



PRESS RELEASE

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Media passes, photographs, videos, interviews and additional materials available.

MEDIA CONTACT: Aaron Snook

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The Ensemble Project and Signal Ensemble Theatre's Aaron Snook present Samuel Beckett's "Krapp's Last Tape" starring Vincent Loneragan, Opening July 11th

WHAT: In the first incarnation of The Ensemble Project, Aaron Snook will direct fellow ensemble member Vincent Loneragan in a stripped down and intimate production of "Krapp's Last Tape." A late evening in the future. The light from above illuminates a wearish old man at his desk: Krapp. He goes about his birthday ritual of listening to an old recording of himself and recording a new one. His last one. Written by Nobel Prize-winner Samuel Beckett, Krapp's Last Tape is a portrait of an old artist. Beautiful, poignant, and heartbreakingly funny, it explores the light and the dark of the journey that is a man's life. The show will run under an hour with no intermission.

WHERE: Signal Ensemble Theatre
1802 West Berenice Ave.
Chicago, IL 60613-2720

Street parking available on Ravenswood and Berenice (runs one way going west)
CTA Brown line EL stops Irving Park and Addison
CTA busses #80-Irving Park, #152-Addison, #50-Damen, #11-Lincoln
Handicapped accessible

WHEN: Opens Monday, July 11, 2011, 8 p.m.
Closes Sunday, August 7, 2011, 3 p.m.
Runs Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., & Sundays at 3 p.m.
Previews on July 9 and July 10 at 8 p.m.

TICKETS: Publish this number: 773.347.1350; aaron@signalensemble.com
All tickets are pay-what-you-can donations. Reservations available.

STAFF: Signal Ensemble members **Aaron Snook** (Director, Costume Designer, Set Designer), Signal Ensemble Associate Artist **Julie Ballard** (Lighting Designer) and guest artist **Micah Lynn Trapp** (Stage Manager).

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CAST: Signal Ensemble member **Vincent Lonergan** (Krapp).

BIO: **Aaron Snook** is a director, actor, dramaturg, Associate Artist with Chicago Dramatists and Signal Ensemble member. His previous directing credits include “The Birthday Party” and “The Dumb Waiter” with Signal Ensemble Theatre. As an actor for Signal, he most recently appeared as Brian Jones in “Aftermath” and is currently appearing as Garrett Paige in the world premiere of “Aces” by Jon Steinhagen. A Jeff Award nominee, he has also worked around town in theatres including Lifeline and Right Brain Project.

Vincent Lonergan is an actor and Signal Ensemble member. His previous credits include Mashkan in “Old Wicked Songs” and Ben Franklin in “1776”, both for which he was a Jeff award nominee. Among other theatres he has worked with in Chicago are Eclipse, Quest and Metropolis.

WHY: Director Aaron Snook said, “This piece has been close to my heart for a very long time. In fact, ‘Krapp’s’ was the first show I was slated to direct about five years ago, but through a series of events, it ended up getting shelved and I did ‘The Dumb Waiter’ instead. Since then, I’ve dusted the project off every once and a while and worked on it without any specific timeframe in mind. Beyond my personal passion for the piece, there are two reasons I’ve decided to finally pull the trigger. The first is Vince. I truly believe people need to see his Krapp. Once I saw him as Mashkan in ‘Old Wicked Songs’, I knew he was the one for the role and our work on it since then has only deepened my resolve. The second is this is one of those pieces that yearns to exist in an intimate arena and it is rarely given the opportunity to do so. It is a hauntingly personal work and the closer I can bring the audience to Krapp, the more affective I believe it will be.”

MISSION: Signal’s mission speaks to our commitment to challenge and support our distinguished ensemble in their artistic growth. The season of shows provide opportunities to grow as an ensemble within the framework of the company’s vision, but we recognize our artists’ potential as individuals outside of that as well.

The Ensemble Project has been created to provide our ensemble members and associates with an outlet for their individual projects. These are not limited to the theatrical medium and can be proposed at any time. Upon approval, Signal provides the space, certain marketing opportunities and other help, which is determined on a case-by-case basis. The individual is the primary producer on this venture and assumes the remaining production responsibilities.

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