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Théâtre français de Toronto 2006-2007 season The Human comedy under the sign of complicity

«Theatre is a matter of complicity. In order to create a season, we need 7 or 8 stories of complicity. Programming a season means taking calculated risks in order to surprise, to touch, to move, to make people laugh and to show them other aspects of life, real life, the one we invent for our audiences.»
-- Guy Mignault, Artistic Director

For its 39th season, TfT pursues the exploration of the Human comedy. Under the sign of complicity, TfT multiplies collaborations with francophone theatres everywhere in Canada. The shows of its 2006-2007 season will take us from Québec to Yugoslavia, British Columbia, the USA, France and Asia.

This year, TfT's season is made of new works and new complicities :

- Surtitled subscription: four productions will be subtitled.
- A production for children: *Maita* coproduced by Théâtre de la Vieille 17, le Théâtre de Sable and Théâtre français du Centre national des Arts.

***Bonbons assortis (Assorted bonbons)* by Michel Tremblay**

The Toronto premiere of legendary Canadian playwright Michel Tremblay's latest work. We encounter familiar faces: his mother, Nana; his Aunt Albertine; his grandmother, Victoire; his father, Gabriel and the colourful Josaphat-le-violon. Once again, Tremblay puts his family on stage with a biting sense of humour. *Bonbons assortis*, a sweet piece not to be missed!

October 18 – November 4, 2006

Surtitles: October 19, 25, 27 and November 2 at 8 pm and November 4 at 3:30 pm

A production of Théâtre français de Toronto.

***Le Professionnel (The Professional)* by Dusan Kovacevic**

A powerful play about censorship and totalitarianism. Issues from Eastern Europe which are not that far from us. This production brings to Toronto one of Québec's major actors, Gabriel Arcand. Dusan Kovacevic, a screenwriter and playwright, born in Yugoslavia in 1948, has written twenty plays which have been translated in more than fifteen languages.

November 15 – 19, 2006

A production of Groupe de la Veillée, Montréal.

***Apocalypse à Kamloops (Apocalypse in Kamloops)* by Stephan Cloutier**

First and foremost a comedy, this world premiere welcomes an exciting new voice to TfT. Stephan Cloutier is one of Canada's most promising authors. The BC-based writer displays his sense of tragedy and drama and above all, his great sense of humour as he crafts a funny play about a serious subject: the end of the world.

January 31 – February 11, 2007

Surtitles: February 1, 7 and 9 at 8 pm and February 10 at 3:30 pm

A coproduction by TfT, Vancouver's *Théâtre La Seizième* and Ottawa's *Théâtre la Catapulte*.

***Grace et Gloria (Grace and Gloria)* by Tom Ziegler, translated by Michel Tremblay**

Since its premiere this play has sold out wherever it has been performed. Tft is thrilled to welcome back Viola Léger, the Acadian star best known to English-speaking audiences for making *La Sagouine* a worldwide celebrity. *Grace et Gloria* is an intimate, moving play in which, faced with the reality of death, two women who have nothing in common discover friendship and similarities within their differences.

March 21 – April 1, 2007

Surtitles: March 22, 28 and 30 at 8 pm and March 31 at 3:30 pm

A coproduction by Théâtre de l'Île (Gatineau) and Théâtre populaire d'Acadie (Caraquet).

***George Dandin* by Molière**

Our audiences cannot get enough of Molière and, this time, we are presenting a rarely performed gem. *George Dandin* is a ferocious comedy about a rich peasant who marries into nobility and it spares neither the peasant nor the nobility. This play has echoes of *L'École des Femmes*, except here, the young woman is anything but innocent.

April 18 – May 5, 2007

Surtitles: April 19 and 21 at 8 pm, April 22 at 2:30 pm, April 28 and May 5 at 3:30 pm

A production of Théâtre français de Toronto.

Volet Nouvelles Générations, youth programming

Tft is proud to present its Volet Nouvelles Générations for the third year in a row. And this year, we are offering three productions. They will be performed in the evening as well, so that the whole family may enjoy them.

Les Zurbains 2006 is produced by Théâtre Le Clou in Montréal, from stories written by secondary school students in Montréal and Toronto. Two of the stories were written by Toronto students: *Le Sheepman* by Catherine Lamoureux and *Étrangère* by Alejandro Vernaza.

Evening performance: November 8, 2006

A production of Théâtre Le Clou, Montréal

***Romances et karaoké* by Francine Monty**

A group of teenagers are at odds with their self-image, as well as the fate they believe they have been subjected to. *Romances et karaoké* was created in March 2003 and won three Masques 2005 for Best production for young audiences, Best direction and Best original text.

Evening performance: April 4, 2007

A production of Théâtre Le Clou, Montréal

***Maita* by Esther Beauchemin**

This year, we are bringing children to the theatre! We want our youngest audience to discover the real theatre experience with *Maita*, a poetic fable about freedom and childhood, a play for 8 – 12-year olds.

Evening performance: May 12, 2007

A production of Théâtre de la Vieille 17 (Ottawa), Théâtre de Sable (Québec), in collaboration with théâtre français du Centre national des Arts (Ottawa).

**For more information about Tft's 2006-2007 season please call
(416) 534-6604 or visit our website www.theatrefrancais.com**