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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**WRECKIO ENSEMBLE BARES ALL IN *NAKED* MAY 1<sup>ST</sup> – 17<sup>TH</sup>**

**Theatre Company exposes their creative process from writing to rehearsal to realized production.**

NEW YORK – In their upcoming production, Wreckio Ensemble positions its audience members as voyeurs to the company's method of crafting theatre. Premiering May 1, 2008 at The Red Room, 85 East 4th Street, *Naked* features three short original works by the eight-year old company, each presented in a various stage of development. A full production, an open rehearsal, and a staged reading provide the structure for a revealing evening of theatre.

*Naked* begins with a full production of *The Corner* written by co-Artistic Director Michelle Diaz. Originally produced by Wreckio in 2002, this absurd physical comedy about living after death is re-mounted with a new directorial vision and features three of the four original cast members. Then Wreckio Company Members open up their rehearsal process for their upcoming production *The Ladies Aide Society Invites You to a Poverty Party to Benefit The Foundation for Ethical Art and Culture*. Conceived and written by Wreckio Company Members *The Ladies Aide...* explores the intersection of power and art in America. The new work, created specifically for performance in gallery spaces, was selected to be in residency with Chashama this summer and will be presented by This is Not a Shop Gallery in Dublin, Ireland in July. Third in the series is a staged reading of co-Artistic Director Karly Maurer's new political comedy *Rooftops*. A satiric and poignant look at a futuristic America where citizens exiled for accruing debt are forced to live like pigeons in pens on rooftops. *Rooftops* will premier in New York City in the Spring of 2009.

Co-Artistic Director Randi Berry explains the company's inspiration for *Naked*, "We've always defined ourselves as process-oriented; we thought it was time we invited our audience to be a part of that experience." Berry is one of four women who cooperatively run Wreckio Ensemble. "We wanted to create a laid-back performance event where audience members and company

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members could mingle and get to know each other.” says Karly Maurer. The night of three acts gives the audience opportunity to watch from their seats, hangout backstage, or chit-chat at the bar.

*Naked* begins its Off-Off-Broadway run on Thursday, May 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:30PM. The exclusive engagement at The Red Room, 85 East 4th Street (between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenues) runs Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays through May 17<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are \$20 and are available by visiting [www.wreckio.com](http://www.wreckio.com). Subway: 6 to Bleeker, F, V to 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue.

*Naked* will be directed by Kimberlea Kressal, the cast includes: Randi Berry, Mike Bradley, Dechelle Damien, Lauren Turner Keil, Katherine Huth, Karly Maurer, Mika Porro and Benjamin Spradley.

### **ABOUT WRECKIO ENSEMBLE**

Wreckio Ensemble is a not-for-profit movement-rooted theatre collective incorporated in November 2000. Wreckio produces original, character rich, and socially relevant work in an ensemble setting. Wreckio has four foundational beliefs: 1) ample time must be allotted to artistic development and rehearsals; 2) administrative and creative decisions are made by consensus, 3) core members are encouraged to take on various roles in the production company: as director, designer, actor, writer, etc.; 4) having fun is mandatory!

### **PHOTO CAPTIONS**

#### **Filename: Naked 1 Low Res**

Left to Right: Lauren Turner Keil, Dechelle Damien, Karly Maurer and Randi Berry rehearse Wreckio Ensemble's *Naked* opening May 1<sup>st</sup> at The Red Room, 85 East 4<sup>th</sup> Street, NY, NY.

#### **Filename: Naked 2 Low Res**

Left to Right: Lauren Turner Keil and Dechelle Damien rehearse Wreckio Ensemble's *Naked* opening May 1<sup>st</sup> at The Red Room, 85 East 4<sup>th</sup> Street, NY, NY.

High Resolution Photos available upon request.

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