



DENNIS GARNHUM, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

For Immediate Release

OCTOBER 12, 2010

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MEDIA RELEASE

THEATRE CALGARY PRESENTS A CALAGRY
WOMAN'S INSPIRING TRUE STORY

LOST – A MEMOIR

OCTOBER 19 - NOVEMBER 7, 2010

October 12, 2010 – Calgary, AB... Theatre Calgary is proud to present the world premiere of a Calgary Woman's true story, *LOST – A MEMOIR*, adapted by **CATHY OSTLERE** and **DENNIS GARNHUM**, based on the book by Cathy Ostlere.

THE STORY

In September, 1995, Cathy, her parents, husband and children have gathered at her Calgary home to celebrate her younger brother David's birthday. David is not with them, as David has spent the past few years travelling the world. Throughout his travels, his family has enjoyed his tradition of calling them on his birthday from wherever he is. What they don't know on this occasion is that David has secretly been sailing his boat, Mugwump, from Scotland to the island of Madeira with his girlfriend Sarah. Only Cathy knows his secret. And as the day passes, David's call never comes. After nearly two months of waiting, Cathy decides to fly to Madeira to search for her brother, or any information that will lead to his whereabouts.

"Cathy Ostlere has been extraordinarily generous in letting us reshape her story for our stage. Cathy has done something that few of us dare to do – she's laid her story bare: honest, raw, and true." - Dennis Garnhum

HISTORY

First published as a memoir in 2008, Theatre Calgary's artistic director Dennis Garnhum picked up *Lost: A Memoir* from a bookstore for a casual read. Upon discovering that the story was a non-fiction account of a Calgarian Cathy Ostlere's journey to find her brother became a major catalyst for Garnhum to think that this could be done as a play, and primarily, as a one woman show. Two years later, Theatre Calgary is set to premiere the adaptation that he and Cathy worked on and workshopped with actor **JAN ALEXANDRA SMITH** (recently seen in *Betrayal*), who will star in the show as Cathy. By telling Cathy's story, Smith will introduce us to more than 15 characters on a set that will be unlike most that Theatre Calgary audiences are used to. On a set built with a Lanex polycarbonate wall and floor, the show will feature a large number of multi-media elements including video, projections and water.

THE CREATIVE TEAM

DENNIS GARNHUM (*Beyond Eden*), Director | **BRETTA GERECKE** (*Beyond Eden*), Set, Costume and Lighting Designer | **JAMIE NESBITT** (*Beyond Eden*), Projection Design | **SCOTT KILLIAN** (*Timothy Findley's The Wars*), Original Music and Sound Design | **SHARI WATTLING** (*Beyond Eden*), Production Dramaturg | **JANE MACFARLANE**, Vocal Coach | **KELLY LUNN** Stage Manager | **JULIE SERGER**, Apprentice Stage Manager.

Performances at Theatre Calgary run Tuesday thru Sunday with evening curtain at 7:30pm (Tues-Thurs & Sunday) and 8:00pm (Fri & Sat), weekend matinees at 2:00pm. Tickets for all performances start at \$25.00 and can be purchased through Theatre Calgary at 403-294-7447, or online at theatre Calgary.com. Rush tickets may be available at the box office, one half hour prior to showtimes for \$20. All performances take place in the Max Bell Theatre in the Epcor Centre for the Performing Arts.

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For more information or interview requests please contact:
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TELEVISION MEDIA CALL - THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14 - 3:00pm

Max Bell Theatre, Epcor Centre for the Performing Arts

PRINT - photos available upon request