

# 4play Canada

p l a y s

Whetting your appetite for Canadian theatre

w r i t e r s

d i r e c t o r s

v i s i o n s

CO-PRESENTED BY  
Canada's National Arts Centre  
and the Canadian High Commission  
(London, UK)

[www.4playcanada.co.uk](http://www.4playcanada.co.uk)

March 15–18, 2005 | The Sam Morley Rehearsal Room | The Old Vic Theatre | The Cut, London, UK

# 4play Canada

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Welcome to *4play Canada!*..... 1

### Co-presenters

The Canadian High Commission (London) ..... 2

Canada's National Arts Centre ..... 3

### Featured plays

*The Adventures of a Black Girl in Search of God*  
(Djanet Sears) ..... 4

*Rune Arlidge* (Michael Healey)..... 5

*Scorched* (Wajdi Mouawad, transl. Linda Gaboriau)..... 6

*Unity (1918)* (Kevin Kerr) ..... 7

### Shortlisted plays

*Ernestine Shuswap Gets Her Trout* (Tomson Highway)..... 8

*Half Life* (John Mighton) ..... 9

*Helen's Necklace* (Carole Fréchette, transl. John Murrell).... 9

*The Leisure Society* (François Archambault,  
transl. Bobby Theodore)..... 10

*No Great Mischief* (David S. Young)..... 10

*The Optimists* (Morwyn Brebner) ..... 11

*The Red Priest (Eight Ways to Say Goodbye)*  
(Mieko Ouchi) ..... 11

*The Shape of a Girl* (Joan MacLeod) ..... 12

*The Sheep and the Whale* (Ahmed Ghazali,  
transl. Bobby Theodore) ..... 12

### The Little Black Book of Canadian Playwriting

(contacts, agencies, resources, festivals) ..... 13

Production credits, acknowledgments .... Inside back cover

# How it all started...

In November 2004, the Canadian High Commission in London invited Canada's National Arts Centre to select 13 plays produced to critical acclaim in Canada in the last five years but unknown to British audiences.

A reading committee of prominent Canadian theatre producers assembled the list of 13 plays and submitted it to a reading panel of leading dramaturgs from UK theatres.

The UK committee selected four of the plays to be given rehearsed readings, directed by four distinguished UK directors, at the Old Vic, March 15–18, 2005.

## CANADIAN READING PANEL

Lise Ann Johnson	Artistic Associate and Literary Manager, Canada's National Arts Centre
Richard Rose	Artistic Director, Tarragon Theatre
Mary Vingoe	Artistic Director, Magnetic North Theatre Festival
Bob White	Artistic Director, Alberta Theatre Projects

## BRITISH READING PANEL

Laura Harvey	The Stephen Joseph Theatre
Philippe LeMoine	National Theatre Studio
Katherine Mendelsohn	Traverse Theatre
Braham Murray	Royal Exchange Theatre
Neil Murray	The Tron Theatre
Kate Pakenham	Old Vic New Voices
Judith Roberts	Theatre Genedlaethol Cymru
Graham Whybrow	Royal Court Theatre



**The Adventures of a Black Girl  
in Search of God**



**Rune Arlidge**



**Unity (1918)**



**Scorched**

## Welcome to *4play Canada* at London's Old Vic!

**OVER THE PAST DECADE**, Canadian writing has exploded beyond its borders. Canadian novels, short stories and poetry have been translated, published and read the world over. The time has now come for the world to discover our best-kept secret: Canadian plays.

Long gone is the era of the quaint prairie drama: Canadian playwriting has fast-forwarded to the 21st century. Although stories of characters struggling against the harshness of the Canadian landscape still permeate our collective consciousness, even the **prairie drama has been reinvented**. Kevin Kerr's magnificent play *Unity (1918)* resonates with humour, poetry and painfully contemporary allusions to viruses and warfare.

Canadian playwriting is **cosmopolitan, diverse**, theatrically innovative and (as demonstrated by Michael Healey's deceptively comic tragedy, *Rune Arlidge*) almost always tinged with a uniquely Canadian brand of humour.

**CANADIAN THEATRE** spans the globe. From Djanet Sears' story of a centuries-old African-

Canadian community in small-town Ontario to Wajdi Mouawad's mythical return to the civil wars of his native Lebanon, Canadian playwriting encompasses the diverse realities of post-colonial nations.

It is our great pleasure to invite you to discover a small sample of the richness and diversity of Canadian theatre. **4play Canada** offers a taste of just four bold new plays that deserve a wider audience. We hope this series will whet your appetite for more, and that this programme will serve as your guide to uncovering other hot plays and playwrights from the not-so-frozen North.

**Peter A. Herrndorf**  
President and CEO,  
Canada's National Arts Centre

**Mel Cappe**  
Canadian High Commissioner  
to the United Kingdom

# The Canadian High Commission (London)

## THE CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSION IN LONDON

is the headquarters of the Government of Canada in the United Kingdom. As with all Canadian government offices abroad, it is established in accordance with two international treaties: the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations and the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations.

The High Commissioner, Mel Cappe, is the government's top representative to the UK, responsible for advising the Canadian government on policy towards the UK and communicating Canadian policy to British government leaders. He oversees the work of staff at the High Commission and at four Honorary Consulates (Belfast, Birmingham, Cardiff and Edinburgh) across Britain.

The work of the Canadian High Commission is carried out in two buildings in central London. Macdonald House is located in Grosvenor Square and houses the majority of High Commission staff. **Canada House**, situated in Trafalgar Square, is a grand property that houses reception rooms and galleries as well as High Commission staff offices. It is Canada's "jewel" in Trafalgar Square and a most distinguished venue for hosting conferences, receptions, launches and vernissages.

The work of the High Commission is divided into a number of functional areas of operation, including the **Cultural Section**, which carries out cultural diplomacy initiatives as well as offering outreach and assistance to Canadian artists and performers in the UK. Among other things it informs them about travel and export development support and career development, and offers support for festivals, conferences, and cultural exchanges.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

The Canadian High Commission (London)

Canada House,  
Trafalgar Square,  
Pall Mall East,  
London SW1Y 5BJ

Telephone: 0207 258 6600

Fax: 0207 258 6333

E-mail: [ldn-cs@dfait-maeci.gc.ca](mailto:ldn-cs@dfait-maeci.gc.ca)

Website:

[www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/canadaeuropa/united\\_kingdom](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/canadaeuropa/united_kingdom)



Canada House, Trafalgar Square, London, UK

# Canada's National Arts Centre

## **CANADA'S NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE (NAC)**

raised its curtains for the first time in 1969 in the nation's capital of Ottawa. Today, it is Canada's foremost showcase for the performing arts and is a leader and innovator in the presentation, production/coproduction and development of classical music, English theatre, French theatre, dance, arts education and community programming. The NAC is the only multidisciplinary, bilingual performing arts centre in North America and, with four diverse performance halls, one of the largest in the world.

The NAC is an active player on the international stage. The acclaimed **National Arts Centre Orchestra**, led by renowned maestro Pinchas Zukerman, draws accolades both at home and abroad. **NAC Dance**, under the direction of producer Cathy Levy, hosts the biennial Canada Dance Festival and presents leading dance companies from around the world. **NAC French Theatre**, headed by innovative stage director Denis Marleau, regularly coproduces with and tours to European theatre companies and festivals, while **NAC English Theatre** hosts the highly successful *Magnetic North Theatre Festival*, Canada's annual national festival of contemporary Canadian theatre in English.

