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Kulick's OPEN HEARTS Directed by Gretchen Cryer Comes to Theatre Row 4/19

Open Hearts, a solo show written and performed by **Miriam Kulick** will open in the **Studio Theatre** at **Theatre Row** on **April 19th** and run through **April 28th**. Obie Award winner **Gretchen Cryer** directs.

Sadie Nussbaum is about to celebrate her 90th birthday with a party in her Upper East side apartment. No ordinary "alta cocker", she is high-spirited, humorous and salt of the earth. She is also the matriarch of a somewhat troubled Jewish family whom she encounters throughout her day, including her Lesbian daughter Deborah announcing proudly to a horrified Sadie that she's going to Darfur to help refugees, her emotionally unstable ex-rocker nephew living in a psychiatric ward and her lonely 8 year old granddaughter who's desperately missing her mother, a victim of suicide. As an ancillary part of Sadie's world, there's Henrietta, Deborah's British lover, a quirky woman coming to terms with her lesbianism and love for ballet, Fernando, Sadie's amusing maintenance man who can fix anything (even a broken heart) and Anwar, a Middle Eastern woman whom Deborah meets at a support group for refugee women. A former psychiatric nurse, Sadie has cared for maladjusted people her whole life and wonders now who will care for her. ***Open Hearts*** is a poignant and comedic journey about love of self, love and acceptance of family and the courage to go forward in life despite the obstacles.

Miriam Kulick, an actor, playwright, director and teacher, first performed ***Open Hearts*** at the 2011 Washington D.C. Fringe Festival where it was named Pick of The Fringe by DC Theatre Scene. Prior to that she co-founded Miami's Square Peg Productions whose first production, ***Three Angels Dancing on A Needle*** received the 2007 New Times Best of Miami award for Best Ensemble Production and for which she was named Best Actress. ***Three Angels*** was also performed in New York at the Brick Theater. An excerpt from her solo show ***Full Circle*** was performed at Ensemble Studio Theatre's Octoberfest. She has appeared in numerous productions in both Florida and New York City, where she hails from. On television she's been featured in ***America's Most Wanted*** and in the ***Doris Wishman Documentary*** on HBO. She's a member of Actor's Equity, SAG and AFTRA. www.miriamkulick.com.

Gretchen Cryer, both dramaturg and director of ***Open Hearts***, wrote the book and lyrics and starred in ***I'm Getting My Act Together and Taking It On the Road*** collaborating with Nancy Ford who wrote the music. The show was originally produced at the Public Theater and after that, ran three years at Circle in the Square and was nominated for a Grammy Award for Best

Cast Album. The show had over 100 international productions and toured in L.A. and Chicago (where it won a Joseph Jefferson Award for Best Musical). She has written numerous other shows with Nancy Ford including *The Last Sweet Days of Isaac* which won both an Obie Award for Best Musical and an Outer Critics Circle Award, *Shelter* that ran on Broadway at the Golden Theater, *Hang On to the Good Times* at Manhattan Theater Club and *The Fabulous Party* at the Williamstown Theatre Festival. She recorded two albums with Nancy Ford on RCA and starred on Broadway in her own cabaret act. Cryer and Ford have just finished a new show-*Still Getting My Act Together*.

***Open Hearts* begins at the Studio Theatre at Theatre Row (412 W. 42nd Street between 9th and 10th Avenues) starting Thursday, April 19th. Performances are Thursday, April 19th, Friday April 20th, Friday, April 27th and Saturday April 28th at 7:30PM. For tickets go to www.telecharge.com or call (212) 239-6200. For more information go to www.theatrerow.org.**