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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**The fresh, bold voice of Lisa Omlie's *The Baby*, comes to Houston in a world-premier production by Next Iteration Theater Company.**

*The Baby*, written by Lisa Boss Omlie, a Houston and London-based playwright, and directed by Next Iteration Theater Company's Dianne K. Webb, will be showing at the MATCH from March 10 to 19, 2016.

HOUSTON, TX – Next Iteration Theater Company (NITC) announces the world premier of Lisa Boss Omlie's, **The Baby**. A family, an election and a past, all collide in the present for this drama that hits at the very core of our most private beliefs and hopes when confronted with unthinkable tragedy. The best-laid plans can lead you to unexpected places.

Adopted son Charlie Mulroney, 28, has political lineage and wealth on his side in his first gubernatorial campaign. What could possibly derail his run? One political misstep and the probing of a persistent reporter, Penny, bring the Mulroneys to the brink of no return. Catherine, Charlie's proud mother, shares an unspoken heartbreak with her brilliant and aloof husband, John. Molly, their brain-damaged adult daughter, and Lynn, their independent-minded, pregnant daughter-in-law, struggle to make sense of the unraveling family story. This tense, often funny, heart-rending drama makes unlikely cohorts of Catherine Mulroney and the astute, Jose, Charlie's political manager, as they wrestle with the fallout of Charlie's blunder.

Directed by NITC Artistic Director, Dianne K. Webb, the cast of **The Baby** includes Houston actors Gabe Regojo as Charlie, Ruth Shaugerger McCleskey as Molly, Rachel Ollagnon as Catherine, Sam Stengler as John, Susannah Morgan Eig as Lynn, Rhett Martinez as Jose, and Mai Le as Penny.

The creative wing of **The Baby** includes set design by Claire (Jac) Jones, original score composed by Garrick Gonazles, lighting design by Nathan Haworth and sound design by Dianne K. Webb.

**The Baby** begins performances at the MATCH (3400 Main St, Houston, TX 77002) on March 10, opens officially March 11, and continues through March 19, 2016.

**TICKETS:** Tickets to **The Baby** are now on sale and are listed as pay-what-you-can, with a suggested price of \$25. Tickets can be ordered online (<http://matchhouston.org/events/baby-lisa-boss-omile>) or by phone (713-521-4533). Groups of 8 or more can order via the box office phone number listed.

**POST SHOW SPECIAL EVENTS:**

Following the March 11 (8:00pm) Opening Night performance of *The Baby*, NITC will hold a post-show reception with the playwright and cast. The reception will take place at the MATCH in the lobby of the theater.

**MORE PRESS PHOTOS:** <http://NextIterationTheater.com/TheBaby-PressPhotos>

**ABOUT NEXT ITERATION THEATER COMPANY** (<http://NextIterationTheater.com>):

Founded in 2014 by Artistic Director, Dianne K. Webb and Managing Director, Tayyba Kanwal, NITC focuses on

underrepresented voices and derivation of new works. In October 2015, NITC produced ReadFest Houston, a free collaborative play-reading festival showcasing six Houston theater companies. In May 2016, NITC launches its Intercultural Play Reading Series (IPRS) featuring Pulitzer-prize winning, Tony-nominated playwright Ayad Akhtar's "The Who and the What." With bold initiatives such as the ReadFest and the IPRS, NITC will engage, elevate, and expand the Houston theater scene through its programming, collaborations with existing theater companies, professional development opportunities for actors and directors and educational opportunities for the larger Houston community.

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