



INFORMATION SHEET and MEDIA RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Liverpool International Theatre Festival's Special Christmas Offer

Liverpool, Nova Scotia. November 30, 2009

From May 19-23, 2010, the community of Liverpool, Nova Scotia will once again shine a spotlight on some of the world's best theatrical performers at the Liverpool International Theatre Festival (LITF). Held at Liverpool's famed Astor Theatre, the biennial festival is celebrating its tenth Anniversary with more entertainment than ever before. To mark the occasion, LITF is also offering a special Christmas ticket package as a thank-you to audience members.

In addition to the usual line-up of outstanding amateur theatre performers, LITF 2010 will feature activities for youth to enjoy, fantastic nightly entertainment, and the return of some of our audiences' favourite troupes from past festivals. Several other special events and guest appearances are also planned.

On stage, the 2010 festival will see the return of the Teochew Drama Association from Singapore, who wowed audiences with their performances in 2000 and 2006; and Blackwood Little Theatre from Wales, who appeared at LITF 2008. Artistic Director Chris Heide has also accepted applications from Italy, France, Finland, the United States and the Faroe Islands. And, of course, the festival will host the best amateur theatre troupes from across Nova Scotia. While the exact line-up hasn't been finalized yet, it's definitely going to be an exciting blend of international and local theatre.

Audience members will be able to mix and mingle with the theatre troupes at the Festival Club between and after plays, and join in critical discussions with playwrights, directors, and performers at the daily Coffee Critiques. Attendees can also learn more about theatre craft by attending special Workshops.

"The festival offers a truly integrated theatre experience," explains Chris Heide. "Audience members and players alike are totally immersed in theatre for the full five days of this event. It's a terrific experience for true theatre lovers –unique in Nova Scotia!"

An all-access pass to LITF 2010 is a great way to take full advantage of this "integrated theatre experience." Normally priced at \$150, the all-access pass is on sale from now until January 15, 2010, at a special Christmas promotional price of only \$125. The all-access pass includes the following:

- A reserved seat for all festival plays (see note below)
- Free entrance to all Coffee Critiques and workshops
- Free admission to Festival Club and Gala Night
- A ballot to vote on the People's Choice Award



NOTE: All-access pass buyers will receive a voucher representing their seat reservations. Once the exact performance line-up is finalized (a month or two before the festival), that voucher must be traded in at the Astor Theatre box office for individual tickets to all the plays.

If you act now, you'll be able to enjoy this spectacular celebration of theatre from the best seats in the house. Purchase your subscription through the Astor Theatre box office, by phone at (902) 354-5250, or online at www.astortheatre.ns.ca.

Visit our website for more information about the festival: www.litf.ca.

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- Started in 1992, the Liverpool International Theatre Festival (LITF) is an amateur theatre competition hosted every two years in the town of Liverpool, Nova Scotia.
- The Artistic Director selects 12 - 14 amateur theatre companies from countries all over the world, via an application process, to perform at this phenomenal five-day festival.
- LITF has drawn participation from 23 countries including: England, U.S.A., Japan, Sweden, Norway, Bulgaria, France, Ireland, Slovakia, Germany, Venezuela, Singapore, Denmark, Belgium, Korea, Poland, Croatia, Australia, El Salvador, Pakistan, Israel, Syria, and Wales.
- Plays are performed in the language of the competitor's choosing, and run between 30 and 50 minutes.
- Professional adjudicators watch all the performances and then offer analysis of the productions to the cast, crew, and interested audience members in a daily morning session called the Coffee Critique.
- Over the five days of the festival theatre professionals offer various workshops to ticket subscribers, delegates, and the general public. Workshops included subjects such as street theatre, meditation and theatre, playwriting, and movement.
- Production awards are presented at the closing ceremony in the following categories: Outstanding International Production, Outstanding Canadian Production, Outstanding Director, Outstanding Actor, Outstanding Actress, Outstanding Supporting Actor, Outstanding Supporting Actress, Outstanding Visual Presentation, Best Original Script, and People's Choice Award.
- For the duration of the festival, the town of Liverpool opens its doors to its honoured visitors, many of whom are billeted with local residents, and a full slate of special events and activities offers cultural experiences for performers and public alike.



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