

# CROW'S THEATRE

# 10/11 SEASON

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Media Contact: Mark Aikman, Outreach Coordinator  
647-351-8206 / mark@crowstheatre.com



## CROW'S THEATRE ANNOUNCES 2010/11 SEASON

SEASON INCLUDES THE RETURN OF THE DORA AWARD-WINNING **ETERNAL HYDRA** and EDINBURGH FRINGE FESTIVAL PREMIERE OF **I, CLAUDIA** STARRING **KRISTEN THOMSON**

### **I, Claudia**

By Kristen Thomson  
August 6 – August 30  
Edinburgh Fringe Festival

September 24 – October 16  
Theatre North West

### **Eternal Hydra**

By Anton Piatigorsky  
January 22 – February 13  
Factory Theatre

### **Instructions to any future socialist government wishing to abolish Christmas**

By Michael Mackenzie  
March 1 – April 3  
Centaur Theatre

### **Out the Window**

By Liza Balkan  
April/May 2011  
Theatre Centre

### **In Development**

#### **Breath in Between**

By Anton Piatigorsky

#### **Someone Else**

By Kristen Thomson

TORONTO – In partnership with theatres across the country, Crow's Theatre will present a season highlighted by two World Premieres and the development of new projects from audience favourites Kristen Thomson and Anton Piatigorsky.

The season kicks off with the company's first international tour in almost 20 years. Crow's Theatre is thrilled to announce that our **critically-acclaimed production of Kristen Thomson's I, Claudia will visit the 2010 Edinburgh Fringe Festival**, produced in association with Brian Robertson and presented by UK's Theatre Tours International. Kristen will reprise her Dora Award winning performance for a run at the Assembly Rooms prestigious Edinburgh Suite from Aug 6 – Aug 31. **I, Claudia** will continue to tour in Canada later in the year, with Michelle Polak joining the production for a run **Theatre North West from September 24 – October 16.**

The 2010/11 Season will also see the **much-anticipated Toronto return of Anton Piatigorsky's *Eternal Hydra*. Winner of 4 Dora Mavor Moore Awards**, this gripping literary mystery is set in motion by the discovery of a long-lost novel, whose pages spark an academic controversy that reaches as far back as the American Civil War and irrevocably entwines everyone it touches. The show will run **January 22 – February 13 at Factory Theatre** and feature **David Ferry, Sam Malkin, Liisa Repo-Martell and Cara Ricketts**; along with designs by **Richard Feren, Barbara Rowe and John Thompson.**

On the heels of *Eternal Hydra*, Crow's Theatre will partner with the **Centaur Theatre** in Montreal for the World Premiere of *Geometry in Venice* author **Michael Mackenzie's *Instructions to any future socialist government wishing to abolish Christmas***. Set against the panic-stricken backdrop of Lehman Brother's collapse, Michael's script is an electric two-hander examining the shifting and suspect forces that drive the global financial system. The show runs March 1 – April 3 at the Centaur Theatre in Montreal and will be directed by **Chris Abraham**, with designs from **Antoine Bedard, James Lavoie and Luc Prairie.**

In the Spring of 2011, the company will present the **World Premiere of Liza Balkan's *Out the Window*** in partnership with The Theatre Centre. This startling documentary theatre piece investigates the troubling events of August 9, 2000, when Toronto resident Otto Vass died during an altercation with police officers outside of a convenience store. Using court transcripts, interviews, and Liza's experience as a witness to the altercation, *Out the Window* examines the decisions and testimony of the four officers involved in the death of Mr. Vass while also scrutinizing the ethics of re-creating past events based on transcripts. **Chris Abraham** will direct a cast led by **Liza Balkan**, with designs from **Michelle Ramsay, Thomas Ryder Payne and Trevor Schwellnus**. *Out the Window* was developed as part of the Residency Program at The Theatre Centre, and at Crow's Theatre where Liza is a Writer in Residence.

