

CITADEL SCORES MAJOR COUP TO PRODUCE HOTTEST PLAY OF 2015

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(EDMONTON) The Citadel Theatre has won the rights to produce the Canadian Premiere of *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*, the runaway international winner of live theatre honours last season. The play took Best Play at the 2015 Tony Awards on Broadway, the 2015 Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Play, the 2015 Drama League Award for Outstanding Production and the 2015 Outer Critics Circle Award for Outstanding New Broadway Play. *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* also tied the record for most wins at Britain's prestigious Olivier Awards, winning seven awards including Best New Play.

Citadel Artistic director **Bob Baker** has announced that the play will open the Citadel's 2016-2017 season, running from September 17th through October 9th. The play will be a co-production with Winnipeg's Royal Manitoba Theatre Company.

The play tells the powerful tale of a 15-year-old autistic genius who seeks to solve a mystery when he is wrongfully accused of killing a neighbour's dog. *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* is an adaptation by **Simon Stephens** of the best-selling novel by British writer **Mark Haddon**.

"We are just too excited to keep this a secret!" exclaimed Baker. "Together with the Royal MTC, we have campaigned hard to secure the rights to co-produce the Canadian Premiere of this astonishing new play and we are thrilled to open our 51st Season with it."

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time will be directed by **Heidi Malazdrewich**, a Winnipeg-based director, actor, and theatre educator. Auditions for the show already are underway.

Meanwhile, the Citadel will continue the magic this fall by following up *The Curious Incident...* with a show that has had audiences rocking from Broadway to Las Vegas; one that also has been a huge hit the past seven years at the Apollo Theatre in Chicago. The New York Times described *Million Dollar Quartet* as "a jukebox musical about a legendary day in rock n'roll history." Indeed, the musical re-enacts the day in December, 1956, when **Elvis Presley**, **Jerry Lee Lewis**, **Carl Perkins** and **Johnny Cash** all got together in the Sun Record studios in Memphis, Tennessee, for an impromptu jam session.

"At last!" said Baker. "We have been after the rights to produce our own version of the show for the last five years. It is wildly entertaining with these four iconic superstars jamming together at the height of their careers and the music is electrifying."

Million Dollar Quartet will be on the Shoctor stage from October 22nd through November 13th. Directing the musical will be none other than **Ted Dykstra**, well-known to Citadel audiences as the creator of *Evangeline* and co-creator of *Two Pianos Four Hands*. Dykstra, who grew up in St. Albert, has "hands on" experience with the role of Jerry Lee Lewis. He gave a memorable rendering of Lewis in the musical *Fire*, part of the Citadel's 2007-2008 Season.

The balance of the Citadel's 2016-2017 Season will be announced in March.

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