



## News Release

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **OBIE AWARD-WINNING DAVID CALE RETURNS TO KC REP WITH ROMANTIC COMEDY "THE HISTORY OF KISSES"**

Previews October 21-27    Opens October 28    Closes November 27

**Press Night: Friday, October 28, 8 p.m. curtain at COPAKEN STAGE**

Production photography and b-roll will be available October 25.

Kansas City, MO (October 7, 2011) – Kansas City Repertory Theatre continues its commitment to the development and exportation of new work by welcoming the return of award-winning playwright/director/performer David Cale who will perform his one-actor play *The History of Kisses*, October 21-November 27, 2011, at Copaken Stage. Cale also directs and wrote the songs he performs on stage.

In *The History of Kisses*, a writer is drawn into romantic entanglements at a seaside motel where he has sequestered himself in order to finish writing a collection of stories. From the tender confessions of lost loves, to a singer of sea-shanties, to the surprising encounters that define modern love, *The History of Kisses* is a passionate, hilarious and moving exploration of what it means to fall in love by the sea.

"David is one of the greatest navigators of the human heart," said Eric Rosen, artistic director of Kansas City Rep. "His stories capture the essence of his characters and tell their innermost secrets in a style so intimate, magical and innocent that you forget you are watching an actor on stage."

The multi-talented Cale is a transcendent raconteur who debuted the world premiere of his one-man play *Palomino* at the Rep in 2009. He is best known for his solo works like *Palomino* (KC Rep, Center Theatre Group's Kirk Douglas Theatre) and *A Likely Story* (The New Group),

*Somebody Else's House* (Goodman Theatre), *Deep in a Dream of You* (Public Theatre, Museum of Modern Art, Goodman Theatre), *Smooch Music* (Goodman Theatre, Walker Art Center), *The Redthroats*, (Second Stage, Mark Taper Forum) and the Obie Award-winning *Lillian* (Playwrights Horizons, Goodman Theatre). His monologues have been featured on the public radio programs "This American Life" and "The Next Big Thing", and on BBC Radio's "Afternoon Play". As a lyricist, his words have been performed by Elvis Costello, Deborah Harry and the Jazz Passengers. His film credits include Woody Allen's *Radio Days*, *Pollack*, *Two Lovers* and the upcoming *Coming up Roses*, *The Slaughter Rule* and *Winter in the Blood*.

In addition to Cale, the creative/production team of ***The History of Kisses*** includes:

**Edward Southern** (*Set Design*) KC Rep: debut. *Hamlet* (Orpheus Productions), *10x25* (Atlantic Theatre Company), *Caucasian Chalk Circle* (Pipeline Theater Company), *Sporting Life* (Studio 42), *Così fan Tutte* (Delaware Valley Opera).

**Laura Bauer** (*Costume Design*) KC Rep: *Palomino*. Broadway: *One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest*, *Life in the Theatre*, *Glengarry Glen Ross*, *Talk Radio*, *Speed the Plow*. Off-Broadway: Woody Allen's *Writer's Block*, *American Buffalo*, *Mojo*.

**Beverly Emmons** (*Lighting Design*) KC Rep: debut. Broadway: *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Jekyll and Hyde*, *The Heiress*, *Passions*. Tony Award (*Amadeus*), seven Tony nominations. Regional: Kennedy Center, Guthrie Theatre, Arena Stage.

**Andre Pluess** (*Sound Design*) KC Rep: *August: Osage County*, *Palomino*, *The Arabian Nights* and *Winesburg, Ohio*. Broadway: *Metamorphoses*, *I Am My Own Wife*, *33 Variations*, *The Clean House*. Regional: Lookingglass Theatre, About Face Theatre, Steppenwolf theatre, Goodman Theatre, Shakespeare Theatre, Washington, D.C., Center Theatre Group, La Jolla Playhouse.

**Mary R. Honour** (*Production Stage Manager*) KC Rep: *Peer Gynt* (including the co-production at La Jolla Playhouse), *Circle Mirror Transformation*, *Harriet Jacobs*, *Bus Stop*, *A Flea in Her Ear*, *Winesburg, Ohio*.

For complete biographies for the company of ***The History of Kisses***, please visit [KCRep.org](http://KCRep.org)

***The History of Kisses*** contains strong language and adult situations.

### **Conversation Series for *The History of Kisses***

All events take place at Copaken Stage

- **Meet the Creative Team**

Wednesday, October 26, following the 7 p.m. performance

Members of the artistic team lead a lively conversation about the creative process behind the play, followed by Q&A.

**Conversation Series for *The History of Kisses* (continued)**

▪ **Scholars' Forum**

Saturday, November 5, following the 2 p.m. performance

Noted scholars and experts lead an in-depth discussion about relevant issues in the play, followed by Q&A.

▪ **Actors' Forums**

Sunday, November 6, following the 2 p.m. performance

Tuesday, November 8, following the 7 p.m. performance

Cast members return to the stage to answer questions in post-performance discussions

***The History of Kisses*** runs October 21-November 27, 2011 at Copaken Stage, located at 14<sup>th</sup> and Main streets in Kansas City, Missouri. Tickets are \$15-\$65. Please contact the Rep Box Office at 816-235-2700 or visit [www.KCRep.org](http://www.KCRep.org) for information about performance times and ticket options. 2011-12 Season Subscriptions and Flex Passes are now on sale.

**ABOUT KANSAS CITY REPERTORY THEATRE**

Now in its 47<sup>th</sup> season, Kansas City Repertory Theatre is its region's only member of the League of Resident Theatres (LORT) and serves as the professional theatre in residence at the University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC). The Rep produces mainstage plays and special events at Spencer Theatre on the UMKC campus and Copaken Stage located in downtown Kansas City. Kansas City Rep employs more than 250 professional artists, technicians and administrators, and serves more than 100,000 patrons and 10,000 school children annually. Kansas City Repertory Theatre is led by Artistic Director Eric Rosen, Managing Director Cynthia Rider and Producing Director Jerry Genochio.

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