Crow's Theatre will also partner with Edmonton's Citadel Theatre on the development of **Kristen Thomson's latest work – *Someone Else***. This new piece looks at the difficult middle years of a relationship through the eyes of a stand-up comic who is struggling to simultaneously re-invent herself and to save her marriage. The show will be in workshop throughout 2010/11 – with public presentations in Toronto and Edmonton. Frequent Abraham collaborator **Anton Piatigorsky** also returns to the company with ***Breath in Between*** – a quest for intimacy through disturbing and unusual means that begins when protagonist Roger posts an ad on-line looking for someone to kill. Workshop dates for both of these projects will be announced later in the year.

Crow's Theatre is a leading developer and producer of contemporary foreign and Canadian theatre. Since its founding in 1983, Crow's Theatre has been an important platform from which to develop new work outside the mainstream. In 25 years, Crow's Theatre has solidified its reputation for developing, producing and touring some of the country's most memorable works for the stage, including Brad Fraser's unqualified hit, *Unidentified Human Remains and the True Nature of Love*, John Mighton's *A Short History of Night*, Lee MacDougall's *High Life* and most recently with Anton Piatigorsky's Dora Award winning *Eternal Hydra* and a National Tour of Artistic Director Chris Abraham's production of Kristen Thomson's *I, Claudia*.

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## **I, Claudia**

By Kristen Thomson

Directed by Chris Abraham

Featuring Michelle Polak (Prince George) / Kristen Thomson (Edinburgh)

Designs by Julie Fox

**Theatre North West presents a Crow's Theatre production**

**September 24 – October 16, 2010 at Theatre North West (Prince George BC)**

**Theatre Tours International presents a Crow's Theatre production in association with Brian Robertson**

**August 6 – Aug 30 at Assembly Rooms, George Street (Edinburgh UK)**

This extraordinary one-woman show maps the raw but beautiful interior life of a misfit adolescent. Claudia, aged 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 heartbreakingly sad and wrenchingly funny *I, Claudia* casts a spell of rare power in the theatre.

**Crow's Theatre in association with Factory Theatre presents**

## **Eternal Hydra**

By Anton Piatigorsky

Directed by Chris Abraham

Featuring David Ferry, Sam Malkin, Liisa Repo-Martell, Cara Ricketts

Designs by Richard Feren, Barbara Rowe, John Thompson

**January 22 – February 13, 2011 at Factory Theatre (Toronto ON - 125 Bathurst St at Adelaide)**

Rumoured to encapsulate all of human history in its 99 chapters and 999 pages, the manuscript for *Eternal Hydra* disappeared over half a century ago, following the death of its author, Gordias Carbuncle. When a young scholar discovers the missing novel in Paris, where it had been hidden away by an unrequited lover, it sparks an academic controversy that reaches as far back as the American Civil War and irrevocably entwines all those who come in contact with it. Obsession, identity politics, and the myth of genius: a postmodern look at the making of a modernist masterpiece.

**Crow's Theatre & The Centaur Theatre present**

## **Instructions to any future socialist government wishing to abolish Christmas**

By Michael Mackenzie

Directed by Chris Abraham

Designs by Antoine Bedard, James Lavoie, Luc Prairie

**March 1 – April 3, 2011 at the Centaur Theatre (Montreal PQ)**

Immediately after the fall of Leman Brothers, a hedge fund manager sits in his Toronto office in the hours before dawn, waiting for the overnight lending rates to arrive. The elevator below noiselessly ascends to his office on the top floor carrying a brilliant but troubled young woman responsible for the company's staggering success. She is determined to see him again. She needs to understand what happened between the two of them. And most importantly she is looking for a reason, any reason, not to kill him.

**Crow's Theatre & The Theatre Centre present**

## **Out the Window**

By Liza Balkan

Directed by Chris Abraham

Featuring Liza Balkan

Designs by Michelle Ramsay, Thomas Ryder Payne, Trevor Schweltnus

**April/May, 2011 at The Theatre Centre (Toronto ON)**

Using the court transcripts and interviews with experts, this documentary theatre piece looks at the death of a 55-year old man, Otto Vass, during an encounter with four Toronto police officers. Witness to several minutes of the altercation from her apartment window, Liza Balkan spent portions of the subsequent years following the incident, being interviewed and testifying at hearings and trials involving the four officers.