The **NAC English Theatre** is led by highly-respected director and actor Marti Maraden. In collaboration with theatre companies and artists from all regions of Canada, we develop, produce, and present a theatre programme ranging from the classics to contemporary and new Canadian work, with a particular focus on Canadian creation and excellence. Our season comprises a Mainstage series, an alternative Studio series, a Family series, and a variety of special events and presentations. We also offer an active play development programme that commissions and develops new work by Canada's best established and emerging playwrights, and produce *On The Verge*, our



Jenny Young (Mary) and Stephen Holmes (Charlie) in *Mary's Wedding* by Stephen Massicotte, NAC English Theatre production, October 2002, directed by Marti Maraden. PHOTO: GORDON KING

annual new works festival showcasing the most exciting plays in development from across the country.

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT NAC ENGLISH THEATRE, PLEASE CONTACT:**

Lise Ann Johnson, Artistic Associate and Literary Manager: [lajohnso@nac-cna.ca](mailto:lajohnso@nac-cna.ca)

Victoria Steele, Managing Director: [vsteele@nac-cna.ca](mailto:vsteele@nac-cna.ca)

Laura Denker, Publicity and Media Relations

Coordinator: [ldenker@nac-cna.ca](mailto:ldenker@nac-cna.ca)



PHOTO: MARK FOWLER

## **CANADA'S NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE**

Peter A. Herrndorf, President and CEO

53 Elgin Street,

P.O. Box 1534, Station B,

Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5W1, Canada

Telephone: (+001) 613 947 7000

E-mail: [info@nac-cna.ca](mailto:info@nac-cna.ca)

Website: [www.nac-cna.ca](http://www.nac-cna.ca)

# The Adventures of a Black Girl in Search of God

**“LET THE CELEBRATIONS BEGIN. ONE OF THE MOST PROFOUND YET JOYOUS NEW CANADIAN PLAYS IN RECENT MEMORY. A RICHLY REWARDING SCRIPT.”**

– Richard Ouzounian, *Toronto Star*

**“NOT TO BE MISSED.”**

– Jon Kaplan, *NOW Magazine*, Toronto

Alison Sealy-Smith (Rainey) in the original production of *The Adventures of a Black Girl in Search of God*, February 2002.  
PHOTO: CYLLA VON TIEDEMANN

**BY DJANET SEARS** | DIRECTED BY IRINA BROWN

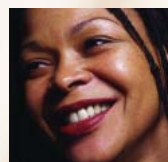
Tuesday 15 March at 4pm and Wednesday 16 March at 7:30pm

**SYNOPSIS** A remarkable love, an incredible heist, an extraordinary funeral, and an impassioned search for answers to the profound mysteries of being alive. Set in present-day Negro Creek, a 200-year-old Black community in western Ontario, Canada, *The Adventures of a Black Girl in Search of God* tells the beautiful and deeply moving story of Rainey, a country doctor, who is struggling to come to terms with the loss of her daughter, the disintegration of her marriage to a vibrant liberationist preacher, and her relationship with her eccentric elderly father and his astonishing crusade.

**Cast:** 21: 4 M, 4 W, plus chorus of 13 (4 M, 9 W)

**Original production** *The Adventures of a Black Girl in Search of God* premiered in February 2002 at the du Maurier Theatre (Toronto, Ontario), coproduced by **Nightwood Theatre** (Toronto) and **Obsidian Theatre** (Toronto), directed by Djanet Sears.

**Djanet Sears** is a critically-acclaimed playwright, director, and performer. *The Adventures of a Black Girl in Search of God*, her latest play, was shortlisted for a 2004 Trillium Book Award; the original production received outstanding reviews and sold out completely after the opening weekend. Sears' previous plays include *Afrika Solo* (Canada's first published stage play by a woman of African descent),



*Harlem Duet*, *Who Killed Katie Ross?* (*Stolen Lands*), *Double Trouble* and *Shakes*. Sears is the driving force behind the AfriCanadian Playwrights' Festival, a celebration and examination of African diasporic writing for the stage in Canada; she is the editor of *Testifyin': Contemporary African Canadian Drama, Vols. I & II* (Playwrights Canada Press, 2000/2003), and *Tellin' It Like It Is: A Compendium of African Canadian Monologues for Actors — The Chapbook* (Playwrights Canada Press, 2000). Her numerous awards include the Governor General's Literary Award (Canada's highest literary honour for dramatic writing, for *Harlem Duet*), the Floyd S. Chalmers Canadian Play Award, the Martin Luther King Jr. Achievement Award, the Harry Jerome Award for Excellence in the Cultural Industries, and a Phenomenal Woman of the Arts Award. Djanet Sears is an adjunct professor at the University of Toronto.

#### Contact information

**Djanet Sears** may be contacted through her agent:

Celia Chassels

Gary Goddard Agency

10 St. Mary Street, Suite 305,  
Toronto, Ontario M4Y 1P9, Canada

Telephone: (+001) 416 928 0299

Fax: (+001) 416 925 9593

E-mail: celiachasselsgga@bellnet.ca

# Rune Arlidge

**“A STUNNING AND BRAVE NEW PLAY.”**

– *The Globe and Mail*, Toronto

**BY MICHAEL HEALEY** | DIRECTED BY LUCY BAILEY

Thursday 17 March at 4pm and Friday 18 March at 7:30pm

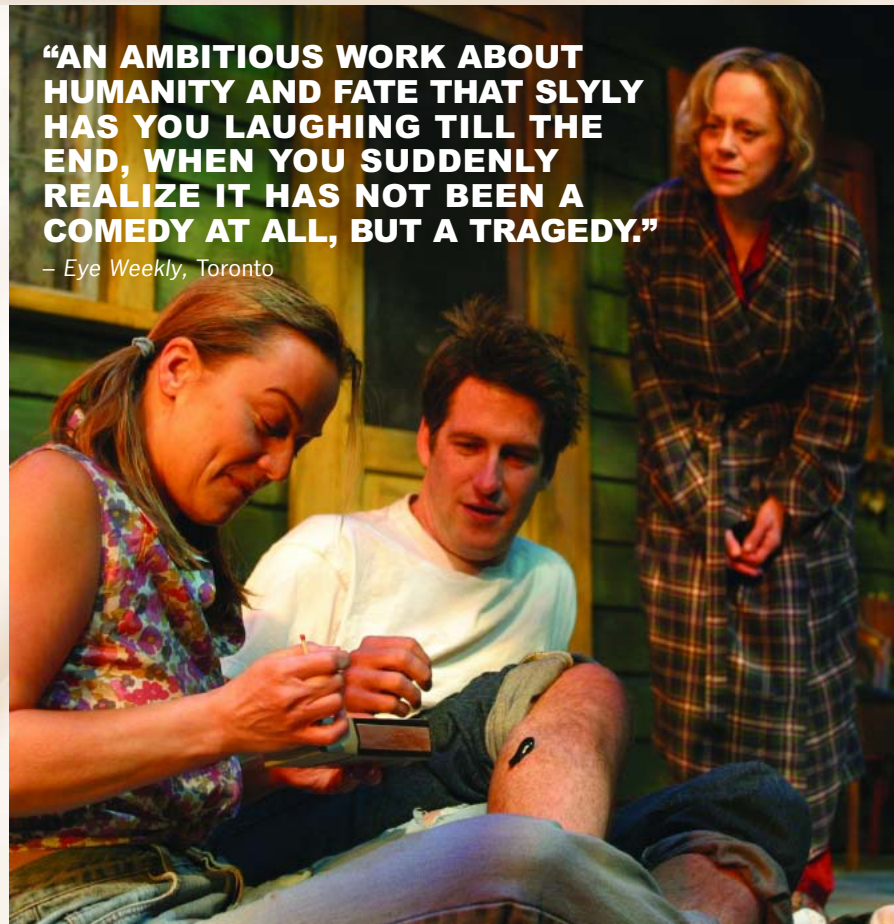
**SYNOPSIS** Biting dialogue and brash characters combine with the playwright’s skill and humanity in a comic drama that is both memorable and moving. The title character, 20 years old in the play’s first act, is poised to make some life-altering decisions. By the second act, those decisions remain unmade. By the third act and the age of 45, her inertia has become tragic. Rune is surrounded by women: a mother who is incapable of keeping her stories to herself, a sister whose attraction to chaos is relentless, and a niece whose innocence is a matter of debate. A 25-year trip to the worst cottage in Ontario.

