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**SHAKESPEARE THEATRE COMPANY
REVISES 2009-2010 SEASON LINEUP
The Bacchae Replaced with
Ben Jonson's The Alchemist**

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Shakespeare Theatre Company Artistic Director Michael Kahn announced a revision to the Company's 2009-2010 season schedule that includes the replacement of Euripides' *The Bacchae* with Ben Jonson's *The Alchemist*. Kahn will direct *The Alchemist* at the Company's Lansburgh Theatre from October 6 to November 22, 2009.

"We look forward to producing *The Bacchae* in a future season," said Kahn. "It is an ambitious project that we would like to cultivate more support for. In its place, we will begin our season with *The Alchemist* by Shakespeare's contemporary Ben Jonson, one of the best comic playwrights of the Renaissance."

The playful satire will be Kahn's third Jonson production at STC, following the success of *Volpone*, which *The Washington Post* described as "a belly laugh at human greed," and *The Silent Woman*, which NPR called "brilliant ... a ferocious farce."

Considered Jonson's greatest comedy, *The Alchemist* follows the antics of three con-artists: Subtle, Face and Dol. When the gentleman Lovewit flees the city to avoid the Plague, the trio set up headquarters in his home and set about exposing the social ills of their fellow Londoners.

The Alchemist kicks off STC's 2009-2010 season, which includes Shakespeare's *As You Like It*, *Richard II* and *Henry V* as well as George Bernard Shaw's *Mrs. Warren's Profession*, starring Dixie Carter, and the world premiere of David Ives' new translation of Pierre Corneille's *The Liar*. Season subscriptions are now available. For more information, contact the Box Office at 202.547.1122, TTY at 202.638.3863 or Toll Free at 877.487.8849.