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Crow's Theatre Presents a workshop production of

## **ETERNAL HYDRA**

*By Anton Piatigorsky*

Toronto, October 30, 2007 – On November 26, **Crow's Theatre** will open a week of workshop performances of **Anton Piatigorsky's Eternal Hydra**, a post-modern mystery about the making of a modernist masterpiece.

This will be the company's second project under new Artistic Director, **Chris Abraham** (*the first being the launch of a multi-city tour of Kristen Thomson's I, Claudia*). It is also the first collaboration in several years for the award-winning and critically lauded creators of **The Kabbalistic Psychoanalysis of Adam R. Tzaddik** and **Easy Lenny Lazmon and the Great Western Ascension**. Crow's Theatre's is pleased to present the workshop presentation of **Eternal Hydra** beginning **Nov. 26<sup>th</sup>** and continuing through **December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007** at **Buddies in Bad Times Theatre** at **8pm**. Only 7 performances! For Tickets please call 416-975-8555

Originally commissioned in **2001**, by the **Stratford Festival**, **Eternal Hydra** first appeared as a one-act, inaugurating the festival's new **Studio Theatre**. Since then, Anton and has continued work on the piece, fulfilling his initial full-length vision for the play. This work-in-progress presentation features a quartet of talented and award-winning actors including **David Ferry**, **Sam Malkin**, **Karen Robinson** and **Liisa Repo-Martell**. Set and lighting designer **John Thompson**, sound designer **Richard Feren** and costume designer **Barbara Rowe** round out the creative team. The production will be directed by **Chris Abraham**

Rumoured to encapsulate all of human history in its 99 chapters and 999 pages, the manuscript for **Eternal Hydra** becomes the centre of academic controversy when it is discovered by scholar Vivian Ezra (**Liisa Repo-Martell**) in a forgotten box of old documents. The manuscript is the last great work by renowned Irish modernist writer Gordias Carbunkle (**David Ferry**). Traveling fluidly between the "fictional" and "real" worlds of the novel and play, **Eternal Hydra** is a literary detective story that moves from the high powered publishing world of present-day New York, to Paris in the 1930's, to the post-civil war American south to unravel the mystery surrounding **Eternal Hydra's** composition.

Since meeting a decade ago, **Chris Abraham** and **Anton Piatigorsky** haven collaborated on a series of critically acclaimed and award-winning productions. Their first work, **The Kabbalistic Psychoanalysis of Adam R Tzaddik**, was presented at the Summerworks Festival in 1998 and won the festival's inaugural prize for best production. Subsequent collaborations have included **Easy Lenny Lazmon and the Great Western Ascension**, **Mysterium Tremendum** and **The Offering**, and have earned Chris and Anton numerous accolades, including **Three Dora Mavor Moore Awards** and **Two Floyd S. Chalmers** nominations.

Their productions have traveled across Canada, from Montreal to Vancouver, as well as to New York City. Recently, Anton, who is also playwright-in-residence at **Soulpepper Theatre**, has been busily completing his first novel **Stageworthy**. He is also developing “**An Untitled Work in Progress**” for the stage, which will feature Anton & Chris as performers/characters. In it, they explore the heart, mind and soul of friendship, an obsession with Moby Dick and the drama of collaboration. This work in progress, drawn from recorded conversation and interviews is in development with Crow’s Theatre and Necessary Angel Theatre Company. Chris and Anton are both recent recipients of **the Eleanor and Lou Siminovitch Protégé awards for Direction and Playwriting**.

For more information about **Eternal Hydra**, visit the new Crow’s Theatre website at [www.crowstheatre.com](http://www.crowstheatre.com)

**Performances Dates:** November 26 - December 1.

**Show Times:** Monday-Friday 8PM, Saturday 2PM (PWYC) & 8PM

**Box Office:** Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at the Buddies in Bad Times Box Office  
In person at 12 Alexander Street, or by phone at 416-975-8555

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Crow’s Theatre is dynamic, project-based theatre company based in Toronto. Since its founding in 1983, Crow’s Theatre has established itself as a leader in the development, production and touring of contemporary Canadian work, staging over 40 works at theatres across North America.