**Cast:** 3 M, 4 W

**Original production** *Rune Arlidge* premiered in March 2004, produced by **Tarragon Theatre** (Toronto, Ontario), directed by Leah Cherniak.



**Michael Healey** trained as an actor in the mid-eighties and began writing for the stage in the early nineties. His first play, a solo one-act called *Kicked*, premiered at the Toronto Fringe Festival in 1996; it subsequently toured across Canada and internationally, and won a 1998 Dora Mavor Moore Award (Toronto’s leading theatre award) for best new play. *The Drawer Boy*, Healey’s first full-length play, premiered in 1999 at Theatre Passe Muraille (Toronto) and quickly became a sensation in regional theatres throughout Canada and the United States. The play won the Dora Award for best new play, a Chalmers Canadian Playwriting Award, the Governor General’s Literary Award for Drama, and the Helen Hayes Award for best play, and was voted one of the top ten plays of the year by *Time* magazine. His next work, *Plan B*, opened at the Tarragon Theatre (Toronto) in 2002 and won the Dora for best new play. *Rune Arlidge*, his latest play, was nominated for the Governor General’s Literary Award. Michael Healey is currently working on a new play, *The Innocent Eye Test*, a commission for Toronto’s Mirvish Productions.



**“AN AMBITIOUS WORK ABOUT HUMANITY AND FATE THAT SLYLY HAS YOU LAUGHING TILL THE END, WHEN YOU SUDDENLY REALIZE IT HAS NOT BEEN A COMEDY AT ALL, BUT A TRAGEDY.”**

– *Eye Weekly*, Toronto

## Contact information

**Michael Healey** may be contacted through his agent:

Pam Winter

Gary Goddard Agency

10 St. Mary Street, Suite 305,  
Toronto, Ontario M4Y 1P9, Canada

Telephone: (+001) 416 928 0299

Fax: (+001) 416 924 9593

E-mail: [goddard@canadafilm.com](mailto:goddard@canadafilm.com)

Jane Spidell (Rune Arlidge), Rick Roberts (Matthew) and Fiona Reid (Frances) in the original production of *Rune Arlidge*, February 2004.

PHOTO: CYLLA VON TIEDEMANN

**“THIS IS A SUPERB SCRIPT. RAW YET MAGNIFICENT, RICH YET SPARE, IT IS A DEEPLY TOUCHING EXPRESSION OF THOSE TWO INSEPARABLE ELEMENTS OF LIFE—UGLINESS AND BEAUTY.”**

– Sophie Pouliot, *Le Devoir* (Montreal)

# Scorched

Andrée Lachapelle, Isabelle Roy, Isabelle Leblanc and Annick Bergeron in the original production of *Incendies (Scorched)*, May 2003.  
PHOTO: YANICK MACDONALD

## BY WAJDI MOUAWAD

TRANSLATED BY LINDA GABORIAU

DIRECTED BY BRAHAM MURRAY

Tuesday 15 March at 7:30pm and Wednesday 16 March at 4pm

**SYNOPSIS** *Scorched* (original title: *Incendies*) is a human adventure conveyed by individuals in search of their origins, a tragedy for our times that nonetheless nurtures a flicker of hope. It is the story of Jeanne and her twin brother Simon, and their arduous journey up the lacerating thread of their mother Nawal's life to reveal the foundations on which they have built their own existence. Ultimately, *Scorched* is about three linked destinies searching to solve the enigma of their existence and discover, behind the darkest dune, the wellspring of beauty.

**Cast:** 4 M, 5 W

**Original production** *Scorched (Incendies)* premiered (in French) in May 2003, produced by **Théâtre de Quat'Sous** (Montreal, Quebec), directed by Wajdi Mouawad.

Playwright, director, actor and producer **Wajdi Mouawad** is a unique and compelling voice in contemporary Quebec theatre, spanning the cultural gaps that can exist between his native Lebanon, North America, Quebec and Europe. In all his work, from his own plays — including *Wedding Day at the Cro-Magnons*, *Tideline* (winner of the 2000 Governor General's Literary Award for Drama) and *Rêves* — and adaptations to the productions he has directed, Mouawad addresses the tension



between personal freedom and the no less essential renunciation of the self. Mouawad recently directed his own play *Incendies* and his adaptation of Chekhov's *Three Sisters* for the French Theatre of Canada's

National Arts Centre. His first novel, *Visage retrouvé*, was published in 2002 by Leméac/Actes Sud.

### Contact information

**Wajdi Mouawad** may be contacted through his agent:

Agence Simard Denoncourt  
4305, d'Iberville, Suite 101,  
Montreal, Quebec H2H 2L5, Canada

Telephone: (+001) 514 843 2024

Fax: (+001) 514 522 2027

E-mail: aasd@qc.aira.com

**Linda Gaboriau (Translator)** has translated some 70 plays by some of Quebec's most prominent playwrights, including Michel Tremblay, Michel Marc Bouchard, René-Daniel Dubois, Normand Chaurette, Daniel Danis and Gratien Gélinas. She is the recipient of three Chalmers Awards and the 1996 Governor General's Literary Award for Translation. A former associate director of the Banff playRites Colony (in charge of translation projects), Ms. Gaboriau is currently the director of the Banff International Literary Translation Centre in Banff, Alberta.



# Unity [1918]

**BY KEVIN KERR** | DIRECTED BY ROBERT CHEVERA

Thursday 17 March at 7:30pm and Friday 18 March at 4pm

**SYNOPSIS** At the tail end of World War I, the town of Unity, a tiny farm community lost in the Saskatchewan wheat fields, is suddenly threatened by an invisible enemy more horrifying than any army. When a stranger, a blinded war veteran, steps off the train he tells the town of a mysterious epidemic that is thundering westward, killing indiscriminately and in vast numbers. As the town descends into fear and panic, a quartet of young women grapple with their understanding of love, sex, longing and home in an attempt to make sense of life in the face of death. A remarkable historical drama; a Gothic romance of luminous grace and scope.

**Cast:** 3 M, 6 W

**Original production** *Unity (1918)* premiered in March 2001 at the Vancouver East Cultural Centre (Vancouver, British Columbia), produced by **Touchstone Theatre** (Vancouver), directed by Katrina Dunn. The play was developed as part of Touchstone Theatre's Playwright in Residence Program during the 1999–2000 season. The development of *Unity (1918)* was supported by Playwrights Theatre Centre in Vancouver, Banff playRites 2000, the BC Arts Council, and the Canada Council for the Arts.



**Kevin Kerr** is a playwright, actor and director based in Vancouver, British Columbia. In 2002 he received the Governor General's Literary Award for Drama for *Unity (1918)*, which has since received multiple productions across Canada, both in English and in its French translation by Paul Lefebvre. Kerr is also co-Artistic Director and founding member of Electric Company Theatre, a creation-based collective with which he has co-written several award-winning plays, including *The Wake*, *The Score* (of which he recently co-wrote a feature-length screen adaptation), *Dona Flor and her Two Husbands*, *Flop*, *The Fall*, and *Brilliant! The Blinding Enlightenment of Nikola Tesla*. Kevin Kerr is currently working on commissions from

**“DON'T MISS THIS AWARD-WINNING PLAY, BECAUSE IT'S THE GENUINE ARTICLE — A CANADIAN WORK SO GOOD THAT EVERYONE WANTS TO PRODUCE IT.”**

– Peter Birnie, *The Vancouver Sun*

**“KERR'S SPLENDID NEW CREATION IS A WORK OF POWERFUL AND MOVING FAMILIARITY, A KIND OF SECULAR LITURGY THAT CELEBRATES LOVE, SEX, DEATH AND THE SORROWFUL MYSTERIES OF WAR AND PLAGUE. IT'S ALSO PAINFULLY FUNNY.”**

– *The Globe and Mail*, Toronto



Michelle Porter, Dawn Petten, Sarah Louise Turner, Robert Moloney and David Bloom in the original production of *Unity (1918)*, March 2001. PHOTO: TIM MATHESON

Sunshine Theatre (Kelowna, British Columbia), The Vancouver Playhouse, Electric Company Theatre, and Realwheels Theatre (Vancouver).

