



**PRESS
RELEASE**

**FOR ADDITIONAL
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“RLTP Presents the World Premiere of Eric Appleton’s *homeland*”

BUFFALO, NY – RLTP’s second show of the season will be a New Play Workshop selection: Eric Appleton’s *homeland*. This world premiere will open Friday, October 26th.

homeland is first of Mr. Appleton’s plays to be performed in Western New York. A veteran ghost hunter and his young apprentice enter a conservative Midwest community in search of the paranormal. **Politics, sexuality, religion, and the unknown collide in this provocative, chilling, and moving new drama.**

The show will star **John Joy, Dan Walker, Bonnie Jean Taylor, Bob Grabowksi, Sue Toomey, Drew Derek, and Dinash Lal**. It will be directed by RLTP Artistic Director **Scott Behrend**.

Performances will run from October 26th through November 18th at the following show times: **Thursdays through Saturdays at 8:00 PM and Sundays at 2:00 PM.**

General admission tickets are \$25, with student and senior citizen tickets available for \$20. Students w/ valid ID will be admitted free of charge on Thursday nights. Special rates are also available for groups of 20 or more.

Eric Appleton, a native of Chicago, moved to Buffalo two years ago to become **Niagara University’s assistant professor of set and lighting design**. He holds an MFA in lighting design from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Prior to moving to Buffalo, he worked as a freelance designer and technician in the not-for-profit theatre communities of Chicago and Milwaukee, teaching occasionally as an adjunct at Elmhurst College in Elmhurst, IL, and a sometime guest artist at Lawrence University, in Appleton, WI. **His design work in Buffalo includes the set for the Irish Classical’s *A Man of No Importance*, Road Less Traveled’s *Buffalo Movie*, and *Aida* at Artpark.**

Appleton has placed in several writing competitions across the country including: The Hangar Theatre’s 2006 Lab Company Playwriting Residencies, Ithaca, NY (finalist for his play *Izzy’s Request*) and Partial Comfort Productions’ 2004 National Playwriting Competition, New York, NY (semifinalist for his play *Alice Delmonico’s World Without End*). He has had plays produced in Illinois (Chicago & Forest Park), Oklahoma (Tulsa), Massachusetts (Bilarica), and California (Sonora). His plays include: *Iphigenia in Kingman*, *Lester’s Breakdown Suite*, *Badgered*, *Tiny Tales of Terror*, *This Tunnel*, and *The West is the Land of Pie*.

homeland had its origin in the days shortly after the Department of Homeland Security was opened and the playwright suddenly discovered that he lived not in America, but in the Homeland. His country was no longer a place of refuge, no longer the New World, no longer a place to come *to*, and he felt this shift in nomenclature and meaning deserved some sort of response, especially since there was very little media response or criticism to something, which seemed of such momentous import. Other aspects of the play came together with the discovery of the work of paranormal investigators Harry Price and Nandor Fodor, and a trip to Greencastle, Indiana, to work as a guest lighting designer at DePauw University.

Scott Behrend and Jon Elston founded Road Less Traveled Productions in 2002. Its mission is to develop and produce original dramas by local playwrights.

Road Less Traveled Productions is very thankful for the support of their Media Sponsor **WBFO**. This performance is made possible with public funds from the **New York State Council on the Arts**, a state agency.

The Road Less Traveled Theater is located in **the Market Arcade Film & Arts Centre, 639 Main Street**, in the heart of Buffalo’s theatre district, across from Shea’s.

For information and reservations, please visit www.roadlesstraveledproductions.org or **call the box office at (716) 629-3069**. Also check out RLTP’s myspace page at www.myspace.com/RLTPbuffalo.

RLTP’s box office is located at the Washington Street entrance of the Market Arcade. Secure parking is available on Washington Street and the price of parking will be refunded at the Box Office with a valid parking stub.

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