erin Olson Kelly Seigh

Bryce Johnson Dave Rabinow Casey Seymour-Kim\*

\*Members, Actors’ Equity Association

DATES January 27 through February 13 – Thu/Fri/Sat at 7:30 – Sun at 2:00

 (Previews 1/27 and 1/28)

PRESS NIGHT Saturday, January 29 at 7:30 pm

 RSVP for Press: info@elementaltheatre.org or (401) 447-3001

VENUE 95 Empire Street (Home of Perishable Theatre)

 Providence, RI 02903

RESERVATIONS [www.elementaltheatre.org](http://www.elementaltheatre.org) or (401) 447-3001

TICKET PRICE $15 General/$10 Student ID/$10 Previews

 Cash or check at the door

***Go.Go 5* | Performance Calendar**

Thu 1/27 – 7:30 pm Preview

Fri 1/28 – 7:30 pm Preview

Sat 1/29 – 7:30 pm Opening Night/Press Night

Sun 1/30 – 2:00 pm

Thu 2/3 – 7:30 pm

Fri 2/4 – 7:30 pm

Sat 2/5 – 7:30 pm

Sun 2/6 – 2:00 pm

Thu 2/10 – 7:30 pm

Fri 2/11 – 7:30 pm

Sat 2/12 – 7:30 pm

Sun 2/13 – 2:00 pm

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