

MEDIA RELEASE, March 13, 2007



The Citadel

Presents, in association with CanStage (Toronto) and Theatre Calgary,
The 10th Anniversary Tour of

The Overcoat

Co-created and directed by Morris Panych and Wendy Gorling

Produced by Canstage, The Bushnell Center for the Performing Arts
and Glynis Henderson Productions

Based on a short story by Nikolai Gogol

Musical Pieces by Dmitri Shostakovich

March 17 – April 8, 2007

*"Dazzling, hilarious, enchanting, beautiful and haunting. It will make you laugh and send shivers
down your spine. It is, in a word, spectacular."*

The Globe and Mail

"Part dance, part theatre and all brilliant."

The Toronto Star

Starring

Peter Anderson

reprising his award-winning role as "The Man"

(more)

Edmonton, AB- Get ready Edmonton, for the most spectacular theatrical event of the season. The Citadel is proud to present the long-awaited production of *The Overcoat*, running March 17 – April 8. Since its premiere in 1997 at the Vancouver Playhouse, *The Overcoat* has become one of the largest and most successful international productions in Canadian theatrical history. As one of the cities on *The Overcoat's* 10th Anniversary Tour, we are excited that Citadel audiences will be added to the prestigious list that includes audiences in Canada, England, Australia, New Zealand, Norway and the United States.

The Overcoat beautifully integrates physical theatre and the sweeping music of **Dmitri Shostakovich** to tell a richly-detailed story of the transformation of a common man's ordinary life when he acquires a beautiful new overcoat, without speaking a word. Evoking the silent films of masters Chaplin, Keaton and Lang, *The Overcoat* is set amidst the grandeur and poverty of the universal metropolis, stunningly designed by **Ken MacDonald**, where 22 actors in 85 costumes conjure the recognizable tale of how the need to be popular can inspire lust, envy and madness.

The Overcoat has been adapted from one of the most famous short stories of all time, **Nikolai Gogol's** 1842 masterpiece, *The Overcoat*. Seamlessly weaving together music, and movement, Co-creators and Directors **Morris Panych** and **Wendy Gorling** have perfected the art of wordless theatre; movement pieces set to music.

"Ever since experiencing *The Overcoat* in Vancouver 10 years ago I have longed to bring the production to Edmonton," says Citadel Theatre Artistic Director **Bob Baker**. "Any theatre production that has a decade-long existence is something special. It is impossible to describe the spectacle: it must be experienced before it is gone forever."

Reprising his award-winning role as "The Man" is **Peter Anderson** (*Citadel Theatre debut*). Mr. Anderson originated the role of The Man in the Vancouver Playhouse production of *The Overcoat* and performed the role in the subsequent Canadian and World tour.

Joining Mr. Anderson in the 22-person ensemble are **Victoria Adilman** (*Citadel Theatre debut*); **Shaun Amyot** (*Citadel Theatre debut*); **Manon Beaudoin** (*original ensemble member and Citadel Theatre debut*), **Matt Bois** (*Citadel Theatre debut*); **Judi Closkey** (*original ensemble member and Citadel Theatre debut*); **Diana Coatsworth** (*Citadel Theatre debut*); **Monica Dottor** (*previously seen at the Citadel in Chekhov's Shorts*); **Tracey Ferencz** (*Citadel Theatre debut*); **Peter Grier** (*original ensemble member and Citadel Theatre debut*); **Colin Heath** (*original ensemble member and Citadel Theatre debut*); **Ryan Hollyman** (*Citadel Theatre debut*); **Matthew Hunt** (*Citadel Theatre debut*); **Darren Hynes** (*An Enemy of the People*); **Allan Morgan** (*Citadel Theatre debut*); **Graham Percy** (*Citadel Theatre debut*); **Avi Phillips** (*Citadel Theatre debut*); **Derek Scott** (*Citadel Theatre debut*); **Sal Scozzari** (*Guys and Dolls*); **Geneviève Steele** (*Citadel Theatre debut*); **Courtenay Stevens** (*Citadel Theatre debut*); **Geoffrey Tyler** (*A Year With Frog and Toad*).

Co-Creators and Directors **Morris Panych** (*Amadeus*), a native Edmontonian, and **Wendy Gorling** (*Citadel Theatre debut*) have eloquently woven an enrapturing live theatre experience like no other, deftly fusing music, mime and visual alacrity.

Joining Mr. Panych and Ms. Gorling are all the original members of the creative team including Set Designer **Ken MacDonald** (*Amadeus*); Costume Designer **Nancy Bryant** (*Amadeus*) and Lighting Designer **Alan Brodie** (*Humble Boy*). **Jan Hodgson** (*Citadel Theatre debut*) is the Stage Manager and the Assistant Stage Managers are **Peter Jotkus** (*Citadel Theatre debut*) and **Cindy Shaw** (*Citadel Theatre debut*).

Music composed by Dmitri Shostakovich is used by permission of G. Schirmer Inc

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The Overcoat is produced with the generous support of:

Season Sponsor **Epcor**; Series Sponsor: **Classic Landmarks**
Opening Night Sponsor **ATB Financial**
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Alberta Foundation for the Arts; The City of Edmonton; Edmonton Arts Council; Canada Council for the Arts

The Edmonton Journal; CBC News at Six; CBC Radio

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Ticket Prices

Call 780.425.1820 or purchase online at citadeltheatre.com

	Adult Tickets	Senior/Student Tickets
Previews	\$45	\$35
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday	\$50	\$40
Thursday Matinee	\$45	\$35
Friday	\$50	\$40
Saturday/Sunday Matinee	\$55	\$45
Saturday	\$60	\$50
Sunday	\$50	\$40

GST will be added. Tickets subject to availability. Prices subject to change

PREVIEWS:

Saturday, March 17; Sunday, March 18; Tuesday, March 20; Wednesday, March 21.

OPENING NIGHT:

Thursday, March 22.

CLOSING NIGHT:

Sunday, April 8.

All shows are 8:00 p.m., nightly, with 2:00 p.m. matinees on Sundays.

There is a 2:00 p.m. matinee on Saturday, April 7.

There are no performances on Mondays.

Call our Box Office at 425.1820, toll free 1.888.425.1820, or visit us online at citadeltheatre.com

What the critics are saying about ***The Overcoat***.

(more)

"It will dazzle and delight, make you laugh, and send shivers down your spine. It is, in a word, spectacular."-The Globe and Mail

"The whole thing is irresistible, and with no language barrier to crash, there seems no reason for it not to conquer the world." -The National Post

"Part dance, part theatre and all brilliant." - The Toronto Star

"Brawling and funny, sexy and tender and sad." -Maclean's

"A seamless piece of dance theatre that operates on a grand scale." -Variety

"A rhythmic joy to behold." -The Adelaide Advertiser, Australia

"A piece of bravura theatre-making from Canada mixes Buster Keaton with Gogol and purrs like a Rolls Royce." -Time Magazine

"An evening of high excellence." -Hartford Courant

"A play without words, but rich nonetheless, The Overcoat is a show to see and to experience!" -Bergens Avisen, Norway

"You sit there open-mouthed at the sheer technical skill and panache of the thing." -The Guardian, London, UK

"The Overcoat will appeal to a wide audience of music, dance, performance and theatre lovers." - British Theatre Guide

"5 out of 5 stars." - NOW Magazine, Toronto

"Every element of this show is breathtaking. Don't miss it!" - The Ottawa Citizen

"A satisfying, stylish, intricately choreographed spectacle." -The Winnipeg Sun

"A triumph. An amazing piece of theatre." -The Vancouver Sun

"The whole thing is irresistible." - The National Post