



Lewiston/Auburn's Professional Theatre

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For immediate release

Visiting Mr. Green is a trip worth taking!

The Public Theatre, Lewiston/Auburn's Professional Theatre, begins the New Year with the award winning thought-provoking comedy *Visiting Mr. Green*, playing January 29 - February 7. When an elderly Jewish dry cleaner walks into the path of an oncoming yuppie's car, a judge with a sense of humor requires the young man to pay a series of weekly visits to his victim. What starts out as an "Odd-Couple" style comedy about two worlds colliding becomes a surprisingly powerful and poignant story about the dangers of isolation and intolerance.

"It's a thought-provoking play wrapped up in an amusing and entertaining package. A surprising secret revealed in the first act changes where you think the play is going. This surprise acts as a catalyst for a series of interesting discoveries and discussions that we believe will resonate with our audience" says director Janet Mitchko. "Peppered with wise and poignant revelations, and filled with the kind of recognizable humor that anyone who's ever had to visit an elderly relative against their will can relate to, this play satisfies on every level. Whether you're a child or a parent, the holder of strong beliefs or their victim, we believe everyone in the audience will be able to relate to this play."

Following its Off-Broadway success starring Eli Wallach, *Visiting Mr. Green* has become a critical success all over the world, been translated into 22 languages, and performed in 37 countries. It was nominated as Best Play by the Drama League, and has since received Best Play awards throughout Europe.

Starring in The Public Theatre's production will be New York actor **Kenny Morris** as **Mr. Green**. Kenny has performed in the Broadway and First National Company of *Hairspray* as well as the Broadway and San Francisco Companies of *Les Miserables*. He is an alumnus of Lincoln Center Theater, having performed in *The Tenth Man* and *A New Brain*. He also performed in the 20th Anniversary Production of *Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris* on Broadway and most recently in the widely acclaimed production of *Caroline, or Change* at the Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis. His TV appearances include *Third Watch* and *Law and Order; Criminal Intent*.

Visiting Mr. Green will be Boston based actor **Paul Melendy** as **Ross**. Paul was honored with the Best Actor Award from the New Hampshire Theatre Awards for his role in *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)* as well as Best Comedic Actor from the New England Theatre Conference at the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival. He has appeared in numerous productions in the Boston area including *A Tale of Two Cities*, *Arcadia*, *Take Me Out*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, and *I Hate Hamlet*, among others. He also can be seen as the Italian waiter in the recent film *The Pink Panther Deux*.

The set design for this New York apartment will be created by designer Dan Bilodeau. The lighting design will be by Bart Garvey, and costumes by Annette Bourque.

***Visiting Mr. Green* will be performed at The Public Theatre, Lewiston/Auburn's Professional Theatre, Jan 29, 30, 31, Feb 4, 5, 6, 7 Performance times are Thurs at 7pm, Fri and Sat at 8pm and Sun at 2pm. A student matinee performance will be held on Feb 2 & 3 at 9:30am. Adults \$18, Sr/Stu \$16, Group Rate (10+) \$15. For tickets call The Public Theatre Box Office at 782-3200.**