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## MEDIA RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**November 12, 2007**

### **ARENA STAGE ANNOUNCES THREE SPECIAL PERFORMANCES OF DANNY HOCH'S NEW SOLO SHOW *TAKING OVER* AT GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY**

**\*\*\* Performances part of workshop in partnership with Georgetown University; commissioned by Berkeley Repertory Theatre \*\*\***

(Washington D.C.) Arena Stage, through its partnership with the Georgetown Theater and Performance Studies program, will present three special performances of **Danny Hoch's** hilarious new solo show *Taking Over*. The performances will take place at **Georgetown's Gonda Theatre in the Davis Performing Arts Center November 29 – December 1, 2007 at 8:00 p.m.** *Taking Over* is commissioned by Berkeley Repertory Theatre in Berkeley, California and will have its official premiere there in January, 2008.

*Taking Over*, written and performed by Danny Hoch, is a hilarious and heartbreaking look at gentrification in the new millennium. Invading artists, hipsters, developers, real estate agents, co-conspirators and longtime community folk are explored through the eyes, ears and voice of one of the Hip-Hop generation's leading actors and playwrights.

"Like Daniel Beaty, the powerful, solo performer seen at Arena last season in *Emergence-SEE!*, Danny Hoch is another on-the-rise artist who transforms his hip-hop influenced performances into relevant, funny and impressive contemporary theater," said Arena Stage Artistic Director Molly Smith. "Arena and Georgetown could not be more excited to bring him to D.C."

**Danny Hoch** is an actor, playwright and director whose plays *Pot Melting*, *Some People* and *Jails, Hospitals & Hip-Hop* have garnered many awards including two OBIES, an NEA Solo Theatre Fellowship, Sundance Writers Fellowship, CalArts/Alpert Award In Theatre and a Tennessee Williams Fellowship. His theater work has toured to 50 U.S. cities and 15 countries. He is a Senior Fellow at the New School's Vera List Center For Art & Politics and his writings on hip-hop, race and class have appeared in *The Village Voice*, *New York Times*, *Harper's*, *The Nation*, *American Theatre* and various books: "Out Of Character," "Extreme Exposure," "Laughing In The Dark," "Creating Your Own Monologue" and "Total Chaos." His book "Jails, Hospitals & Hip-Hop" is in its second printing by Villard Books/Random House.

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His writing and acting credits for TV and film include *Bamboozled*, *Washington Heights*, *Prison Song*, *Subway Stories*, *Thin Red Line*, *Whiteboys*, *Blackhawk Down*, *American Splendor*, *War Of The Worlds*, *Lucky You*, "HBO Def Poetry" and he stars alongside Joaquin Phoenix, Robert Duvall, Eva Mendes and Mark Wahlberg in the upcoming *We Own The Night* and also HBO's new series "Wyclef Jean In America." Danny's own "Some People" (HBO) and the movie *Jails, Hospitals & Hip-Hop* were recently released on DVD.

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**Arena Stage and The Georgetown Theater and Performance Studies Program present  
Danny Hoch's New Hip-Hop, Solo-Show *Taking Over*  
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Mr. Hoch founded the *Hip-Hop Theater Festival* in 2000, which has since presented over 75 hip-hop generation plays from all over the world and now appears annually in New York, Chicago, D.C. and San Francisco/Oakland. He directed Will Power's hit show *Flow* at New York Theatre Workshop, as well as the bilingual *Representa* at the the San Francisco International Arts Festival. Mr. Hoch is the recipient of a 2006 Creative Capital Grant and the 2007 Sundance Theatre Lab's Playwright-In-Residence. He sits on the board of Theatre Communications Group and the Hip-Hop Theatre Festival. His new epic play *Till The Break Of Dawn* opened this last September in New York, produced by The Culture Project at Abrons Arts Center.

Arena Stage and the Georgetown University Theater and Performance Studies Program formed an official partnership last year when Georgetown hosted an extremely successful two-week workshop for Moisés Kaufman's play *33 Variations*. That workshop cemented a long-standing relationship, which has existed for years between Arena and Georgetown's theater department, into a strong partnership devoted to providing professional development opportunities for the future artists of American theater.

**Ticket Information:**

Full Price: \$25

Georgetown Students: \$5

Georgetown Alumni, Faculty & Staff/Senior Citizens/Patrons under 30: \$10

All tickets are available through Georgetown University. **To purchase tickets please call (202) 687-ARTS or visit online at [performingarts.georgetown.edu](http://performingarts.georgetown.edu).**

**Gonda Theatre/Davis Performing Arts Center**

Georgetown University

37th and O Streets, NW

Washington, D.C.

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