

CONTACT: Wendy Wilcox
Jewish Theatre Collaborative
503-929-2869
wendy@jewishtheatrecolaborative.org

DATE: November 02, 2009

WHO: Jewish Theatre Collaborative & The Mittleman Jewish Community Center
WHAT: **People Should Not be Afraid of their Children**-Staged Readings of Grace Paley and Etgar Keret Short Stories
WHEN: November 16, 2009, 7:00 PM
WHERE: **Mittleman Jewish Community Center**-6651 SW Capitol Highway in Portland,
HOW MUCH: \$10.00
RESERVATIONS: www.jewishtheatrecolaborative.org,
Or call **503-922-2453**

Jewish Theatre Collaborative Lifts Jewish Book Month off the Page at the Mittleman Jewish Community Center

November 01, 2009 (Portland, OR) – Jewish Theatre Collaborative joins with the MJCC to honor Jewish Book Month (Nov11 to Dec11.) in high style with word for word, staged readings of the captivating and engaging short stories of beloved American author, the late **Grace Paley**, and **Etgar Keret**, one of Israel's hippest and most popular storytellers.

On Monday, November 16 at 7:00 pm Portland actors, Elizabeth Huffman, Jamie Rae, Nick Ferucci and Rick Sanders will sail Paley and Keret's stories off the page and on to the stage for a wonderful evening of diverse, short story magic. Targeted to bring together the empty nesters with the 20 somethings, the evening promises delightful surprises for both. Sacha Reich, Executive Director, promises "If you are unfamiliar with these writers, be prepared, hold on to your seat and expect to join the cult following." The event will be held at the MJCC, 6651 SW Capitol Highway on followed by a small wine and cheese reception.

The member and guest fee for both the performance and the reception are \$10 per person. To secure a spot at this not-to-be-missed performance, please RSVP by calling 503.922.2453. Or www.jewishtheatrecolaborative.org.

Grace Paley (nee Grace Goodside – an anglicized version of the Ukrainian family name Gutseit) was known for her pacifism and her political activism. She wrote about the complexities of women's and men's lives and advocated for the betterment of life for everyone. In 1980, she was elected to the National Academy of Arts and Letters and in 1989, Governor Mario Cuomo made her the first official New York State Writer. She was the Vermont State Poet Laureate from March 5, 2003 until July 25, 2007. She died at home in Thetford, Vermont at the age of 84.

Etgar Keret was born in Tel Aviv, Israel, in 1967 and is the most popular writer among Israeli youth today. His books are bestsellers in Israel and have received international acclaim. His writing has been published in *The New York Times*, *Le Monde*, *The Guardian*, *The Paris Review* and *Zoetrope*. Over 40 short movies have been based on his stories, and one of them won the American MTV Prize

(1998). His movie, *Skin Deep*, won First Prize at several international film festivals, and was awarded the Israeli Oscar.

The Mittleman Jewish Community Center (MJCC) proudly serves people of all faiths and backgrounds, as it has for nearly 100 years, and is located at 6651 SW Capitol Highway in Portland. Please call 503.244.0111 for more information or visit online at www.oregonjcc.org.

*Jewish Theatre Collaborative's mission is to engage people in Jewish stories from the past and present exploring values, traditions, and history, in order to better comprehend the diversity of contemporary human experience.