## Contact information

**Kevin Kerr** may be contacted directly:

175 East Broadway, #405,

Vancouver, British Columbia V5T 1W2, Canada

Telephone: (+001) 604 873 1015

E-mail: [kjkerr@telus.net](mailto:kjkerr@telus.net)

# 4play Canada

## Shortlisted plays

The nine acclaimed Canadian plays profiled in this section were also submitted to the UK reading panel but were not selected for readings. Enjoy this added taste of current Canadian theatre!

### Ernestine Shuswap Gets Her Trout

BY TOMSON HIGHWAY



Cheri Maracle,  
Lisa C. Ravensbergen,  
Lisa Dahling and  
Janet Michael in the  
original production of  
*Ernestine Shuswap  
Gets Her Trout*,  
January 2004.

PHOTO: MURRAY MITCHELL

**SYNOPSIS** What was happening “backstage” just before, during, and after the most famous dinner in history—the Last Supper? Who cooked that meal, who set the table, who washed the dishes afterwards? *Ernestine Shuswap Gets Her Trout* answers those questions.

**Cast:** 4 W

**Original production** *Ernestine Shuswap Gets Her Trout* premiered in January 2004, produced by **Western Canada Theatre** (Kamloops, British Columbia) in association with **Alberta Theatre Projects** (Calgary, Alberta) and **The Vancouver Playhouse Theatre Company** (Vancouver, British Columbia), directed by David Ross. The play was co-commissioned by Western Canada Theatre and the Secwepemc Cultural Education Society.

**“THE PLAY IS BOTH LAUGH-OUT-LOUD FUNNY AND A PRECARIOUS HIGH-WIRE ACT. . . . A FLAWLESS PRODUCTION AND A HUGE TREAT.”**

– Gilbert A. Bouchard,  
*The Globe and Mail*, Toronto

**Tomson Highway** is a Cree writer and musician from far north Manitoba. He has written many plays, the best known of which are *The Rez Sisters*, *Dry Lips Oughta Move to Kapuskasing*, and *Rose*. He has three children’s books under his belt, all written bilingually in Cree (his mother tongue) and English. His first novel, *Kiss of the Fur Queen*, was a Canadian best-seller. Tomson Highway divides his year equally between a cottage in northern Ontario and an apartment in the south of France.

#### Contact information

**Tomson Highway** may be contacted through his agent:

Suzanne DePoe

CTI Artists Management

483 Euclid Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M6G 2T1, Canada

Telephone: (+001) 416 944 0475

Fax: (+001) 416 944 0136

E-mail: [suzanne@ctiam.ca](mailto:suzanne@ctiam.ca)

# Half Life

BY JOHN MIGHTON

**SYNOPSIS** “What shines through when memory fades away?” Clara and Patrick meet in a nursing home. They begin to fall in love, thinking they are rekindling an old flame . . . but have they met before? A poetic and moving meditation on identity, aging and the nature of memory.

**Cast:** 3 M, 4 W

**Original production** *Half Life* premiered at Tarragon Theatre (Toronto, Ontario) in March 2005, coproduced by **Tarragon Theatre** and **Necessary Angel Theatre Company** (Toronto, Ontario), directed by Daniel Brooks.

**John Mighton** is a Dora, Chalmers and Governor General’s Literary Award-winning playwright (*Possible Worlds*, *A Short History of Night, Body and Soul*, *Scientific Americans*, *The Little Years*). *Possible Worlds* was made into a full-length feature film directed by renowned Canadian director/playwright Robert Lepage. Mighton is also a mathematician and

philosopher and is currently doing post-doctoral research on knot theory and graph theory at the Fields Institute for Research in Mathematical Sciences in Toronto.

#### Contact information

**John Mighton** may be contacted directly by e-mail at [jmighton@fields.utoronto.ca](mailto:jmighton@fields.utoronto.ca) or through his agent: Sherrie Johnson  
da da kamera/da da kamera pictures  
401 Richmond Street West, Suite 385,  
Toronto, Ontario M5V 3A8, Canada  
Telephone: (+001) 416 586 1503  
Fax: (+001) 416 586 1504  
E-mail: [dada@interlog.com](mailto:dada@interlog.com)

**“JOHN MIGHTON’S HALF LIFE IS A PLAY ABOUT MEMORY — OR MORE PRECISELY, FORGETTING. THE CENTRAL IDEA IS THAT WE ARE DEFINED AS MUCH BY WHAT WE FORGET AS BY WHAT WE REMEMBER.”**

— Daniel Brooks, director

Eric Peterson (Patrick), Carolyn Hetherington (Clara) in the original production of *Half Life*, March 2005. PHOTO: V. TONY HAUSER

# Helen’s Necklace

BY CAROLE FRÉCHETTE  
TRANSLATED BY JOHN MURRELL

**SYNOPSIS** In a sweltering, chaotic city, Helen suddenly realizes she has lost her pearl necklace, and sets out to track it down. A taxi driver named Nabil becomes her guide and her defender on a wild ride through crowded streets and tumbledown neighbourhoods. The journey brings Helen into contact with the ravaged city’s inhabitants, whose suffering makes her own distress seem laughable.

**Cast:** 6 characters (4 M, 2 W), played by 2 to 6 actors

**Original production** *Helen’s Necklace* (*Le Collier d’Hélène*) premiered in Canada in English in October 2003 at the Tarragon Theatre (Toronto, Ontario), produced by the **Tarragon Theatre**, directed by Eda Holmes; and in French in March 2004 at the Théâtre d’Aujourd’hui (Montreal, Quebec), produced by the **Théâtre d’Aujourd’hui**, directed by Martin Faucher.

**Carole Fréchette** has been a force in Quebec theatre for over 25 years. Her numerous awards include the Governor General’s Literary Award for Drama, the Floyd Chalmers Award, and the 2002 Siminovitch Prize in Theatre (Canada’s most important

annual theatre award). Fréchette’s work has been translated and staged across Canada and in numerous other countries, including France, Germany, Switzerland, Belgium, Lebanon, Romania, Mexico, Argentina and Senegal.

#### Contact information

**Carole Fréchette** may be contacted through her agent: Micheline Sarrazin  
Productions Micheline Sarrazin  
3575 Saint-Laurent Blvd., Suite 410,  
Montreal, Quebec H2X 2T7, Canada  
Telephone: (+001) 514 982 0258  
Fax: (+001) 514 982 9830  
E-mail: [tempete@cam.org](mailto:tempete@cam.org)

**John Murrell (Translator)** is one of Canada’s most distinguished playwrights and translators. He is the author of *Memoir* (about the last days of Sarah Bernhardt), *Waiting for the Parade* (a moving portrait of five Canadian women in wartime), *Farther West*, *Democracy*, and *The Faraway Nearby*; his translations include the works of Ibsen, Machiavelli, Feydeau, Rostand, Sophocles and Chekhov.

