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CONTACT: Sarah Dee 021 4557826 / pr@everymanpalace.com

LONDON CLASSIC THEATRE MARKS THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF MIKE LEIGH'S 'ABIGAIL'S PARTY' WITH FIRST EVER IRISH TOUR

Legendary social satire to kick off tour at the EVERYMAN PALACE THEATRE

JANUARY 22ND – 26TH

Monday 7th January 2008 - Mike Leigh's legendary play, **ABIGAIL'S PARTY** is set to embark on its first ever Irish tour. Directed by **Michael Cabot** and produced by **London Classic Theatre**, this staging of the play marks the 30th anniversary of the original production. Having just completed an extensive tour of the UK, **Abigail's Party** opens at the Everyman Palace Theatre on January 22nd.

A ferocious black comedy, **ABIGAIL'S PARTY** was first produced at Hampstead Theatre in 1977, with the role of Beverly immortalized by Alison Steadman. A record sixteen million people watched its broadcast as the BBC's *Play for Today*, underlining its status as a modern classic and landmark of twentieth century theatre.

In her suburban living room, Beverly prepares for the arrival of her guests. She and husband Laurence will play host to neighbours Angela, Tony and Sue. As the alcohol flows and the 'nibbles' are handed around, this ruthless, achingly funny examination of suburban life begins to bite...

ABIGAIL'S PARTY is Mike Leigh's best known play. Leigh is also well known filmmaker and has earned five Academy Award nominations for his work including the critically lauded ***Vera Drake*** and ***Secrets and Lies***.

London Classic Theatre is one of the most prolific and thriving touring companies in the UK and Ireland, having established a reputation for producing entertaining, accessible drama of the highest quality. Last year, London Classic Theatre staged the European Premiere of **NIGHTFALL** by Joanna Murray Smith at the Everyman Palace Theatre.

Directed by **Michael Cabot**, the production is designed by **Geraldine Bunzl** with Lighting by **Peter Foster**. Cast features **Steve Dineen, Anna Kirke, Jamie Matthewman, Alice Selwyn, Amy Starling**

ABIGAIL'S PARTY opens its first ever Irish tour at the EVERYMAN PALACE THEATRE from Tuesday 22ND – Saturday 26TH January @ 8PM Tickets are €25 / €20 / €7 Students, Tues & Wed. Booking on www.everymanpalace.com

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