

HAROLD GREEN JEWISH THEATRE COMPANY ANNOUNCES 2010-2011 SEASON

Includes a new Canadian play, an off-Broadway hit and a brand new musical!

DAVID EISNER and **AVERY SALTZMAN**, co-Artistic Directors of the **HAROLD GREEN JEWISH THEATRE COMPANY**, Toronto's only professional theatre company established to celebrate, illuminate and share Jewish culture, today announced their 2010-2011 subscription season.

The Company's fourth season will feature a co-production of a new Canadian play, a celebrated off-Broadway comedy, a brand new Canadian musical revue and the return of the **CONVERSATIONS ON THE GREEN** series.

The 2010-2011 season opens with a new play by the award-winning playwright **VERN THIESSEN** in a co-production with the Winnipeg Jewish Theatre. Called a "spunky, dark comedy" by the New York Times, **LENIN'S EMBALMERS** follows the journey of Boris Zbarsky and Vladimir Vorobiov, two chemists who were given the job of embalming the communist leader Vladimir Ilyich Lenin in 1924. Savage, funny, moving, theatrical, entertaining, thought provoking and instructional, **LENIN'S EMBALMERS** uses historical elements to grapple with contemporary questions: What happens when science and death meet? Can religious beliefs and science live peacefully together? What role does science play in humanity's obsession with immortality?

With a virtuoso performance by **JIM BROCHU** and direction by the three-time Oscar-nominated actress **PIPER LAURIE**, the award-winning, off-Broadway smash **ZERO HOUR** is a one man show about the iconic Jewish star Zero Mostel. From his scarred youth, to his triumphs in *Rhinoceros*, *Fiddler on the Roof* and *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, to being blacklisted during the McCarthy era, Zero Mostel was a three time Tony Award-winning star and one of the more colourful characters in the American theatre. **ZERO HOUR** was named one of the Ten Best Plays of 2008 by the Florida Sun-Sentinel and won a Los Angeles Ovation Award for Best Play.

A world premiere of a new Canadian musical revue, **TO LIFE** is a joyous celebration of the Jewish life cycle: from birth to bar mitzvah, from marriage to death, told through songs of the American Jewish musical theatre canon. Conceived by **AVERY SALTZMAN** and **TIM FRENCH**, **TO LIFE** is a journey through Jewish musical theatre in two acts. The first act celebrates three iconic Jewish performers – Fanny Brice, Eddie Cantor and Al Jolson – and the second "raises a glass to life" using songs culled from the large repertoire of Jewish-themed musicals.

The 2010-2011 season also sees the return of the **CONVERSATIONS ON THE GREEN** series. A one-on-one conversation series hosted by Canadian radio host **RALPH BENMERGUI**, **CONVERSATIONS ON THE GREEN** features Jewish notables from the world of theatre, art, literature and politics speaking on how their religion has influenced their life and chosen profession. Confirmed guests include singer-songwriter **AMY SKY**, lawyer and author **EDWARD GREENSPAN**, award-winning theatre producer **DAVID MIRVISH** and television personality, author and newspaper columnist **JEANNE BEKER**.

Founded in 2006, the **HAROLD GREEN JEWISH THEATRE COMPANY** aims to illuminate humanity through a Jewish perspective by inviting artists and audiences to participate in live theatre, the meeting place of all the arts.

Subscriptions are now on sale and include all three shows (*Lenin, Zero, To Life*) and one of the four Conversations and are available by calling 416.366.7723 • 1.800.708.6754 • online at www.hgjewishtheatre.com.

Subscriptions range from \$118.00 - \$180.00. Single tickets go on sale September 1, 2010.

The Harold Green Jewish Theatre Company 2010-2011 subscription season:

LENIN'S EMBALMERS

By Vern Thiessen. Directed by Geoffrey Brumlick

A co-production with Winnipeg Jewish Theatre

October 30 - November 21, 2010. Opening Night: Tuesday November 2, 8pm.

Al Green Theatre, Miles Nadal JCC, 750 Spadina Avenue

ZERO HOUR

Written by and starring Jim Brochu. Directed by Piper Laurie

March 26 – April 16, 2011. Opening Night: Monday, March 28, 8pm.

Al Green Theatre, Miles Nadal JCC, 750 Spadina Avenue

TO LIFE

Directed by Avery Saltzman. Choreographed by Tim French

Conceived by Avery Saltzman and Tim French

May 13 – 29, 2011. Opening Night: Tuesday, May 17, 8pm.

Jane Mallett Theatre, St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts, 27 Front Street East

CONVERSATIONS ON THE GREEN, co-sponsored by the Centre for Jewish Studies at the University of Toronto, will take place at the Jane Mallett Theatre. Guests include:

Monday, September 20 – Amy Sky

Monday, October 4 – Norman Jewison

Monday, December 6 – Edward Greenspan

Monday, April 11 – David Mirvish

Monday, May 16 – Jeanne Beker

For group rates please call Judy Shapiro 416.932.9995 X224

For more information please visit www.hgjewishtheatre.com

Media Contact: FLIP Publicity & Promotions Inc., 416.533.7710, www.flip-publicity.com
Grant Ramsay X222, grant@flip-publicity.com or Carrie Sager X224, carrie@flip-publicity.com