

# BRETT SINGER & ASSOCIATES, LLC

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New Bridge Productions To Present

## **PHILISTINES**

A Play By Maxim Gorky

The New York Premiere of the RSC / Dusty Hughes' Adaptation

Performances Begin Thursday, October 28<sup>th</sup>

At The Shetler Theater, 244 West 54<sup>th</sup> Street

October 5, 2004

New Bridge Productions, a new theater company, will present the New York Premiere of Dusty Hughes' adaptation of Maxim Gorky's play *PHILISTINES*. The adaptation was commissioned by the Royal Shakespeare Company and was extremely well received in the U.K. Kevin Gay will direct a cast of thirteen actors. Performances will be at the Shetler Theater, 244 West 54<sup>th</sup> Street; performances will begin on Thursday, October 28<sup>th</sup>.

Gorky's first stage play (called *Meschanye* in Russian) was originally presented at the Moscow Art Theatre in 1902. The story centers around a prosperous house painter and his two sons, and because of its 'progressive' tone the play was cut by the official censors and granted a license for 'members only' performances. Gorky draws a gallery of rich characters who brilliantly expose the political and personal turmoil of pre-revolutionary Russia. The play has been performed in several versions in America (as *Scenes in the House of Bessemenov* and *Smug Citizens*) but this new adaptation, *Philistines*, by Dusty Hughes, commissioned by the Royal Shakespeare Company, was the first major professional production to be staged in Britain. It was first performed at The Other Place, Stratford-upon-Avon. The adaptation received excellent notices: Suzie Mackenzie of Time Out London praised Hughes' "accessible, humorous and lucid translation" of "a poignantly funny play". In the Sunday Telegraph, Francis King wrote that "Gorky's first play *Philistines* has all the richness and amplitude of a Victorian novel." And Martin Hoyle of the Financial Times said that Hughes wrote "marvellously natural dialogue". New Bridge Productions is pleased to present the American premiere of Hughes' work.

The cast for *PHILISTINES* will be Chris Oden, Brooke Delaney, Anne Hammond, Richard Thieriot, Aya Cash, Albert Aeed, Diane Mashburn, Tom Corbosiero, Maureen Mooney, Cash Tilton, Oscar Scally, Kelly Scanlon, and Jordan Reinwald.

The schedule will be Wednesdays through Saturdays at 8pm, and Sundays at 3pm.

Tickets will be \$20.00 and may be purchased by calling Smarttix at 212-868-4444, or online at [www.smarttix.com](http://www.smarttix.com). Photos will be available for download at [www.brettsinger.com/clients/philistines.html](http://www.brettsinger.com/clients/philistines.html).

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## **PHILISTINES**

**A play by Maxim Gorky, Adapted by Dusty Hughes**

**At The Shetler Theater, 244 West 54<sup>th</sup> Street**

**October 28<sup>th</sup> through November 21<sup>st</sup>**

**SCHEDULE: Wednesdays through Saturdays at 8pm, Sundays at 3pm**

**\* \* Critics are invited anytime from October 29<sup>th</sup> on**

**TICKETS: \$20; call Smarttix at 212-868-4444, or visit [www.smarttix.com](http://www.smarttix.com)**

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