

PRESS RELEASE

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Arts Club Theatre Company presents
the **world premiere** of

Don Quixote

Adapted by **Peter Anderson** and **Colin Heath**
Co-production with **Centaur Theatre Company, Montreal**

In association with **Axis Theatre Company**

September 23 – October 23, 2010

Media opening: September 29

Granville Island Stage

IN BRIEF: Arts Club Theatre Company and Centaur Theatre Company present the **world premiere** of *Don Quixote* at the Granville Island Stage (1585 Johnston Street) from September 23 to October 23, 2010 (**MEDIA OPENING: September 29**). Monday at 8 pm, Tuesday at 7:30 pm, Wednesday–Saturday at 8 pm, and Wednesday & Saturday at 2 pm. Tickets are \$29, \$39, \$49, inclusive of all tax and fees. Call the Arts Club Box Office at 604.687.1644 or visit artsclub.com.

VANCOUVER, B.C. —**An epic tale of love and delusion**, this immortal quest has captivated readers for over four centuries. Miguel de Cervantes's tale of courage and madness is re-imagined with masks, magic, and mayhem.

In this new adaptation, co-creators Peter Anderson and Colin Heath explore the comical and philosophical world of Don Quixote (**Peter Anderson**), a retired country gentleman, who has become obsessed with ancient books of knighthood and chivalry. Inspired by his readings, he sets out on a quest to defend the helpless and destroy the wicked, alongside his faithful and naive squire, Sancho Panza (**Michel Perron**), to whom he has promised wealth and power. Preceded by their reputations everywhere they go, they eventually find themselves asking: who's mad in a world gone mad?

Miguel de Cervantes' *Don Quixote*, published in two volumes a decade apart (1605 and 1615), is the most influential work of literature to emerge from the Spanish Golden Age and the entire Spanish literary canon. As a founding work of modern Western literature, it regularly appears high on lists of the greatest works of fiction ever published and was recently voted The Greatest Book of All Time by the Nobel Institute.

The envisioning of this famous book includes evocative masks by **Melody Anderson** and a literary-themed set by **David Roberts** that takes the audience from Quixote's candlelit library to a field of hostile windmills to the castle of a duke. "I'm thrilled to be working with these multi-talented and inventive theatre artists in this new adaptation of the classic," says **Bill Miller**, Arts Club Artistic Managing Director. Co-creator **Peter Anderson** explains the enduring appeal of this tragic-comic hero, "Throwing himself totally into the realm of his imagination, our hero dons the mask of a medieval knight like the ones in his beloved books. But the paradox of masks is that even as they hide our everyday appearance, they simultaneously reveal a greater truth."

Physical comedy at its finest; *Don Quixote* is a passionate tale of adventure, imagination, and disillusionment brought to life on stage directed by **Roy Surette**, Artistic Director of Centaur Theatre Company and presented in association with Axis Theatre Company, creators of the smash hit *The Number 14*. Following the Vancouver run, the production travels to Montreal where Don Quixote, his faithful companion Sancho Panza, and his horse Rocinante will continue their escapades in search of Quixote's one true love Dulcinea.

Adapted by **Colin Heath** and **Peter Anderson** Starring **Peter Anderson**, **Michel Perron**, **Allan Zinyk**, **Harry Standjofski**, **Mike Wasko**, **Beatrice Zeilinger**, **Sasa Brown**, **Glenda Braganza** Director **Roy Surette** Assistant to the Director **John Jack Paterson** Consulting Director **Wayne Specht** Set and Props Designer **David Roberts** Costume Designer **Sheila White** Lighting Designer **Gerald King** Mask Designer **Melody Anderson** Choreographer **Karen Pitkethly** Stage Manager **Pamela Jakobs** Assistant Stage Manager **Ingrid Turk**

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The Arts Club Theatre Company, now in its 47th season, is the largest theatre company in Western Canada, offering the best in professional theatre at each of their three venues: the Stanley Industrial Alliance Stage, Granville Island Stage, and Revue Stage, as well as on tour throughout the province.

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