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*The Citadel*

## Theatre Enjoying Unprecedented Success

**EDMONTON, AB** – The Citadel Theatre hosts an unprecedented wealth of artists, with three simultaneous productions, and one ‘waiting in the wings’. With *Disney’s Beauty and the Beast* in the Shoctor Theatre, *Shining City* in the Rice Theatre, *Macbeth* in the Maclab Theatre and *The December Man* in rehearsal, the Citadel is in full swing with over 80 of Canada’s most talented theatre artists and craftspeople.

“It’s rare to have this level of productivity and quality in such a concentrated time frame,” says Citadel Artistic Director **Bob Baker**. “We have clearly established ourselves as a theatrical hub in Western Canada and look forward to further collaborations from across the nation. Our building is buzzing with creativity in every corner.”

*Disney’s Beauty and the Beast* has enjoyed enormous box-office sales, holding over an extra week until March 2<sup>nd</sup> before continuing its co-production at Theatre Calgary. The cast features some of Canada’s hottest young talent from Vancouver through Halifax and local actors **John Uilyatt** and **Larry Yachimec**. Designed by **Leslie Frankish** and Directed by **Bob Baker**, *Disney’s Beauty and the Beast* continues to be very well received by audiences and reviewers alike, and is tracking to be the highest grossing production in the theatre’s forty-three years.

The Canadian premiere of *Shining City* by Conor McPherson continues the Rice series at the Citadel. Directed by Associate Artistic Director **James MacDonald**, *Shining City* features a cast completely comprised of University of Alberta alumni. While **Shaun Smyth** and **Caroline Cave** live elsewhere now, they have returned to join local Edmonton talents **Tom Wood** and **Jason Carnew** in this harrowing, striking ghost tale running until February 24<sup>th</sup>.

*Macbeth*, a co-production with Canada’s National Arts Centre (Ottawa), and one of Shakespeare’s most popular dramas, opens this week. Directed by the renowned Artistic Director of English Language Theatre at the NAC, **Peter Hinton**, and showcasing a star-studded cast from across the nation, *Macbeth* has received terrific reviews during its initial run in Ottawa. Starring **Benedict Campbell** as Macbeth and **Diane D’Aquila** as Lady Macbeth, and set during World War II Europe, the play continues in the Maclab until March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Finally, *The December Man*, which recently won the Governor General’s Literary Award in Drama for playwright **Colleen Murphy**, is slated to run March 4<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> immediately following *Shining City* on the Rice Stage. The play follows the tale of Jean, a young man coping with grief and regret after fleeing the massacre at L’École Polytechnique de Montréal in 1989. A co-production with the Canadian Stage Company (Toronto), *The December Man* is rehearsing in what little available space remains at the Citadel, starring **Brian Dooley**, **Nicola Lipman** and **Jeff Irving**, and Directed by **Micheline Chevrier**.

Tickets for any of these productions can be purchased by phone, **780.425.1820**, online at [citadeltheatre.com](http://citadeltheatre.com) or in person at the **Box Office, 9828 101 A Avenue**.

**For more information please contact:**

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