**“FRÉCHETTE [IS] ONE OF THE COUNTRY’S TWO OR THREE BEST LIVING PLAYWRIGHTS.”**

— Glenn Sumi,  
NOW Magazine,  
Toronto



Diane Lavallée and Agoumi in the original production of *Le Collier d’Hélène* (*Helen’s Necklace*), March 2004. PHOTO: YVES RENAUD

**“RAW, DIRECT AND WITHOUT PRETENCE. . . . THE PERFORMANCES ARE FEARLESS, NEVER FALTERING.”**

— Ève Dumas, *La Presse*, Montreal

# The Leisure Society

**BY FRANÇOIS ARCHAMBAULT**  
TRANSLATED BY BOBBY THEODORE

Marie-Hélène Thibault and Christian Bégin in the original production of *La Société des loisirs* (*The Leisure Society*), March 2003.

PHOTO: YANICK MACDONALD

**SYNOPSIS** Mary and Peter have it all: careers, a house, a baby—even a grand piano. Yet something is missing . . . Now that they're parents, they decide to stop drinking, smoking and spending time with anyone who might be a bad influence. But then their buddy Mark shows up with a case of wine and his “special friend” Paula, and the evening takes a devastating turn. Wryly observed and wickedly funny, this is one of the most powerful plays to come out of Quebec in years.

**Cast:** 2 M, 2 W

**Original production** *The Leisure Society* premiered (in French, as *La Société des loisirs*) in March 2003 at the Théâtre La Licorne (Montreal, Quebec), produced by **Théâtre de La Manufacture** (Montreal), directed by Michel Monty.

**François Archambault's** plays include *Fast Lane* (*Cul sec*); *The Winners* (*Les gagnants*); and *15 Seconds* (*15 secondes*), which won the 1998 Governor General's Literary Award for Drama and has been read or produced in English translation across Canada and in Ireland. *The Leisure Society* earned Archambault the award for Best Original Script (2004) from the Académie québécoise du théâtre, and will be staged in three Canadian cities (Toronto, Vancouver and Calgary) this season.

#### **Contact information**

**François Archambault** may be contacted through his agent: Marie-Pierre Coulombe  
Agence Duchesne  
6031, avenue du Parc, Montreal, Quebec H2V 4H4, Canada  
Telephone: (+001) 514 274 4607  
Fax: (+001) 514 274 0591  
E-mail: mariepierrecolombe@agenceduchesne.com

**Bobby Theodore (Translator)** A graduate of the National Theatre School of Canada's playwriting section, Bobby Theodore has translated the works of some of Quebec's most talented playwrights. His translation of François Archambault's play *15 Seconds* was nominated for a 2000 Governor General's Award for literary translation.

# No Great Mischief

**BY DAVID S. YOUNG**

ADAPTED FROM THE NOVEL BY ALISTAIR MACLEOD

**SYNOPSIS** *No Great Mischief* explores the genetic code of memory and the obligations of family. Haunted by ghosts from his past, narrator Alexander MacDonald is drawn back into the tangled history of his family on Cape Breton on Canada's east coast, and further back to his ancestral roots in the Scottish Highlands. In story, song and movement, the play traces the emotional path of the subconscious to reveal the binding nature of memory, identity and truth.

**Cast:** 6 M, 1 W

**Original production** *No Great Mischief* premiered in November 2004 at the Tarragon Theatre (Toronto, Ontario), produced by **Tarragon Theatre** in association with **Mirvish Productions** (Toronto), directed by Richard Rose.

**David S. Young** is a playwright best known for *Glenn*, a theatrical portrait of Canadian pianist Glenn Gould, and *Inexpressible Island*, a historical play about six men trapped in an Antarctic ice cave in 1912. Young also writes extensively for film and television. Current projects include a four-hour dramatic miniseries about medical relief work in South Sudan and a play about Rembrandt.

**Contact information** **David S. Young** may be contacted directly by e-mail: [dsy@sympatico.ca](mailto:dsy@sympatico.ca).

**“RICH IN BOTH SYNOPSIS AND STAGECRAFT. . . . [THE PLAY] SUCCEEDS IN THE BEST POSSIBLE WAY, OFFERING ENOUGH OF THE NOVEL THAT SPAWNED IT TO SATISFY ITS LITERARY AUDIENCE, WHILE CAPTURING ENOUGH OF ITS DRAMA TO SATISFY THOSE WHOSE APPETITES ARE PURELY THEATRICAL.”**

— John Coulbourn, *Toronto Sun*

Stephen Guy-McGrath, Mike Ross, Geoffrey Pounsett, David Fox, Jody Richardson and R.H. Thomson in the original production of *No Great Mischief*, November 2004. PHOTO: CYLLA VON TIEDEMANN



Ryan Lunning (Chick) and Doug McKeag (Doug) in the original production of *The Optimists*, February 2004.  
PHOTO: CHARLES HOPE

# The Optimists

BY MORWYN BREBNER

**“AN OFTEN-HILARIOUS EVENING OF GRUNGY ABSURDITY MIXED WITH COMPASSION. . . THEATRE JUNCTION HAS ANOTHER HIT.”**

– Martin Morrow, *FFWD Weekly*, Calgary

**SYNOPSIS** *The Optimists* is a comedy about friendship, romantic love, and the triumph of hope over experience. A car salesman comes to Las Vegas with his fiancée and his best friend, Doug. When Doug’s wife Margie shows up unexpectedly, the four some must contend with the truth of their relationships to each other and the world.

**Cast:** 2 M, 2 W

**Original production** *The Optimists* premiered in February 2004 at the Dr. Betty Mitchell Theatre (Calgary, Alberta), produced by **Theatre Junction** (Calgary), directed by Eda Holmes.

**Morwyn Brebner’s** plays include *Music for Contortionist* (nominated for a Dora Mavor Moore Award and a Chalmers Award), *Liquor Guns Karate*, and the musical *Little Mercy’s First Murder* (winner of seven Dora Awards, including outstanding new musical). *The Optimists* was nominated for five Betty Mitchell Awards, including outstanding new play. Brebner is playwright-in-residence at Tarragon Theatre in Toronto.

## Contact information

**Morwyn Brebner** may be contacted through her agent:

Pam Winter

Gary Goddard & Associates

10 St. Mary Street, Suite 305, Toronto, Ontario M4Y 1P9, Canada

Telephone: (+001) 416 928 0299

Fax: (+001) 416 925 9593

E-mail: [goddard@canadafilm.com](mailto:goddard@canadafilm.com)

# The Red Priest (Eight Ways to Say Goodbye)

BY MIEKO OUCHI

**SYNOPSIS** Set in Paris in 1740, *The Red Priest (Eight Ways to Say Goodbye)* explores the transforming relationship between the composer Antonio Vivaldi and a disillusioned young woman forced by her husband, a rich patron of Vivaldi’s, to take violin lessons from the aging and desperate composer. Their delicate, complex and combative journey will not only decide her future, but change both of them in ways they never imagined.

**Cast:** 1 M, 1 W

**Original production** *The Red Priest (Eight Ways to Say Goodbye)* premiered in February 2003 at Alberta Theatre Projects (Calgary, Alberta) National playRites Festival, produced by **Alberta Theatre Projects**, directed by Ron Jenkins.



Ashley Wright (Vivaldi) and Mieko Ouchi (The Woman) in the original production of *The Red Priest (Eight Ways to Say Goodbye)*, February 2003.

PHOTO: TRUDIE LEE

**Mieko Ouchi** is an Edmonton, Alberta-based actor, writer and director who works in theatre, film and television. *The Red Priest (Eight Ways to Say Goodbye)*, her first full-length play, has been produced by several regional theatres across Canada. It was nominated for Sterling and Betty Awards for Best New Play, the Writers Guild of Alberta Award for Best New Play, and the 2004 Governor General’s Literary Award for Drama.

## Contact information

**Mieko Ouchi** may be contacted through her agent:

Charles Northcote

The Core Group Talent Agency Inc.

