



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

For more information and interviews, contact
Mel Marginet/Matt TenBruggencate, Artistic Directors - 943-9573
or Arne MacPherson, Director - 774-9627
www.theatrebytheriver.com

Theatre by the River presents

HABITAT

by JUDITH THOMPSON

directed by ARNE MACPHERSON

WINNIPEG, April 14, 2010 – Theatre by the River brings to life **HABITAT** by the prolific Judith Thompson for the first time in Manitoba with direction from veteran actor/director Arne MacPherson. Theatre by the River will be the first in-season production at Aqua Books.

THE PLAY – Life is good for the residents of Maple View Lanes ... until Lewis Chance buys a house on their street to open a group home for troubled adolescents. Two worlds collide in *HABITAT*.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE - This play is Thompson at the absolute top of her form; *Habitat* displays all the qualities for which Thompson is admired: a deep compassion for humanity, electrifying dialogue, wrenching conflict and intense theatricality. Here her talent is used in the service of a real civic conscience, to explore a pressing societal issue. It is a cry for empathy on the deepest level, literally at the level of breath.

DETAILS – The show runs in the performance space of **AQUA BOOKS**, Winnipeg's "Cultural City Hall" (274 Garry Street)

April 29-May 1, May 5-8 @ 8pm
May 1 & 8 @ 2pm (*Saturday matinées*)

Tickets are \$15 regular, Students/Seniors \$10. Two performances are PWYC (Pay What You Can) keeping with Theatre by the River's mandate of producing financially accessible theatre

April 29 (opening)
May 1 (matinée)

Resource Assistance for Youth (RAY) will shine some light into the issues explored in the play, leading the audience in a talk-back following 3 performances:

May 1 (matinée), May 5 & May 7

RAY is a non-partisan, non-denomination drop-in and resource centre in downtown Winnipeg for youth who can't go home – because home isn't safe or doesn't exist. Staff there have called RAY the last defense for youth who have slipped through every other safety net.

MEDIA TIME – Members of the Winnipeg media are invited to join us at

AQUA BOOKS
274 Garry Street
at **3PM** on **April 27**

ARTISTIC TEAM – The play is directed by well-known Winnipeg actor/director Arne MacPherson and features: Carolyn Gray, Megan Herkert, Brent Hirose, Lisa Nelson and Matt TenBruggencate.

With design by Debbie Patterson (sets, props and costumes) and Libid Zyla Harder (Lighting).
Production Management from Michael Duggan and Stage Management from Kristin Janssen.



Partnering with:



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