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## CROW'S THEATRE ANNOUNCES DETAILS OF ITS 07/08 PROJECTS

Toronto, Sept 18, 2007 - Crow's Theatre is pleased to announce the details of its upcoming projects for 2007/2008. With **Chris Abraham** beginning his tenure as Artistic Director, the company is launching an ambitious and exciting slate of activities. Crow's Theatre, one of Toronto's most established indie theatre companies, will renew its focus on the development, production, and touring of contemporary Canadian work. This year's projects include two Canadian works in development, a national tour of a hit one-woman play, and the introduction of an artist development initiative for emerging directors.

The year kicks off with a new production of **Kristen Thomson's** wildly successful **I, Claudia**. The show directed by **Abraham**, first charmed audiences in Toronto in 2001 and will tour to **The Citadel Theatre** in Edmonton, **The Grand Theatre** in London, and **Gateway Theatre** in Richmond BC. **Liisa Repo-Martell** will star in this first leg of a multi-year international tour and in 2008/09 will be joined by the show's creator **Kristen Thomson**, who steps back into the starring role for limited engagements (Dates TBA). **Julie Fox** returns as set and costume designer, and will be joined by new lighting designer **Jeff Logue**.

In November, Crow's Theatre will present the workshop production of **Anton Piatigorsky's Eternal Hydra** as part of **Buddies in Bad Times Season**, directed by **Chris Abraham**. Anton and Chris' previous collaborations include the Dora Award winning and Chalmers nominated "*Easy Lenny Lazmon and The Great Western Ascension*". This work-in-progress presentation will feature **David Ferry**, **Sam Malkin**, **Karen Robinson** and **Liisa Repo-Martell**, with designers **John Thompson**, **Barbara Rowe**, and **Richard Feren** rounding out the creative team.

Crow's Theatre will partner, for the first time, with **Soulpepper Theatre Company** in the development and production of **Antigone: A Clean House for the Dead Season**. Written by Crow's Theatre playwright-in-residence **Evan Webber** (co-founder and company member of Toronto's One Reed Theatre Ensemble) in collaboration with **Chris Abraham**, this contemporary adaptation of Sophocles's tragedy will be in development through 07/08 and will premiere in Toronto in the winter of 2009 as part of the Soulpepper main stage season.

Crow's Theatre is very pleased to announce the appointment of director **Brendan Healy** as the company's Associate Artist. Brendan Healy is one of Toronto's most versatile and respected emerging theatre directors. In addition to work on this year's projects Brendan will curate a three day conference in partnership with the **Theatre Centre's Free Fall Festival** entitled "**Verbatim**". The conference will examine the re-emergence of the documentary theatre form in international and domestic theatre practice by looking at the work of some its most dynamic and innovative practitioners.

For more information please visit the new Crow's Theatre website at [www.crowstheatre.com](http://www.crowstheatre.com)

**Crow's Theatre** presents

**I, CLAUDIA**

**By Kristen Thomson**

**Directed by Chris Abraham**

**Starring Liisa Repo-Martell**

October 11 – 28 2007, The Citadel Theatre in Edmonton AB

March 4 – 8 2008, The Grand Theatre in London ON

May 1 – 10 2008, The Gateway Theatre in Richmond BC

Set and Costume by Julie Fox

Lighting Design by Jeff Logue

This extraordinary one-woman show maps the raw but beautiful interior life of a misfit adolescent. Claudia, twelve and three quarters, finds herself suffering from the triple afflictions of puberty, unpopularity and her parents' divorce. Using four astonishingly expressive masks, the performer evokes the anguished Claudia, her grandfather, her dad's new girlfriend and the school janitor. Alternatively wrenchingly sad and wrenchingly funny, I, Claudia casts a spell of rare power in the theatre. After directing several critically acclaimed productions of I, Claudia in Toronto, **Chris Abraham** takes a new production of the award winning play on the road to visit audiences in western Canada.

**Crow's Theatre** presents

a workshop presentation of

**ETERNAL HYDRA**

**By Anton Piatigorsky**

**Directed by Chris Abraham**

**Featuring David Ferry, Sam Malkin, Liisa Repo-Martell, Karen Robinson**

November 26 – December 1 2007, Buddies in Bad Times, The Chamber

Lighting and Set Design by John Thompson

Costumes by Barbara Rowe

Sound & Music by Richard Feren

The discovery of a long lost, legendary and encyclopedic novel sets in motion a chain of events that uncover the secrets, ambitions and identities of all those who come into contact with it - the scholar who finds the novel, the publisher who wants it and the historical novelist with an axe to grind. Obsession, identity politics, and the myth of genius; a postmodern look at the making of a modernist masterpiece.

**Crow's Theatre** in partnership with **Soulpepper** is developing

**ANTIGONE: A CLEAN HOUSE FOR THE DEAD SEASON**

**By Evan Webber with Chris Abraham**

**Directed by Chris Abraham**

**Workshop presentation dates TBA**

**Creative Ensemble TBA**

The city of Thebes is visited by a bloody civil war between two factions, each led by a son of Oedipus. Following their deaths, it is decreed that only one of the brothers will receive burial. Antigone, the daughter of Oedipus, buries her brother Polynixes in defiance of the edict issued by her uncle, Creon. First presented over 2000 years ago, Sophocles' "Antigone" enduring ethical force has shaped the history of western philosophic, literary and political consciousness. Playwright Evan Webber and director Chris Abraham, offer a contemporary reading on the classic tragedy in "Antigone: A Clean House for the Dead Season". This new work will be in development at Crow's Theatre in 07/08 and will premiere in Toronto in the winter of 2009 as part of the Soulpepper main stage season.