3 Church Street, Suite 507, Toronto, Ontario M5E 1M2, Canada

Telephone: (+001) 416 955 0819

Fax: (+001) 416 955 0532

E-mail: [literary@coregrouppta.com](mailto:literary@coregrouppta.com)

**“THE RED PRIEST SHOULD DO FOR VIVALDI WHAT AMADEUS DID FOR MOZART. ONLY, FOR MY TASTE, IN A FAR MORE GRACEFUL WAY.”**

– Richard Ouzounian,  
*The Toronto Star*

# The Shape of a Girl

BY JOAN MACLEOD

**“AN INTENSE LITTLE POWERHOUSE OF A PLAY THAT GOES STRAIGHT TO THE HEART AND GUTS.”**

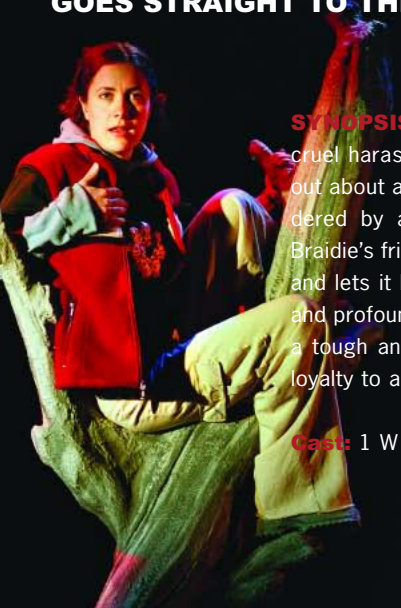
– Martin Morrow, *The Calgary Straight*

**SYNOPSIS** For years, Braidie's best friend has inflicted cruel harassment on another classmate. Now Braidie finds out about a shocking case in a nearby city: a teenager murdered by another youth. Could this happen here? Could Braidie's friend become a killer? And if Braidie just stands by and lets it happen, will she be guilty too? With wit, honesty and profound insight, playwright Joan MacLeod pulls us into a tough and complicated teenage world — a world where loyalty to a friend can have tragic results.

**Cast:** 1 W

Jenny Young as Braidie in the original production of *The Shape of a Girl*, 2001.

PHOTO: TRUDIE LEE



**Original production** *The Shape of a Girl* premiered at the 2001 edition of Alberta Theatre Projects (Calgary, Alberta) National playRites Festival, coproduced by **Alberta Theatre Projects** and **Green Thumb Theatre** (Vancouver, British Columbia), directed by Patrick McDonald.

**Joan MacLeod's** plays include *The Shape Of A Girl*, 2000, *Little Sister*, *The Hope Slide*, *Amigo's Blue Guitar*, Toronto, *Mississippi* and *Jewel*. Awards include the Governor General's Literary Award for Drama, two Chalmers Canadian Play Awards, the Jessie Richardson Award, Betty Mitchell Award and Dora Mavor Moore Award. Joan MacLeod is an Assistant Professor of Writing at the University of Victoria, British Columbia.

## Contact information

**Joan MacLeod** may be contacted through her agent:  
Catherine Knights  
3SG Talent Management  
10 Saint Mary Street, Suite 603,  
Toronto, Ontario M4Y 1P9, Canada  
Telephone: (+001) 416 925 9009  
Fax: (+001) 416 925 7557  
E-mail: cknights@canadafilm.com

# The Sheep and the Whale

BY AHMED GHAZALI | TRANSLATED BY BOBBY THEODORE

**SYNOPSIS** A small boat full of Moroccans is sunk in the Strait of Gibraltar by a Russian freighter. The sailors recover several bodies and one survivor. Neither Morocco nor Spain will claim the bodies. As the negotiations unfold throughout the night, crew members hunt stowaways aboard the ship while the doctor tries to save them. Suspended in the chasm separating North and South, the ship's deck, littered with corpses, becomes an open-air stage on which the characters play out the world's dramas.

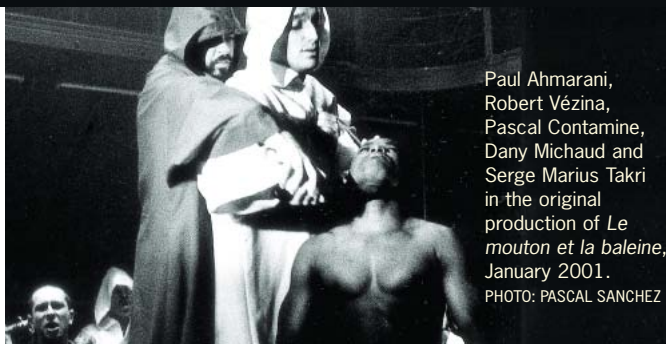
**“POETIC, SHIMMERING TEXT, NUANCED STAGING AND FINE PERFORMANCES . . . . A DON'T-MISS SHOW.”**

– *NOW Magazine*, Toronto

**Cast:** 10 M, 1 W, 2 musicians

**Original production** *The Sheep and the Whale* premiered (in French, as *Le mouton et la baleine*) in January 2001 at the Théâtre de Quat'Sous (Montreal, Quebec), produced by the **Théâtre de Quat'Sous**, directed by Wajdi Mouawad.

Born in Casablanca, **Ahmed Ghazali** worked as a geophysicist in the petroleum industry in the Middle East before discovering his true calling: playwriting and the study of philosophy. *Le mouton et la baleine*, his first play, has been translated into English, German and Catalan and won the



Paul Ahmarani, Robert Vézina, Pascal Contamine, Dany Michaud and Serge Marius Takri in the original production of *Le mouton et la baleine*, January 2001.  
PHOTO: PASCAL SANCHEZ

2001 Prix SACD de la dramaturgie francophone. His most recent plays are *Le Consommaphobe* and *L'eucalyptus monte au ciel*.

## Contact information

**Ahmed Ghazali** may be contacted directly:  
Asturies 36, 2on, 08012 Barcelona, Spain  
Telephone: 34 93 21 83 229

**Bobby Theodore (Translator)** A graduate of the National Theatre School of Canada's playwriting section, Bobby Theodore has translated the works of some of Quebec's most talented playwrights. His translation of François Archambault's play *15 Seconds* was nominated for a 2000 Governor General's Award for literary translation.

# The Little Black Book of Canadian Playwriting



## PLAYWRIGHTS GUILD OF CANADA



**Mission Statement:** Playwrights Guild of Canada (PGC) provides its members with a strong national voice to represent their interests and promote their work. It invites members' participation in a network of communications and a range of programs to advance the art and practice of writing for theatre.

**Artistic Vision:** Playwrights Guild of Canada is a leader in defining where Canadian theatre is today and where it will be in the future.

PGC is a not-for-profit, national association of professional and emerging playwrights. For over 30 years PGC has provided programs and services that support, promote and advocate for our over 500 members.

PGC is also the primary source for Canadian plays, both published and unpublished, and for information regarding performance rights.

**Playwrights Canada Press**, an independently-run subsidiary of PGC, is the leading publisher of Canadian drama.

The **Foundation for the Recognition of Excellence in Drama (F.R.E.D.)**, the charitable arm of PGC, was established in 1986 to support the growth and appreciation of Canadian plays and playwriting.

### Contact

Playwrights Guild of Canada  
54 Wolseley Street, 2nd Floor,  
Toronto, Ontario M5T 1A5, Canada  
Telephone: (+001) 416 703 0201  
Fax: (+001) 416 703 0059  
E-mail: [info@playwrightsguild.ca](mailto:info@playwrightsguild.ca)  
Website: [www.playwrightsguild.com](http://www.playwrightsguild.com)

## LE CENTRE DES AUTEURS DRAMATIQUES (CEAD)

Le Centre des auteurs dramatiques (CEAD) is a non-profit organization founded in Montreal, Quebec in 1965. CEAD has two main objectives: to develop and to promote Quebec and French-Canadian plays and playwrights at home and abroad. Its current membership numbers more than 230 French-language playwrights and is increasing steadily.

