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MEDIA RELEASE

A murder mystery. An alternate reality. A young man's great adventure.

CITADEL THEATRE LAUNCHES NEW SEASON WITH CANADIAN PREMIERE OF *THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME*

September 06, 2016

(EDMONTON) Both cast and audience will share an alternate reality when the remarkable play *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* opens on the Citadel's Shoctor stage September 17th.

The Curious Incident... is a masterful murder mystery intertwined with a coming-of-age story, woven in the directly shared experience of a brilliant but rather different teenager, suddenly forced into the world at large. It began its life as a best-selling novel by **Mark Haddon** before being developed as a play by **Simon Stephens**.

The Citadel Theatre joined forces with the Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre to win the rights to the Canadian Premiere of the play that has just wrapped a second year as a smash hit on Broadway. Citadel and RMTTC assembled a brilliantly innovative team of actors, crew, traditional and digital design specialists, to build an all-Canadian version of the acclaimed play. The company is led by Winnipeg director **Heidi Malazdrewich**.

"My job as director is to be the safe-keeper of the story," says Ms. Malazdrewich. "It's my job to work with the designers and the actors in telling the story as truthfully and as beautifully and as clearly as possible."

Ms. Malazdrewich has been working in recent months with the collaborative design team Show Stages Collective (**T. Erin Gruber**, **Joel Adria** and **Elijah Lindenberger**) as well as movement designer **Linda Garneau** to craft a unique blend of traditional theatre arts and cutting-edge digital technologies.

The result is a powerful ability to evoke the internal world of the play's hero Christopher Boone. Christopher knows all the countries of the world and their capitals and every prime number up to 7,057. He has no understanding of human emotions. He cannot stand to be touched. And he detests the colour yellow.

Christopher is played by **Edmund Stapleton** (Citadel debut). Other members of the cast are **Terri Cherniack** (Citadel: *An Enemy of the People*), **David Keeley** (Citadel most recent: *True Love Lies*), **Beverly Ndukwu** (Citadel debut), **Robb Paterson** (Citadel: *How I Got That Story*), **Cherissa Richards** (Citadel debut), **Jamie Robinson** (Citadel debut), **John Ulliyatt** (Citadel most recent: *Alice Through the Looking-Glass*), **Stephanie Wolfe** (Citadel most recent: *A Christmas Carol*), and **Patricia Zentilli** (Citadel: *Alice Through the Looking-Glass*).

Also making her debut in *The Curious Incident...* is **Rosie Campbell**, a 12-week-old Golden Retriever puppy, considered by many to be the most adorable member of the company.

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time has its first performance Saturday, September 17th, with the official Opening Night performance Thursday, September 22nd. The play runs at the Citadel Theatre through October 9th before moving to the Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre in Winnipeg where it will run October 20th through November 12th.

The Citadel will feature a “relaxed” performance, adapted specifically for those on the autism spectrum along with their families, to be held Saturday, September 24th, at 1:30 PM.

Cast:

TERRI CHERNIACK – Mrs. Alexander
DAVID KEELEY – Ed
BEVERLY NDUKWU – Punk Girl
ROBB PATERSON – Rev Peterson
CHERISSA RICHARDS – Siobhan
JAMIE ROBINSON – Man With Socks
EDMUND STAPLETON – Christopher
JOHN ULLYATT – Roger
STEPHANIE WOLFE – Mrs. Gascoyne/ Mrs. Shears
PATRICIA ZENTILLI – Judy
ROSIE – Dog

Creative Team:

HEIDI MALAZDREWICH – Director
Production Design by ShowStages collective
T. ERIN GRUBER – Set, Costumes & Lighting Designer
JOEL ADRIA – Projection Designer
ELIJAH LINDENBERGER – Sound Design
CHEYENNE SYKES – Assistant Designer
LINDA GARNEAU – Movement Designer
MATTHEW SKOPYK – Composer
DAVID LEY – Dialect Coach
MICHELLE CHAN – Stage Manager
MICHAEL DUGGAN – Assistant Stage Manager
LORE GREEN – Apprentice Stage Manager

NOTICE OF MEDIA CALL:

A media call is currently scheduled for 1 PM, Tuesday, September 20, 2016, in the Shoctor Theatre. A short selected scene will be performed three times in order that videographers can obtain footage of the show.

Some members of the Cast and Creative Team will be available for interviews.

To RSVP your attendance at Media Call or for more information contact:

Ken Davis

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Ken is happy to facilitate interviews with any members of the Cast or Creative Team.

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Government/Foundation Funders: City of Edmonton; Edmonton Arts Council; Edmonton Community Foundation; Government of Alberta; Alberta Foundation for the Arts; Alberta Lottery Fund, Canada Council for the Arts; Canadian Heritage.

Tickets are available at www.citadeltheatre.com and 780.425.1820. Tickets start at just \$30 plus fees and GST.

The Citadel Theatre and Academy is a not-for-profit organization that relies on the generous support of donors, sponsors, and foundation and government funders.