



Krannert Center  
for the Performing Arts

College of Fine and Applied Arts  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
500 S Goodwin Avenue, Urbana, IL 61801-3788

## Highlights

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
April 2000

### Critically-Acclaimed SITI Theatre Company at Krannert

*Cabin Pressure*, SITI Company's newest dramatic creation, explores the vital links between audiences and stage actors. SITI presents this engaging piece of theatre in Krannert Center's Colwell Playhouse on Saturday, April 15, 2000, at 8pm.

Ticket prices for *Cabin Pressure* are \$24, \$23 for senior citizens, \$15 for University of Illinois students who have paid the student fee, and \$15 for youth of high school age or younger. Discounted flex prices, which can be used by patrons who are attending five or more Krannert Center Marquee or Resident productions during the Millennium Season, are \$22, \$21 for senior citizens, and \$13 for UI students and youth.

SITI, the Saratoga International Theater Institute, was founded in 1992 by Anne Bogart and Tadashi Suzuki to redefine and revitalize contemporary theater in the US through international cultural exchange and collaboration. SITI's three ongoing components are the creation of new work, the training of young theatre artists, and a commitment to forming partnerships with international collaborators. In addition to performing *Cabin Pressure*, SITI company members Will Bond, Ellen Lauren, Kelly Maurer, Barney O'Hanlon, and Stephen Webber, as well as the company's technical crew, will engage University of Illinois theatre students in intensive workshop sessions on their theatrical methods.

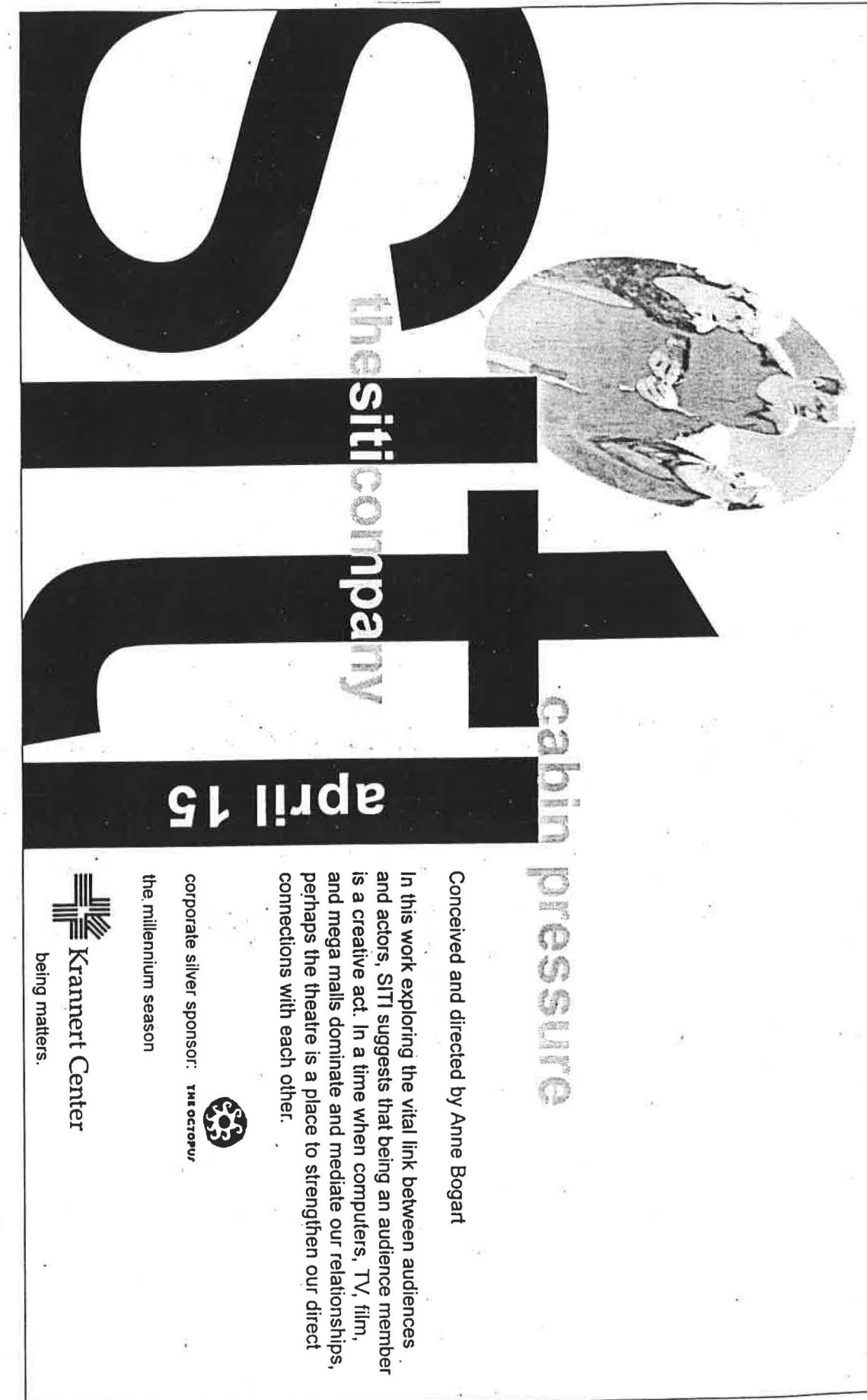
Recognizing that her own most thrilling experiences in the theatre have been those where she, as an audience member, was asked to meet the actors halfway, Anne Bogart believes that "theatre is not a descriptive art form. It is a poetic medium where you do the least on stage so that the imagination is released in the audience." She goes on to explain that *Cabin Pressure* is "very audience-dependent. Every time we perform the play, it's about the people in *that* room. *Cabin Pressure* gives the audience permission to respond."

The SITI Company used a variety of sources to create *Cabin Pressure*, including spoken text and dialogue sampled from the writings of great dreamers of the theatre, such as Stanislavsky, Meyerhold, Artaud, and Brook; as well as selections from Bogart's interviews with 57 theatrologers and fragments from existing plays that suggest variations on the actor/audience theme. *Cabin Pressure* makes use of everything from "bewigged Restoration comed and, sentimental Victorian melodrama to lurid murder mystery, romantic comedy, modern psychodrama, and a Laurie Anderson spectacle. . . . The finale is a hilarious mirroring sequence in which the actors become the seated audience, shifting from farcical confusion or nervous irritation to slap-happy enthusiasm." (*The Columbus Dispatch*)

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Krannert Center Ticket Office  
800/KCPATIX or 217/333-6280  
217/333-9714 TTY  
kran-tix@uiuc.edu  
www.kcpa.uiuc.edu/kcpa/

For Additional Information Contact  
Tammey Kikta, Public Information Manager  
217/333-6282  
217/244-0810 fax  
t-kikta@uiuc.edu



the siti company

cabin pressure

april 15

Conceived and directed by Anne Bogart

In this work exploring the vital link between audiences and actors, SITI suggests that being an audience member is a creative act. In a time when computers, TV, film, and mega malls dominate and mediate our relationships, perhaps the theatre is a place to strengthen our direct connections with each other.

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AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Tammey Kikta  
Public Information Manager

Krannert Center for the Performing Arts  
500 South Goodwin Avenue  
Urbana, Illinois 61801  
(217) 333-6282 • Fax (217) 244-0810  
E-Mail: t-kikta@uiuc.edu