

For immediate release

AWARD-WINNING ACTRESSES KATHLEEN CHALFANT
AND PATRICIA ELLIOTT WILL PLAY
"VITA & VIRGINIA"
AT THE ZIPPER FACTORY THEATRE
12 MONDAYS AT 7 PM BEGINNING FEBRUARY 11TH
PAMELA BERLIN DIRECTS THE NO FRILLS COMPANY
PRODUCTION OF EILEEN ATKINS' ADAPTATION OF THE
CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN VIRGINIA WOOLF AND VITA
SACKVILLE-WEST

Award-winning stage, screen and TV stars KATHLEEN CHALFANT and PATRICIA ELLIOTT will co-star in "VITA & VIRGINIA" for 12 Monday nights at 7 PM at the Zipper Factory Theatre, 336 West 37th Street, beginning February 11 and continuing through April 28, 2008. Pamela Berlin will direct the play Eileen Atkins adapted from the correspondence between writers Virginia Woolf and Vita Sackville-West. Presented by The No Frills Company, tickets at \$35 are available via www.thezipperfactory.com or (212) 352-3101.

The play, about two extraordinary 20th Century women exploring their passions, literary and otherwise, takes place in the 1920s and 1930s and through the first years of WWII. It deals, in a very timely way, with women seeking their place in the world as they face personal and professional conflicts as well as the looming world war.

KATHLEEN CHALFANT, who received TONY and Drama Desk Award nominations for ANGELS IN AMERICA and the Drama Desk, OBIE, Lucille Lortel and Outer Critics Awards for WIT, will also be appearing in DEAD MAN'S CELL PHONE at Playwrights Horizons during the run of VITA & VIRGINIA. Her many NY stage appearances include the City Center ENCORES! production of BLOOMER GIRL; RACING DEMON; DANCE WITH ME; M. BUTTERFLY, NINE ARMENIANS, SPALDING GRAY: STORIES LEFT TO TELL, FIVE BY TENN, TALKING HEADS, and, most recently, A HARD HEART.

PATRICIA ELLIOTT, who won the TONY, Drama Desk and Theatre World Awards for her Broadway debut as *Countess Charlotte* in Stephen Sondheim's A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC, received a second TONY nomination for THE SHADOW BOX. Her other NY stage credits include TARTUFFE, HAY FEVER, NIGHT OF THE TRIBADES, THE ELEPHANT MAN and A MONTH OF SUNDAYS. She is well-known to TV viewers as 'Renee Buchanan' on "One Life to Live."

Director PAMELA BERLIN'S NY credits include END PAPERS, STEEL MAGNOLIAS, TO GILLIAN ON HER 37TH BIRTHDAY, THE CEMETERY CLUB, CROSSING DELANCEY, JOINED AT THE HEAD, THE FAMILY OF MANN, THE RED ADDRESS and many other productions.

DAME EILEEN ATKINS is as acclaimed for her writing as she is for her acting. Her NY stage appearances include DOUBT, THE KILLING OF SISTER GEORGE, THE PROMISE, VIVAT! VIVAT! REGINA, INDESCRETIONS, VITA & VIRGINIA and THE UNEXPECTED MAN. She co-created the universally popular TV series 'Upstairs, Downstairs', won the Evening Standard Award for Best Film Script for 'Mrs. Dalloway' and adapted the writings of Virginia Woolf and Vita Sackville-West into the successful two-hander VITA & VIRGINIA.

Andromache Chalfant, whose recent credits include designs for Anne Washburn's APPARITION and THE INTERNATIONALIST (The Vineyard Theater), Jose Rivera's SCHOOL OF THE AMERICAS and Stephen Adly Guirgus' THE LAST DAYS OF JUDAS ISCARIOT (LABYRINTH and The Public Theater), will design the set. Susan D. Lang will be the Production Stage Manager.

Executive Producer Caryl Young and Creative Director Sue Brady founded The No Frills Company to present plays that offer the gifted and experienced actress over forty the opportunity to explore a broad range of challenging roles. At the same time, they offer younger actresses an opportunity to benefit from the invaluable experience gained by working with more seasoned and successful actresses. The company has presented readings of TWIGS, MISS REARDON DRINKS A LITTLE, TOP GIRLS, a benefit performance of PEGGY COWLES, THE MASKS AND VOICES OF AN INDEPENDENT WOMAN, and a showcase production of Caryl Young's THE DARNING PLACES. This production of VITA & VIRGINIA was originally presented by The No Frills Company at the Cherry Lane Theatre in 2006 and was recently seen at The Invisible Theatre in Tucson.

VIRGINIA WOOLF (1882-1941) was an English novelist and essayist regarded as one of the foremost modernist literary figures of the 20th century. She was a prominent member of London's Bloomsbury set. Her most famous works include Mrs. Dalloway (1925), To the Lighthouse (1927) and Orlando (1928), a thinly disguised account of her long love affair with Vita Sackville-West who she met in 1922. VITA SACKVILLE-WEST (1892-1962) was an English poet and novelist best-known for her long narrative poem The Land for which she won the Hawthornden Prize in 1927. In addition to creating extraordinary gardens at Sissinghurst Castle in Kent, she was famous for her aristocratic life style, her strong marriage and her passionate relationships with women including Virginia Woolf with whom she had a 20 year love affair. Their revelatory letters to one another, which Ms. Atkins has adapted for the stage, chronicle their changing relationship as well as their creative lives as writers in the early and mid 20th Century.

VITA & VIRGINIA was originally produced in 1992 at the Chichester Festival with Penelope Wilton and Eileen Atkins and presented Off-Broadway in 1994 starring Vanessa Redgrave and Ms. Atkins.

\$35 tickets for VITA & VIRGINIA are available at www.thezipperfactory.com or call (212) 352-3101. For dinner reservations at the Zipper Factory Tavern, call (212) 695-4600. The Box Office opens 2 hours prior to curtain.

OFF-BROADWAY LISTINGS INFORMATION

KATHLEEN CHALFANT AND PATRICIA ELLIOTT star in The No Frills Company's presentation of "**VITA & VIRGINIA**", a play by Eileen Atkins adapted from the correspondence between Virginia Woolf and Vita Sackville-West. Directed by Pamela Berlin. At The Zipper Factory Theatre, 336 West 37th Street, on 12 Mondays at 7 PM from **FEBRUARY 11 to APRIL 28 only**. All seats \$35 available at (212) 352-3101 or www.thezipperfactory.com

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