CEAD offers a wide range of dramaturgical services and activities, including dramaturgical consultation, workshops, special discussion groups, public readings, national and international exchanges, playwright residencies, and a fund designed to support emerging playwrights. CEAD also boasts a Resource Centre with a well-stocked reference library and a circulation service of published and unpublished scripts. A database of scripts can be accessed online at [www.cead.qc.ca](http://www.cead.qc.ca).

CEAD is perhaps best known outside Quebec for its work in promoting Quebec and French-Canadian plays in translation. Over the past 20 years CEAD has pursued these promotional activities in collaboration with organizations across Canada and in the United States, Latin America, Great Britain and other European countries.

### Contact

Nadine Desrochers  
Dramaturg Responsible for International Projects and English-Language Activities  
Le Centre des auteurs dramatiques (CEAD)  
3450 Saint-Urbain Street,  
Montreal, Quebec H2X 2N5, Canada  
Telephone: (+001) 514-288-3384, ext. 223  
Fax: (+001) 514-288-7043  
E-mail: [desrochers@cead.qc.ca](mailto:desrochers@cead.qc.ca)  
Website: [www.cead.qc.ca](http://www.cead.qc.ca)



Centre des auteurs dramatiques



## ALBERTA THEATRE PROJECTS ENBRIDGE PLAYRITES FESTIVAL

Created to foster the work of Canadian playwrights, to expose Calgary audiences to the voices of the land, and to celebrate the national spirit as expressed on the stage, the Enbridge playRites Festival is an internationally-recognized showcase of new Canadian work.



The Enbridge playRites Festival is a signature event for Alberta Theatre Projects and the central pillar of the company's programming philosophy. Our goal is simple: to provide the best possible first production of four new Canadian plays each year, in a festival environment. Six weeks of rehearsals lead to a six-week run in repertory of the four plays in the Martha Cohen Theatre. Readings, awards, and events celebrating the process of bringing a play to the stage accompany the four Mainstage productions.

### Some Fast Facts about the Festival:

- The Enbridge playRites Festival was piloted in 1987 and was a leading performing arts event of the 1988 Olympic Arts Festival in Calgary.
- As of 2003/04, 72 plays have been produced in the Enbridge playRites Festival during its 18 years, all of them world premieres.
- In 2003/04, 24 plays that received their premiere at the Enbridge playRites Festival were produced across Canada. Including the 2004/05 season, over 62 productions of playRites-premiered plays have been seen around the world since 2001 alone.
- In addition to the Mainstage premieres, ATP has had a hand in premieres at other theatres as well. playRites has produced staged readings of 43 new plays in progress that have gone on to premiere elsewhere.

### Contact

Alberta Theatre Projects  
220 – 9 Ave SE,  
Calgary, Alberta T2G 5C4, Canada  
Telephone: (+001) 403 294 7475  
Fax: (+001) 403 294 7493  
E-mail: askATP@ATPlive.com  
Website: www.ATPlive.com

## THE BANFF PLAYRITES COLONY

The Banff playRites Colony has a 25-year history as one of the pre-eminent playwright development centres in the English-speaking world. The Colony is an artist-defined program and focuses on the early stages of play development, supported

by leading faculty dramaturges and a small resident company of professional actors/readers. The Colony has a strong national mandate and reputation, and an active working relationship with producing companies and other dramaturgical centres across Canada.

Banff's unique physical setting in the foothills of Canada's majestic Rocky Mountains — its inspirational isolation — facilitates highly-focused creative time with the most experienced play development talents in Canada. Its residential setup fosters maximum creative dialogue among writers who are at various phases in their specific projects and at different stages in their respective careers.



The program is also open to Francophone playwrights who wish to submit previously-produced plays for translation into English. Over the past ten years, translation projects have been an annual feature of the Colony program.

The Banff playRites Colony is open to Canadian citizens and landed immigrants, and is presented through an alliance of The Banff Centre, the Canada Council for the Arts, and Alberta Theatre Projects (through the generous support of Anne J. Brown), and is assisted by the Australia Council for the Arts and La Maison Antoine Vitez in France.

### Contact

Casey Prescott  
Program Co-ordinator, Theatre Arts  
Banff playRites Colony  
Box 1020, Station 21,  
Banff, Alberta T1L 1H5, Canada  
Telephone: (+001) 403 762 6186  
E-mail: casey\_prescott@banffcentre.ca  
Website: www.banffcentre.ca

## THE MAGNETIC NORTH THEATRE FESTIVAL

The Magnetic North Theatre Festival, launched in 2003, is one of the great artistic success stories in Canada today. Designed to raise the profile of Canadian theatre at home and abroad, this ambitious national festival of contemporary Canadian theatre in English is co-presented by Canada's National Arts Centre. Unlike most major Canadian arts festivals, Magnetic North alternates between Ottawa (Canada's capital) and other Canadian cities





every second year. After a stunning debut in Ottawa in 2003, the festival migrated to Edmonton, Alberta in 2004 where it received tremendous popular and critical acclaim. The festival returns to Ottawa for the 2005 edition (June 8–18) featuring a remarkable lineup of productions from across Canada.

The Magnetic North Theatre Festival has presented such award-winning companies as Calgary's One Yellow Rabbit, The Vancouver Playhouse, Toronto's Tarragon Theatre and Newfoundland's Andy Jones Productions, as well as many exciting "cutting-edge" companies from across the country. In 2006, Magnetic North will have an East Coast flavour when it's presented in one of Canada's most dynamic cities – St. John's, Newfoundland.

#### **Contact**

Magnetic North Theatre Festival  
c/o National Arts Centre English Theatre  
P.O. Box 1534, Station B,  
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5W1, Canada  
Telephone: (+001) 613 947 7000, ext. 719  
Fax: (+001) 613 943 1401  
E-mail: [info@magneticnorthfestival.ca](mailto:info@magneticnorthfestival.ca)  
Website: [www.magneticnorthfestival.ca](http://www.magneticnorthfestival.ca)

## **THE PLAYWRIGHTS' DEVELOPMENT CENTRES OF CANADA**

Canada's nine Playwrights' Development Centres have joined together to establish a national network to communicate and share ideas, speak more forcefully on behalf of our organizations and the playwrights we serve, and engage in cooperative activities that contribute to the development of a more dynamic Canadian theatrical voice.

Each of our member organizations is unique, but we have discovered that we share a number of issues and objectives.

We have unique relationships with the playwrights whose work we develop and we are an important resource, partner and ally to producing theatre companies. Our focus is exclusively on the development of playwrights' work, and often we are the first line of discovery of new voices.

**Find out more at our website: [www.pdcc.ca](http://www.pdcc.ca)**

Our website is a central information portal that includes links to each of our member organizations, allowing you to explore all of our organizations from one site.

Discover what we're up to by clicking on our online calendar to view a listing of works in development across Canada, and find out what's going on in each Centre by joining our e-mail list and receiving timely e-mails from all of the participating organizations.

## **THE WINDCHILL FACTOR**

Established in 2003 by a group of Canadians living in London, England, The Windchill Factor is a non-profit organization with a mandate to foster greater cultural exchange between Canada and the UK.

The Windchill Factor is quickly gaining recognition as a focal point for Canadian performing arts. We are a business-driven organization bringing a new approach and structure to development and promotion of Canadian theatre in the UK. This new approach provides artists with the freedom to create great Canadian theatre for British audiences.

We focus on three streams of activity:

#### **UK Productions**

Since September 2003 we have supported 15 locally-mounted productions of Canadian writing. This support has ranged from marketing services to full co-production.

