

## MEDIA RELEASE

### ***UBUNTU (THE CAPE TOWN PROJECT)* CAPTURES THE SPIRIT OF THE CITADEL SEASON**

**October 2, 2017**

**(EDMONTON)** Set in two different time periods, 30 years apart, *Ubuntu (The Cape Town Project)* features a combination of Canadian and South African theatre traditions, including music, dance and physical story-telling. When a young South African man, Jabba, travels from Cape Town to Canada in search of his father, he finds himself haunted by the secrets of his father's past.

In South Africa, *ubuntu* means "I am because you are." The phrase refers to the spirit of community, the belief that humanity is tied together. "It's about our interconnectedness to each other, our responsibility to each other - that idea that there are always ripple effects to everything that we do," says director **Daryl Cloran**. The idea of *ubuntu* has become the underlying focus of the first season Cloran programmed for the Citadel Theatre as the theatre's new Artistic Director. "All of the shows that we are doing this season are about our interconnectedness to each other, and all look at questions of responsibility, identity, and our reach across the world," he says.

*Ubuntu (The Cape Town Project)* began in April 2005 when members of the Toronto theatre collective, Theatrefront, travelled to Cape Town to spend a month developing the play in collaboration with The Baxter Theatre Centre. They workshopped the production in Cape Town, then held a final development workshop in Toronto in 2008. *Ubuntu (The Cape Town Project)* had its World Premiere in 2009 in Toronto (Tarragon Theatre) and Halifax (Neptune Theatre), before touring Western Canada in 2012.

The production takes place in Maclab Theatre, with set design by **Lorenzo Savoini**; lighting design by **Gerald King**; sound design by **Christian Barry**; and costume design by **Gillian Gallow**. This new production of *Ubuntu* features the original South African cast members **Mbulelo Grootboom** and **Andile Nebulane**, who came to Edmonton from Cape Town for rehearsals in September. They are joined by returning Canadian cast members **David Jansen** and **Tracey Power**, as well as new cast member **Erin McGrath**.

*Ubuntu (The Cape Town Project)* is a beautiful artistic expression of collaboration, inclusivity, innovation, and international outreach, bringing it perfectly in line with Cloran's vision for the 2017/18 season at the Citadel Theatre. As it is a co-production with Prairie Theatre Exchange, the show will go on to Winnipeg after its run finishes in Edmonton.

***Ubuntu (The Cape Town Project)* takes place October 11 to 22, 2017, at the Citadel Theatre.**

## **CREATORS**

DARYL CLORAN  
MBULELO GROOTBOOM  
DEBORAH HAY  
DAVID JANSEN  
HOLLY LEWIS  
MICHELL MONTEITH  
ANDILE NEBULANE

## **CAST**

MBULELO GROOTBOOM	Philani/The Sangoma
DAVID JANSEN	Michael/Caretaker
ERIN MCGRATH	Libby
ANDILE NEBULANE	Jabba
TRACEY POWER	Sarah

## **CREATIVE TEAM**

Director	DARYL CLORAN
Set Designer	LORENZO SAVOINI
Lighting Designer	GERALD KING
Sound Designer	CHRISTIAN BARRY
Costume Designer	GILLIAN GALLOW
Fight Director	PATRICK HOWARTH
Assistant Director	MICHAEL BRADLEY
Stage Manager	SKYLAR NAKAZAWA
Assistant Stage Manager	KATHERINE JOHNSTON

## **NOTICE**

Please note that there will **not** be a media call for this production. If you would like to schedule an interview with a member of the cast or creative team, or receive photographs from dress rehearsal, please contact:

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Government Funders: Government of Alberta; Alberta Foundation for the Arts; City of  
Edmonton; The Edmonton Arts Council; Canada Council for the Arts; Canadian Heritage.

The Citadel Theatre would like to give a special thanks to Nando's, the Opening Night sponsor  
for *Ubuntu (The Cape Town Project)*

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Tickets are available at [www.citadeltheatre.com](http://www.citadeltheatre.com) or through the box office at **780.425.1820**.

Tickets start at just \$30, plus fees and GST.

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