

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 8 to February 24, 2008
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Tft presents award-winning play *Des fraises en janvier (Strawberries in January)* by Evelyne de la Chenelière

Toronto, January 8, 2008 - Théâtre français de Toronto is proud to present **Evelyne de la Chenelière's** award-winning play *Des fraises en janvier (Strawberries in January)*. Directed by **Jean-Stéphane Roy**, *Strawberries in January* is a biting, heart-warming comedy about four romantically challenged singletons who stumble through contemporary Montréal in search for love. The play runs at Berkeley Street Theatre Upstairs from February 13 to 24.

François wishes love could be more like the movies. A cafe bar tender - frustrated screenwriter, he uses every event in his life as inspiration. He casts Sophie, his ex-flatmate-turned-lover-turned-friend, opposite Robert - a cafe regular and university professor. Outside the city, Sophie's childhood friend Lea, runs a B & B. She's drowning in 'too much fresh air and boredom'. A surprising, passionate encounter provokes her to seek out Sophie for a reunion. Their stories collide and interweave with intriguing serendipity.

Evelyne de la Chenelière is one of Québec's most exciting playwrights. The play won the Masque Award (Québec's version of the Doras) for Best Original Script. Her previous work includes *L'héritage de Darwin*, *Chinoiserie* and *Henri & Margaux*.

Directed by **Jean-Stéphane Roy**. Featuring **Djennie Laguerre, Patricia Marceau, Michel Séguin** and **Manuel Verreydt**. A Théâtre français de Toronto production.

Costumes by **Nina Okens** ; Lighting and accessories by **Glenn Davidson** ; Set design by **Vikki Anderson** ; Surtitles by **Gunta Dreifelds** ; Translation (for surtitles) by **Morwyn Brebner**.

The piece was originally produced by Théâtre d'Aujourd'hui of Montreal, then by Compagnie Jean Duceppe. It has been translated into several languages, and has been performed in Canada, France, Germany, and Scotland.

« A warm and delightful tonic for our frosty souls in these dragging days of winter » The Montreal Mirror

« A wonderfully witty and unquestionably lovely piece of theatre » Calgary Sun

« De la Chenelière is a witty, observant, refreshingly good-natured writer » Timesonline

Des fraises en janvier (Strawberries in January)
by **Evelyne de la Chenelière** | Directed by **Jean-Stéphane Roy**
February 13 to 24

Théâtre français de Toronto | Berkeley Street Theatre Upstairs - 26 Berkeley Street
Evening performances: Wednesday to Saturday at 8PM
With SURTITLES™: February 14, 20 and 22 at 8PM, February 23 at 3:30PM
Saturday matinee: February 16 and 23 at 3:30PM | **Sunday matinee:** February 17 and 24 at 2:30PM
Tickets: \$29 TO \$46/ Students, seniors and groups: \$24 to \$32
Box office: 416.534.6604 OR 1.800.819.4981 | www.theatrefrancais.com

About Tft: The 07-08 season marks Tft's 40 years. Founded in 1967, Tft is one of the most important francophone theatre companies in Canada and the only one in Southern Ontario offering a full season of diverse productions for audiences of all ages. While appealing to all lovers of French-language theatre, Tft contributes to the cultural and educational development of Toronto's francophone community. It sells 11,500 tickets annually and has about 950 subscribers. Since April 2005, Tft has offered performances with English surtitles™, which provide a wider choice of entertainment for Ontarians and enable Tft patrons to bring their friends and family who do not necessarily speak French.
