



## Synetic Theater

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### **SYNETIC THEATER ANNOUNCES A NEW ALLIANCE WITH THE SHAKESPEARE THEATRE COMPANY DURING THEIR LEADERSHIP REPERTORY**

#### **ADVENTUROUS YOUNG THEATER TO PRODUCE SILENT “ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA” AT THE LANSBURGH THEATRE**

(Arlington, May 4, 2009) Synetic Theater is proud to announce a new alliance with one of the landmark theatres in the DC area, the Shakespeare Theatre Company. Under a new agreement, Synetic will produce a new addition to its “Silent Shakespeare” repertoire, *Antony and Cleopatra*, at the historic Lansburgh Theatre in downtown Washington, DC, marking a new step in the growth of Synetic, and a further development in the Shakespeare Theatre Company’s history of working with other performing groups to nurture the arts in DC. Synetic Theater joins other distinguished performing arts companies like CityDance Ensemble, Summer Opera Theatre Company, Capital Fringe Festival and The Washington Ballet in becoming artistic partners with the Shakespeare Theatre Company. Synetic’s production will join the Shakespeare Theatre Company’s productions of *Henry IV* and *Richard II* as part of the Shakespeare Theatre Company’s exploration of leadership.

Synetic’s Artistic Director, Paata Tsikurishvili, is very excited to be producing this piece on the Lansburgh Theatre stage. Amazingly, all three of his previous “Silent Shakespeare” productions, *Hamlet...the Rest is Silence*, *Macbeth*, and *Romeo and Juliet*, have garnered Helen Hayes Awards for Outstanding Director, Resident Play, for their innovation, high drama, and ability to dig down to the very core of Shakespeare’s stories. He will return to direct *Antony and Cleopatra*, which will feature his wife, Irina Tsikurishvili, as both choreographer and in the role of the Egyptian queen. Company member Ben Cunis, last seen on the Synetic stage as the title role in *Dante*, will take up the role of Antony, and the show will feature a vibrant original score by the Helen Hayes-nominated resident composer of Synetic, Konstantine Lortkipandze.

*Antony and Cleopatra* will be performed for five weeks at the Lansburgh Theatre, from January 28<sup>th</sup> through February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Synetic is proud that it has been able to grow to such a place that it can begin such partnerships, and hopes that this collaboration between two theaters is a sign of hope in hard economic times. The strength of DC theater lies not only in the creativity and hard work of the many individuals within it, but also their efforts to come together to grow and strengthen their community. Synetic hopes for *Antony and Cleopatra* to be the flagship production in what will become a long-standing relationship between these two theaters.

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