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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Great Plains Theatre Conference 2009

## Pulitzer Prize Finalist Playwright Theresa Rebeck named as the 2009 Honored Playwright for the Great Plains Theatre Conference

The Great Plains Theatre Conference is pleased to announce Theresa Rebeck as the 2009 Great Plains Theatre Conference Honored Playwright. Rebeck is the first woman playwright chosen as the honoree during the four year history of the Conference. She was the finalist for the Pulitzer Prize for co-writing *Omnium Gatherum* with Alexandra Gersten-Vassilaros in 2003. *Omnium Gatherum* is about a dinner party gathering shortly after 9/11, something that gathered critical acclaim at a period that was compelling to write about during a difficult time period.

Her selected play credits include a list of almost 40 plays published since 1990. This past summer, her play *The Understudy*, was produced at the Williamstown Theatre Festival. Theresa Rebeck is a widely produced playwright throughout the United States and abroad. Past New York productions of her work include *Mauritius* at the Biltmore Theatre in a Manhattan Theater Club Production; *The Scene*, *The Water's Edge*, *Loose Knit*, *The Family of Mann* and *Spike Heels* at Second Stage; *Bad Dates* and *The Butterfly Collection* at Playwrights Horizons; and *View of the Dome* at New York Theatre Workshop. *Omnium Gatherum* (co-written, finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in 2003) was featured at the Humana Festival, and had a commercial run at the Variety Arts Theatre. Her newest work, *The Understudy*, will premiere at the Williamstown Theatre Festival this summer and will star frequent collaborator Julie White.

In addition to her impressive list of plays are her writing credits for television: *LA Law*, *Law & Order*, *Criminal Intent*, *NYPD Blues*, *Third Watch*, *Canterbury's Law*, *Brooklyn Bridge* plus film writing credits consisting of *Catwoman*, *Gossip*, *Sunday on the Rocks* and *Harriet the Spy*. This spring she published a novel *Three Girls and Their Brother*, a take on the celebrity culture of the Manhattan social scene.

A decorated writer, selected credits beyond her Pulitzer nomination for Drama in 2003 include an Edgar Award for mystery writing; an Emmy nomination in 1997; a Writers Guild of America award for episodic drama; a Peabody Award; the Hispanic Images Imagen Award all from *NYPD Blues*; and a William Inge New Voices Playwriting Award for her play *The Bells* in 1993. Her plays have been published in both full-length and one act play collections.

As the 2009 Great Plains Theatre Conference Honored Playwright, Ms. Rebeck will attend the 4th Annual Great Plains Theatre Conference, May 23-30, 2009 at Metropolitan Community College. Her works will be featured throughout the Conference and she will serve as a featured panelist and presenter. Evening performances of her works are open to the public.

Rebeck, married to the New York stage manager Jess Lynn, lives in Brooklyn with her husband and two children. Following graduation from Notre Dame in 1980, Rebeck completed three advanced degrees from Brandeis University including an MFA in playwriting in 1986, and most recently her PhD in Victorian Melodrama in 1989.

Information on the 4th Annual Great Plains Theatre Conference can be found at <http://www.mccneb.edu/theatreconference>.

Theresa Rebeck's information is located: <http://www.theresarebeck.com>



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