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**Readers Theatre Repertory Premieres  
"Address Unknown"**

Anti-Semitism is on the rise around the world, and neo-fascism is finding root and spreading daily.

In 1938, Portland novelist Katherine Kressman Taylor anticipated both the political movement and its bloody results in Europe, and penned *Address Unknown*. Adapted for the stage by Frank Dunlop, this is the story of Max Eisenstein and Martin Shulze, a German Jew and a German gentile separated by an ocean, divided by world politics, and devastated by moral choices.

*Address Unknown* will have its West Coast premiere on April 20th, 2007 as Readers Theatre Repertory mounts its first fully-staged production at Portland Center for the Performing Arts.

The play is directed by Mary McDonald-Lewis and stars Tobias Andersen and Michael Mendelson. It is produced in conjunction with the Oregon Holocaust Resource Center.

OHRC's mission is "To remember, to record, to teach," which past board president and Holocaust survivor Miriam Greenstein says is why the organization decided to support *Address Unknown*. "The story of the Holocaust must be told again and again," she says, "and applied to current events. This play, about such an intimate friendship and what hatred does to it, is a powerful way to tell it."

*Address Unknown* is as timely now as it was in 1938. "Even as we prepared to stage this, new conflict broke out in the Middle East," says director McDonald-Lewis, "and here in the States, a noted Hollywood actor and director is found out for his shockingly anti-Semitic statements. Attacks on Jewish centers and synagogues make this play all the more pertinent."

All of this supports what Dunlop said when adapting the novel for the stage: "This play is not just about a Jew and German, it is about what is happening now. I didn't want to do just a memorial to the

Holocaust, although I have a good friend who survived Auschwitz. This book and now this play show what people are capable of now."

McDonald-Lewis adds, "There are no easy answers to why Fascism rose, and to today's conflicts either. *Address Unknown* doesn't give us villains and heroes, but challenges us, and demands that we decide how we shall live."

Audience Talkbacks will take place at all performances, featuring Holocaust survivors and scholars.

PHOTOS of Tobias Andersen and Michael Mendelson as characters Max Eisenstein and Martin Shulze are available for download from: [http://www.marymac.com/rtr/address\\_large.htm](http://www.marymac.com/rtr/address_large.htm) (larger file), or [http://www.marymac.com/rtr/address\\_small.htm](http://www.marymac.com/rtr/address_small.htm) (smaller file). Please contact McDonald-Lewis if alternate formats are preferred.

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WHO: Readers Theatre Repertory  
WHAT: *Address Unknown*  
WHEN: April 20th - 29th, 2007  
WHERE: Portland Center for the Performing Arts, Winningstad  
1111 SW Broadway, Portland Oregon 97205  
HOW MUCH: \$23.50/\$16.50 students/seniors; \$11.50 student matinee  
RESERVATIONS: TicketsWest:800.992.TIXX; <http://ticketswest.rdln.com/>

Readers Theatre Repertory was founded in 2001 to tell "small stories with big ideas at their heart," tales that alternately amuse, confront, assuage and inspire. Using one-act plays as the text, the company focuses on tales dealing with intimate human relationships to explore universal themes. RTR stages its work at Blackfish Gallery in Portland's Pearl District. For more information about RTR, visit [www.readerstheatre.org](http://www.readerstheatre.org).

OHRC is located at Pacific University in Forest Grove, OR, and is the steward of the Oregon Holocaust Memorial in Portland's Washington Park. For more information about OHRC, visit <http://ohrc.pacificu.edu>.

*Address Unknown* is a project of Mt. Hood Repertory Theatre Company.

*Address Unknown*  
Readers Theatre Repertory  
April 20th - 29th, 2007  
Portland Center for the Performing Arts, Brunish Hall  
1111 SW Broadway, Portland Oregon 97205



(l-r) Tobias Andersen and Michael Mendelson as Martin Shulze and Max Eisenstein in Reader's Theatre Repertory's *Address Unknown*.  
Photographer: Mary McDonald-Lewis