#### **Touring Productions**

The Windchill Factor is establishing a program to assist small- and medium-size Canadian companies to bring their productions to the UK. There is no substitute for having dedicated personnel "on the ground" helping with everything from initial sales to logistics.

#### **Joint Productions**

Based on the precept that true cultural exchange comes from bringing Canadian and British artists together, The Windchill Factor is working to create exchange programs and to bring UK and Canadian companies together to mount truly international productions of Canadian writing.

#### **Contact**

Colin Williams, Executive Director  
The Windchill Factor  
7 Delarch House, Webber Row,  
London SE1 8QU, UK  
Telephone: 0778 662 5576  
E-mail: [colin@thewindchillfactor.com](mailto:colin@thewindchillfactor.com)  
Website: [www.thewindchillfactor.com](http://www.thewindchillfactor.com)  
[www.canadiantheatre.co.uk](http://www.canadiantheatre.co.uk)



**Playwrights' Development Centres of Canada**

**Alberta Playwrights' Network**

**Banff playRites Colony**

**Centre des auteurs dramatiques (CEAD)**

**Manitoba Association of Playwrights**

**Nightswimming**

**Playwrights' Atlantic Resource Centre**

**Playwrights' Workshop Montréal**

**Playwrights Theatre Centre**

**Saskatchewan Playwrights Centre**

# Other Resources

## A PARTIAL LIST OF RESOURCES RELATED TO CANADIAN PLAYS AND PLAYWRITING

### PROFESSIONAL THEATRE ASSOCIATIONS

**Professional Association of Canadian Theatres (PACT):** [www.pact.ca](http://www.pact.ca)  
A member-driven organization that serves as the collective voice of professional anglophone Canadian theatres. Website includes links to member companies.

**Conseil québécois du théâtre (CQT):** [www.cqt.ca](http://www.cqt.ca)  
The collective voice of professional theatre in Quebec. Website includes links to Quebec professional companies, festivals, theatre schools, presenters and government agencies.

### PUBLICATIONS

**Canadian Theatre Review:** [www.utpjournals.com](http://www.utpjournals.com)  
Quarterly. Each thematic issue examines current trends in Canadian theatre and includes at least one new playscript.

**CanPlay:** [www.playwrightsguild.com](http://www.playwrightsguild.com)  
Quarterly review of Canadian plays and playwrights, published by Playwrights Guild of Canada.

**Cahiers de théâtre Jeu:** [www.revuejeu.org](http://www.revuejeu.org)  
In French. Quarterly review of theatre in the Province of Quebec.

### PUBLISHERS AND BOOKSELLERS

**Playwrights Canada Press:** [www.playwrightscanada.com](http://www.playwrightscanada.com)

**Talonbooks:** [www.talonbooks.com](http://www.talonbooks.com)

**Dramaturges Éditeurs:** [www.dramaturges.qc.ca](http://www.dramaturges.qc.ca)

**Theatre Books:** [www.theatrebooks.com](http://www.theatrebooks.com)

### ONLINE RESOURCES

**Canada On Stage Online:** [www.pact.ca](http://www.pact.ca)  
Searchable database of Canadian professional theatre productions (past, present and upcoming).

**The Encyclopedia of Canadian Theatre:** [www.canadiantheatre.com](http://www.canadiantheatre.com)  
Searchable online encyclopedia.

**ThéâtreQuebec.com:** [www.theatrequebec.com](http://www.theatrequebec.com)  
In French. Information on current productions, links to other organizations and articles about Quebec theatre.

**LMDA Canada:** [www.lmda.org/blog/LMDACanada](http://www.lmda.org/blog/LMDACanada)  
Canadian chapter of Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas.

### A SELECTION OF OTHER FESTIVALS PRESENTING NEW CANADIAN PLAYS

**Festival de Théâtre des Amériques:** [www.fta.qc.ca](http://www.fta.qc.ca)  
Montreal, Quebec / Canada's premiere international theatre festival.

**High Performance Rodeo:** [www.oyr.org](http://www.oyr.org)  
Calgary, Alberta / Renowned international festival of experimental performance.

**On the Verge:** [www.nac-cna.ca](http://www.nac-cna.ca) (follow the link to English Theatre)  
NAC English Theatre's annual festival of readings of new plays on the verge of production. Coincides with the Magnetic North Theatre Festival (see page 14).

**On the Waterfront Festivals:** [www.easternfront.ns.ca](http://www.easternfront.ns.ca)  
Halifax, Nova Scotia / Innovative theatre for adult and young audiences.

**PuSh International Performing Arts Festival:** [www.pushfestival.ca](http://www.pushfestival.ca)  
Vancouver, British Columbia

**SummerWorks Theatre Festival:** [www.summerworks.ca](http://www.summerworks.ca)  
Toronto, Ontario / Annual curated summer festival.

# 4play Canada

## PROJECT PRODUCTION CREDITS

### IN THE UK

Co-presenter/Producer ..... Canadian High Commission (London)  
Katherine Bond, Performing Arts  
Associate producer ..... The Windchill Factor  
Colin Williams, Executive Director  
Publicist ..... Paul Sullivan  
For The Old Vic ..... Kate Pakenham, Old Vic New Voices

### IN CANADA

Co-presenter ..... Canada's National Arts Centre – English Theatre  
Marti Maraden, Artistic Director  
Victoria Steele, Managing Director  
Lise Ann Johnson, Artistic Associate and Literary Manager  
Laura Denker, Publicity and Media Relations  
Andy Lunney, Company Manager  
Printed programme writing and editing ..... Diana Tyndale, Piranha Communications  
Graphic design ..... Michael Webb, Alchemy Design

### PROJECT FUNDING PARTNERS



Foreign Affairs  
Canada

Affaires étrangères  
Canada

Canada



Canada Council  
for the Arts

Conseil des Arts  
du Canada

The National Arts Centre Foundation would also like to acknowledge the generous leadership support of a private family in Ottawa, Canada and an anonymous donor in the UK.

[www.4playcanada.co.uk](http://www.4playcanada.co.uk)

# 4play Canada

## at The Old Vic, London March 15-18, 2005

### FEATURED PLAYS

**The Adventures of a Black Girl in Search of God** by Djanet Sears

**Rune Arlidge** by Michael Healey

**Scorched** (*Incendies*) by Wajdi Mouawad, translated by Linda Gaboriau

**Unity (1918)** by Kevin Kerr

### SHORTLISTED PLAYS

**Ernestine Shuswap Gets Her Trout** by Tomson Highway

**Half Life** by John Mighton

**Helen's Necklace** (*Le Collier d'Hélène*) by Carole Fréchette, translated by John Murrell

**The Leisure Society** (*La Société des loisirs*) by François Archambault, translated by Bobby Theodore

**No Great Mischief** by David S. Young

**The Optimists** by Morwyn Brebner

**The Red Priest (Eight Ways to Say Goodbye)** by Mieko Ouchi

**The Shape of a Girl** by Joan MacLeod

**The Sheep and the Whale** (*Le mouton et la baleine*) by Ahmed Ghazali, translated by Bobby Theodore

### CO-PRESENTED BY



CANADA'S NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE  
CENTRE NATIONAL DES ARTS DU CANADA

53 Elgin Street,  
P.O. Box 1534, Station B,  
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5W1, Canada  
Telephone: (+001) 613 947 7000  
Website: [www.nac-cna.ca](http://www.nac-cna.ca)



Government of Canada  
High Commission of Canada

Gouvernement du Canada  
Haut-commissariat du Canada

Canada

Canada House,  
Trafalgar Square,  
Pall Mall East,  
London SW1Y 5BJ  
Telephone: 0207 258 6600  
Fax: 0207 258 6333  
Website: [www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/canadaeuropa/united\\_kingdom](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/canadaeuropa/united_kingdom)

[www.4playcanada.co.uk](http://www.4playcanada.co.uk)